half century in the beau monde of southern letters.

All in all this is a good book, a fitting tribute to a great librarian, and a valuable contribution to the literature of the two library fields that benefited most from the attention and ministration of Frances Neel Cheney—reference services and library education.—David Kaser, Indiana University.


How many reviews of Festschriften begin with these words: "As with any collection of articles, the strength of these essays varies"? It is a cliche at best, and like all cliches it is essentially true. This collection is nowhere identified as a Festschrift for Ralph Ellsworth, but it is dedicated to him and contains a bibliography of works by and about him, as well as a list of the places he has served as a consultant and a narrative bio-bibliography that is more bio- than biblio- and in any case, brief.

Librarians have traditionally "disliked" Festschriften; the publisher was wise to avoid the designation. They are hard to classify, they do not lend themselves to subject analysis and, most distressing, until and unless they are picked up in some indexing tool, the articles in them are "lost" to future retrieval unless one has an accurate and fairly complete citation.

Laying aside those traditional objections, there is an even more pressing concern: why should articles on consulting by Ellsworth Mason (the other Ellsworth), centralized cataloging by Joe Howard and Judith Schmidt, and interlibrary cooperation by Joe Hewitt be published in a book rather than in a professional journal where they would get much wider distribution and reading? These are but three of the thirteen articles (written by fifteen authors) that now share limbo with Festschriften in all fields during the past 200 years.

Let me make myself perfectly clear! I applaud Mr. Stueart’s efforts in acknowledging the Ralph Ellsworth contribution to our profession. My published words elsewhere show my admiration for both the man and myth. I wish, however, the tribute had taken another form. It is neither too late nor too early for librarians to band together forming an eternal alliance. We’ll call it "Librarians against Festschriften" (LAF, or perhaps LAF, for short). And, since organizations cannot survive based on purely negative motivations, ours shall have this positive goal: We shall strive to create a new journal. It will be called Festschrift International; beginning as an annual and moving quickly through the gears to become a weekly. The obvious result will be fifty-two Festschriften per year, surely enough to meet the world’s needs. To the delight of librarians it will be indexed in a major indexing service thus eliminating the need for analytics and individual subject cataloging.

In the meantime, collections with interests in academic librarianship must buy the present book. With contributions by Clyde Walton, Dale Bentz, and the late Carl Jackson (perhaps his last published writing), as well as other well-recognized academic library leaders, it will be requested from time to time by patrons who stumble upon a reference to it.—W. David Laird, University of Arizona Library.


Primarily a report from the World Conference on Innovative Higher Education held in May 1978, this book is an aid to the understanding of university innovations around the world at the beginning of the 1980s.

The conference was convened by Bu-Ali Sina University of Iran, Linköping University of Sweden, and the University of Wisconsin–Green Bay in cooperation with the Johnson Foundation.

The problems arising from the national environments in which institutions of higher education plan their programs are many and varied. Developing countries are seeing an increase in the need for higher education to develop leaders for