

brary history.—Joe W. Kraus, *Milner Library, Illinois State University, Normal.*

Conference on Library Orientation, 6th, Eastern Michigan University, 1976. *Library Instruction in the Seventies: State of the Art.* Papers Presented at the Sixth Annual Conference on Library Orientation for Academic Libraries Held at Eastern Michigan University, May 13–14, 1976. Edited by Hannelore B. Rader. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Pierian Pr., 1977. 130p. \$6.50. LC 77-75678. ISBN 0-87650-078-5.

This slim volume contains eleven speeches presented at a 1976 conference on library instruction. Also included are brief guidelines for formulating and implementing instructional programs, an annotated review of the 1975 literature on library orientation and instruction (reprinted from *Reference Services Review*), and a list of conference participants.

Following an introduction by Fred Blum, director of the Center of Educational Resources at Eastern Michigan University, Sheila M. Laidlaw of the University of Toronto discusses library orientation and instruction in Canadian academic libraries. Carolyn Kirkendahl then describes Project LOEX, the national clearinghouse for information about library orientation and instruction programs. A. P. Marshall of Eastern Michigan University follows with remarks about the involvement of librarians in the teaching/learning process.

In the next speech, Thomas Kirk of Earlham College reviews course-related library instruction. Richard H. Dewey then presents a report on library instruction in academic libraries of the Middle East and describes his experiences teaching students at Sir George Williams University, Montreal, and the American University, Cairo, including special instructional material he developed as an appendix.

After Dewey's paper, UCLA's Miriam Dudley discusses library instruction credit courses and library skills workbooks. Next, Hannelore B. Rader evaluates Eastern Michigan University's library instruction program, and Susan Burton of the University of Texas, Austin, analyzes the use of objective testing in evaluation. In the last two

speeches, Susan Edwards and Ben LaBue of the University of Colorado examine library use studies and faculty involvement in library instruction, respectively.

The publication of this book is questionable because it contains little in the way of new information. Better editing would have reduced the number of pages and eliminated typographical errors. The papers are generally mediocre in quality. The most interesting ones, including those by Laidlaw, Dewey, and Burton, could have appeared as individual journal articles.—Leonard Grundt, *Professor and Chairperson, Library Department, Nassau Community College, Garden City, New York.*

**First Printings of American Authors: Contributions Toward Descriptive Checklists.**

V.I. Matthew J. Bruccoli, series editor. C. E. Frazer Clark, Jr., managing editor. Richard Layman, project editor. Benjamin Franklin V, associate editor. A Bruccoli Clark Book. Detroit: Gale, 1977. 432p. \$140 for four-volume set. LC 74-11756. ISBN 0-8103-0933-5.

It is nothing short of a pleasure to review a work that has the chance of becoming the seminal statement on its subject. In *First Printings of American Authors (FPAA)*, an impressive group of collaborators has produced the first of a projected four-volume set that identifies and bibliographically describes American and English printings of books by selected American authors. The selection of authors is, as the preface to *FPAA* notes, "admittedly impressionistic, reflecting the editors' sense of collecting and scholarly interest—as well as the desire of a particular contributor to provide a list." Yet the coverage in this first volume includes 123 authors from James Agee to Richard Wright.

In thirty-four "featured lists," full information, including a description and/or a reproduction of the title page as well as some ancillary information for collectors, such as colophons and dust-jacket and binding variants, is provided for both the American and the English first printings by that author. The "standard lists" vary from the featured only in that less descriptive information is provided for the English publications. Many entries provide a photograph of the subject.