phy of Agriculture as we know it today and the Shaw-Shoemaker bibliographies which filled the gap in the U.S. national bibliogra-

phy. Part II includes essays on “Adverse Drug Reaction Information in the Literature,” by Robert F. Clarke; “Libraries and Innovations,” by Richard M. Dougherty; “Scholars in Residence,” by Ira W. Harris; “The Real World of Continuing Education for Library Personnel,” by Peter Hiatt; and “ESEA Title II Contributions to State Department of Education Leadership of School Media Programs,” by Milbrey L. Jones. These five contributions are literally for Ralph Shaw, and they exemplify the kind of scholar-researcher he admired and demanded.

To say that Ralph Shaw was intensely interested in scientific management and statistics would be an understatement. He was a library administrator who managed scientifically and a library school dean who insisted that his students study statistics. The essays in part III under these headings are: “Compound Growth in Libraries,” by Fred Heinritz; “Turnover Rate: Basic Library Statistics and Some Applications,” by Theodore S. Huang; “Quali-Quanti as Output Performance Criteria,” by Choong H. Kim; and “Inventory,” by Henry Voos.

The concluding essays in part IV are indicative of Ralph Shaw’s own theories and philosophies. He would have taken pride in these former students who learned their lessons well and who have articulated so many of his own ideas, or who, because of his tutelage, have communicated their own theories or projections so effectively. The contributions in this section are: Susan Artandi’s “Theories of Information,” Leonard Grundt’s “Cooperation Unlimited,” Doralyn J. Hickey’s “Public and Technical Library Services: A Revised Relationship,” and Norman Stevens’ “Beyond the Promises of Automation.”

This is a thought-provoking book and one which Ralph Shaw would have liked and appreciated. It is a worthwhile contribution to library literature. The volume, judged in its entirety, is the kind of research Shaw envisaged for his students.—

Dale M. Bentz, University Librarian, Uni-

versity of Iowa, Iowa City.

Wijasuriya, D. E. K.; Lim, Huck Tee; and

Nadarajah, Radha. The Barefoot Librarian: Library Developments in Southeast Asia with Special Reference to Malaysia. Hamden, Conn.: Linnet Books & Clive Bingley, 1975. 120p. $8.00. (LC 74-

30140) (ISBN 0-208-01366-0)

This little book with the eloquent title plows a field that has probably not been plowed before; or, if it has, probably not as well. It is concise (about 100 pages of text) with a nine-page bibliography and an index.

In the introduction the authors are apologetic: “The barefoot librarian,” they write, “is perhaps the first book about Southeast Asian libraries by the Southeast Asians themselves.” One suspects this may be the first book on Southeast Asian libraries, per-

iod.

Beginning with chapter one, we have a general review of “the Southeast Asian envi-

ronment,” followed in the next chapter with a country-by-country assessment of li-

brary developments. (Excusably missing from the country list is North Vietnam.) Then follow three chapters on libraries in Malaysia. The concluding chapters deal with library education, professional associa-

tions, and library cooperation.

Whatever the sins of this work, they are more sins of omission than of commission. Missing are serious discussions of the influence (if any) of the American Public Law 480 program on publishing and bibliographic control and the mechanics of the library operation in public, university, and special libraries.

As one who is familiar with almirs and the somewhat antiquated notions of library service in some parts of South Asia, this reviewer would like to have read something about these aspects of library activity in Southeast Asia. We would have welcomed a composite picture of a typical barefoot li-

brarian—together with his low wages, meager budget, and day-to-day problems of book preservation, circulation, bureau-

cracy, cataloging, and acquisitions.

Despite an index which could be more adequate (considering that the three au-

thors are librarians), the authors are to be congratulated on a book full of solid data, meaningful and informative tables and sta-

tistics, and a substantial bibliography.—

Henry Scholberg, Librarian, Ames Library
of South Asia, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.


Louis Shores' professional career has spanned more than forty years at mid-century. He has, by his own count, been engaged in twenty "crusades" of which library education has been the overriding one, and the others which have most deeply engaged him have been for one race, basic reference, encyclopedia, library-college, media unity, and library history.

The main thrust of his work has been to move the library from an ancillary position to that as a primary instrument for independent learning. He defines the ultimate goal of the public library as independent study for all; he believes that reference librarians should initiate inquiry rather than merely answer the questions put to them; he has fathered the library-college which seeks to increase effectiveness of student learning through use of library-centered independent study, and he has vigorously promoted audiovisual unity with other library resources as a means to extending independent learning down into the secondary and elementary grades.

In Shores' account of his early life, the roots of his zeal for independent study can be readily identified. At the age of four his sister took him to the neighborhood branch of the Cleveland Public Library where a children's librarian brought him fairy stories and occasionally read with him. By the time he entered first grade he could already read, a fact which gave him superiority over his classmates. In high school he discovered for himself, as a means of dealing with an abstruse textbook on physics, the value of comparing authorities. In an economics class he made use of an encyclopedic overview to impress the pretty young teacher. Both these incidents, he says, contributed to the library-college learning mode. At the University of Toledo he was discontented with the class-centered curriculum.

Dr. Shores repeatedly says that he dislikes to "tell it as it is," by which he means that he eschews the grotesque in art, the sordid in literature, and defeatism in his outlook for the human race. If he does not actually believe in the perfectability of man, he at least believes man can save himself by his own intellect given the quiet and resources of our libraries.

A great deal is packed into this book, which perhaps accounts for the fact that in the first part especially the style of writing seems a little spare. However, there are some delightful bits such as the nine-year-old boy Walter-Mittying around his newspaper route or the Fulbright scholar Shores entertaining S. R. Ranganathan and introducing the subject of occultism rather than classification so that Mrs. Shores found the two men on the floor in lotus leaf fashion when she entered the living room. The pages on intellectual freedom are among the liveliest in the book.

Dr. Shores has a mystic feeling about his quiet world of the library, a feeling which comes whenever he enters the stacks and smells the mustiness of old bindings, that he has been there before—long before. Almost every adult has experienced this feeling of déjà vu and that librarian is a poor thing who in a silent stack cannot thrill to the sense of the continuity of man's mind and spirit.

This book is a fascinating chapter in the history of librarianship.—Helen M. Brown, Librarian, Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts.


This is not so much a review as a whine; my major quarrel with this book is not with its content, format, intent, or expertise of the contributors; it is the fact that by the time you read this review, or get around to the book itself, the information in it will be two years old, and considerably out of date.

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