Campus is great—why not let librarians and their libraries help?—Dorothy Hagen Ketterner, Fergus Falls Community College, Fergus Falls, Minnesota.


With, it is claimed, over 400 additional entries more than the first (1973) edition, this second edition does deserve its own review. The format and organization of both editions are the same, as is the purpose. Brewer attempts to provide the student of geography with a list of those publications that will be of value to the student. He assumes no prior knowledge—even of library familiarity. While slanted toward geographic themes, the chapter on library use could be read with profit by anyone unfamiliar with library practices. This is a beginner's book.

Brewer gives brief but concise descriptions of his listed titles, which include any changes over time for serially published items, and often illustrates his discussion with sample pages from the major works. These two points alone make the work notable. His flow chart for a literature search and his charts depicting the structure of geographical information communication and bibliography are clear and generally useful. There is an obvious English-language bias in the selection and a bit of a bias toward British editions, though there is an effort to be international in scope. After giving general chapters on geographical literature in libraries, bibliographies and reference works, periodicals, and monographs/textbooks/collections, Brewer breaks the subject of geography into special areas and presents individual chapters on cartobibliography, sources of statistics, governmental and international organizations' publications, the history of geography and geographic thought, techniques and methodology, physical geography, human geography, and regional geography. The index is primarily of personal/corporate names and titles.

This work should be in the main library as well as any departmental library on campus. Geography is a vital field, and any printed survey of the literature is out of date before it can be published; but, as of this writing, Brewer is reasonably current, certainly to the point of being very useful in the next several years. And, because this is a beginner's book, students from other fields can use it easily. One hopes for new editions every five or six years.—J. B. Post, Free Library of Philadelphia.


The editors of this volume intended to publish a collection of articles “for librarians and others who must grapple with the complex problems of preservation and who feel ill-prepared to do so” due to lack of training and limited access to conservation writings. They chose selections to deal with the “philosophical and epistemological aspects of conservation of research library materials.” Baker and Soroka set themselves a difficult