of efficient use. Her book can be highly recommended as a basic text for both class and self-instruction.—Mary W. George, Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, University of Michigan.


This volume is not merely concerned with publishing in the narrow sense but also writing, reading, and librarianship. Most of the contributors to the volume are from Nigeria.

The conference recommendations, eight in all, follow the brief introduction; there next appear summaries of conference papers, twenty-six of them; the contributed papers, presumably in full (twenty-one in all); appendixes of more or less formal speeches; and, finally, a good index. To most readers of this journal, only a few of the names will be familiar in a list of one hundred participants which included the distinguished novelist, Chinua Achebe.

The discussion, rather repetitious, deals with the history of missionary presses, state publishing houses, and academic presses. Particularly noteworthy is the lengthy essay by S. I. A. Kotei of the Department of Library Studies, University of Ghana, on “Some Cultural and Social Factors of Book Reading and Publishing in Africa.”


The significant result of this conference on publishing in Africa in the 1970s was the start of two serial publications, both edited by Hans Zell in England: the biannual African Books in Print (London: Mansell, 1975– ), updated by the quarterly The African Book Publishing Record.

This volume is well produced and will be read and referred to in years to come, not only by students of librarianship and publishing (for example, see Thomas Lask, “Program Is Established at Hofstra University to Teach Courses on Book Publishing," New York Times, Oct. 21, 1975, p.40), but by persons concerned with developments in the Third World.—Hans E. Panofsky, Curator, Melville J. Herskovits Library of African Studies, Northwestern University Library, Evanston, Illinois.


That many librarians are involved in programs of library instruction, and are experimenting with a wide variety of approaches, is evident from the many articles, conferences, and workshops devoted to the subject. However, less readily available is information about program evaluation. This collection of seven papers provides a step toward remedying the situation.

There is general agreement among the papers’ authors that objectives are a prerequisite for evaluation design and development, and that accountability to management is an important function of evaluation. Of interest to readers as well will be the range and diversity of topics covered. Emphasis is placed on the evaluation of instructional, and not orientation, programs.

The first paper is by Thomas Kirk, science librarian at Earlham College and chairman of the ACRL Bibliographic Instruction Task Force. Although structurally flawed, the paper is one that should be read by all who are, or will be, involved in the evaluation of instructional programs. He reviews past research, provides critical discussion of evaluation attempts and studies of selected instructional programs, and provides some practical suggestions.

The second paper, by Richard R. Johnson, experimental psychologist and program manager for the Exxon Education Foundation, deals with the purposes and methodology of data collection.