

and ideas whose value extends beyond the time and the place of their writing.

This volume was conceived to be a survey of Australia by Australians, a sort of coming-of-age ceremony for Australian librarianship. As such it is fitting that it should set out the history of their libraries, calmly and without flattery. It is proper also that it should display informed dissent such as is natural within a group of adult professionals. Differences of opinion are not glossed over, nor are the many severe failures of past and present neglected.

Perhaps in five years' time an article or two should be commissioned to see where the brave planners of the early seventies have got to. Besides, there are a few historical episodes that obviously require clarification. Despite the frequent references elsewhere to its beneficial effects, D. H. Borchardt clearly states (p.155) that the Tauber report was emasculated by those who resented its implications. Perhaps the resolution of the fact is less important than that the statement should appear in this compendium, evidence that it seeks a true portrait, warts and all.

There are multitudes of facts, historical and statistical, there is an excellent survey of recent buildings by Harrison Bryan, but beyond this there are discussions of librarianship that transcend the Australian scene. Anyone interested in bibliographic instruction will find much wisdom and good advice in the chapters by S. B. Page and J. A. Levett. Jean Whyte's discussion of reader services shows much sound, good sense. The chapter on automation by Mary Jacob, though it is restricted by the very contemporary nature of automation in Australia, poses questions we all must consider, while out of an entirely different tradition of library education Wilma Radford arrives at conclusions Americans would do well to ponder.

Naming these few contributors is not meant to imply lesser value in others where the thinking is equally sharp. It would, however, be impossible not to commend the magisterial summation provided by Gordon Greenwood where he deals with policy and experiment in a comparative manner that must remind us once again that some of the greatest contributions to librar-

ianship have come from nonlibrarians.

The bibliographic apparatus of the book is further evidence of the meticulous care of the editors. The arrangement of the bibliography—by subject and by specific library—is curious but perhaps desirable given the nature of the book, yet it makes systematic consultation tedious and unrewarding. The fifty-page index makes easy the finding of specific names and topics.

Not many other readers will read steadily through this book from cover to cover, but if they are half as fascinated as I became, they will return to it again and again to ponder specific ideas and suggestions, particularly those relating to the increasing importance of governments at all levels in their influence on library development.

All university libraries and library schools should purchase this book, also state libraries, since the state libraries play a particular and an important role in Australia, and any librarian who is interested in a country that has maintained close links with America since its own birth in travail nearly 200 years ago.—Murray S. Martin, Pennsylvania State University, University Park.

*Academic Libraries by the Year 2000: Essays Honoring Jerrold Orne.* Edited by Herbert Poole. New York: Bowker, 1977. 205p. \$15.95. LC 77-81880. ISBN 0-8352-0993-8.

This is a collection of twelve essays about librarianship, a short biography of Jerrold Orne, and a bibliography of Mr. Orne's publications.

Edward G. Holley has written a general prediction for the future of academic libraries that is in fact a conservative statement. Using present financial and educational trends, this is probably as accurate a guess at the future as one will find. Dean Holley has documented his statements and has good reason to make most of them. The fault in such an approach is that it cannot and does not deal with the unexpected, the unpredictable; that factor is simply not there. I would have preferred some guess at such unpredictability. The one kind of trend not as well explicated nor as well documented as this reviewer would like to see is the analysis of the social and

psychological forces affecting the careers of American academic librarians.

A. P. Marshall, in an article attempting to describe the role of bibliographic instruction in the academic library, has produced an interesting survey of the highlights of that field.

If this reviewer had to make a simple, straightforward guess as to which is the most important of the articles in the book, it would have to be William Welsh's call for a fully national bibliographic data base. It is a shame that it is printed here rather than in one of the widely circulated library journals. Perhaps it can be reprinted, but it may be the basis for the emerging national bibliographic network. The parameters of that network will no doubt change from those hinted at by Welsh, but the fundamental question of a national and on-line and decentralized system will most certainly be that of the future.

Lester Asheim, writing about library personnel in the clear and concise style that he always does, has again demonstrated both the expertise and commitment for which he is justly renowned. The conclusions he draws about the education needed for the future librarian are sound and provide an interesting delineation of three components from which one may well be able to construct an adequate library school curriculum.

In an article on operations research in the academic library, Herbert Poole and Thomas Mott provide an approach to that technique of industrial engineering which seems to promise so much and delivers so little. Would that the creativity and considerable learning demonstrated by the authors be applied to the very basic and human problems that are the most serious in academic libraries.

There is a smattering of other articles on such topics as women in academic libraries, bibliographic standards, collection development, and instructional technology that show a workmanlike approach to the problems but suffer that common failure of articles in *festchriften*—they are a little too contrived and a little too lackluster. All in all the book is not a bad one. It has some very good articles in it, and it is recommended to all who are interested in

academic libraries.—Hugh C. Atkinson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

*Basic Manual Series.* Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 1977. 5v. \$16.00.

Brichford, Maynard J. *Archives & Manuscripts: Appraisal & Accessioning.* 24p. LC 77-14523.

Fleckner, John A. *Archives & Manuscripts: Surveys.* 28p. LC 77-14554.

Gracy, David B., II. *Archives & Manuscripts: Arrangement & Description.* 49p. LC 77-13527.

Holbert, Sue E. *Archives & Manuscripts: Reference & Access.* 30p. LC 77-21004.

Walch, Timothy G. *Archives & Manuscripts: Security.* 30p. LC 77-15117.

For the past forty years practitioners of the American archival craft have been engaged in a sustained effort to locate and define their endeavor in the broader context of establishing a distinct profession, recognized and accepted as such by their colleagues in related disciplines. Caught between the now firmly established profession of librarianship and the realm of academic professors of history, archivists have collectively suffered from both an identity crisis and an inferiority complex as they went about their quest for professional legitimacy. Despite the generation of a considerable corpus of admittedly uneven archival literature, this quest has been continually confounded by a paucity of standardized methodology, practice, procedure, and terminology—in short, precisely those attributes that help serve to delineate and delimit the essence and parameters of any profession.

With the recent publication by the Society of American Archivists (assisted by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission) of the *Basic Manual Series*, the still essentially embryonic American archival profession has taken a modest but important step toward achieving the sort of professional status that has hitherto proved to be so elusive.

On a more practical plane, the five manuals that comprise this series provide a wealth of introductory and advanced how-to information for anyone interested in the theory and practice of administering ar-