Department of Archives and History, Atlanta, Georgia; University Archives, University of Illinois; Records Center, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; John Deere and Company Archives; Nebraska State Archives; Weyerhaeuser Archives; University of Michigan, Bentley Historical Library; and many other institutions.

It hardly needs to be pointed out that one does not have to be an archivist to find this Archival Forms Manual of value. Anyone working with manuscripts will have reason to use it from time to time. It is highly recommended to special collections and rare book librarians.

The second item similarly will appeal to a wider audience. It is by Carolyn Hoover Sung and is titled Archives & Manuscripts: Reprography. By way of background, in 1977 the National Historical Publications and Records Commission supported SAA's publication of five manuals dealing with archival functions. A second series, also supported by NHPRC, was begun in 1980; this volume is the fifth of that SAA Basic Manual Series.

Carolyn Hoover Sung was assistant chief of the Photoduplication Service at the Library of Congress when this volume was written and is an acknowledged authority on the subject of "reprography." She defines reprography as "a wide variety of processes whose purpose is to replicate documents by optical or photomechanical means." The book is divided into nine chapters: (1) "Copying in Archives," (2) "Choosing a Reprographic Process," (3) "Microphotography," (4) "Source Document Microfilming," (5) "Using Microforms," (6) "Photocopying," (7) "Photography," (8) "Managing a Reprographic Service," and (9) "Additional Sources."

Clearly an authoritative work, it is recommended to anyone involved in or concerned about the copying and reproduction of manuscripts.

The third item is the Report of the Task Force on Institutional Evaluation of the SAA, titled Evaluation of Archival Institutions: Services, Principles, and Guide to Self-Study. The Council on Library Resources' support made possible the testing and publication of this report. Briefly, the SAA "offers a variety of services to assist archival institutions in evaluating and improving archival programs." This publication "describes the constituent services of the program of institutional evaluation—data collection, self-assessment and peer review." Included is detailed information on how to conduct a comprehensive self-study, how to prepare the self-study report, and how to prepare for and conduct a site visit. If one wishes to do an evaluation of an archival operation, this publication tells one how to do it.

One can do nothing but admire the high quality of the materials published by SAA of which the three noted above are excellent examples.—Clyde C. Walton, University of Colorado, Boulder.


Historical studies have frequently been subject to fluctuations in fashion. During the past few decades, we have seen the rise and assimilation of such subdisciplines as family and demographic history, psychohistory, the history of popular culture, women's studies, quantitative social-scientific history, and a host of others. Some have been attacked for their imaginative or speculative leaps; others have dealt only with the quantifiable facts in a quest for scientific history. All have provided new perspectives on our past and our psyches.

In his fascinating introduction to this collection of papers from the 1980 Boston RBMS preconference, Robert Darnton places histoire du livre as the present front-runner of historical studies, "one of the few sectors in the human sciences where there is a mood of expansion and a flurry of fresh ideas." Happily, Kenneth Carpenter's volume Books and Society in History provides a useful guidepost and weather vane to the diversity and directions of this burgeoning discipline. One might argue with Darnton's claim that the history of the book is likely to find a place
alongside history of science or history of art among scholarly disciplines, but it would be impossible to deny that the field is growing rapidly and has gained a historical respectability for what was once dismissed as mere antiquarianism.

The program committee of the conference and the editor of the proceedings deserve high praise for assembling a stimulating and occasionally provocative collection. The essays include specialist studies such as the knotty printing history of English statutes from 1484-1640 (brilliantly untangled by K. F. Pantzer) and a straightforward and comprehensive account of English-language publishing in Germany in the eighteenth century. On the French side, there are papers by Henri-Jean Mantin on publishing conditions in the ancien regime (curiously drawing many examples and parallels from outside the period), by Raymond Birn on censorship in France (1700-1715), and a general account by Frédéric Barbier of the publishing industry in nineteenth-century France. Censorship and the development of copyright in eighteenth-century England are well treated by John P. Feather, as are the economic motivations for innovation in the English and American book trade from 1819 to 1939 by James Barnes. The volume concludes with a brief survey by Paul Raabe of research opportunities for librarians in the fields of library history and history of books.

To this reviewer the most provocative essay is Elizabeth Eisenstein's "From Scriptoria to Printing Shops," not for her account of the transition but for her speculative leap suggesting that the long revolution might be ending in another revolution of copy centers, computers, and word processors "that very well may undermine current notions of intellectual property rights and bring us close to the medieval experience of everyman serving as his own scribe" (p.40). Whither then histoire du livre?

The volume includes a formal "Statement on the History of the Book" as endorsed by conference speakers and later by the Board of Directors of ACRL. Hardpressed library administrators and other funding agencies will wistfully note the statement's plea for further support for "basic projects as well as seminars, workshops, and conferences on an international level."

A brief review scarcely does justice to the richness of this collection (nor does the lack of an index). What comes across as most important is the growing interdependence of historian, bibliographer, sociologist, librarian, and literary scholar. To risk an outrageous generalization, one could say that the bibliographer's and cataloger's job is to find the right pigeonhole for a book or other publication; the scholar's job is to take it out of that pigeonhole and put it in a new perspective or relationship. Obviously, the work is complementary and overlapping, but there remains a gap to be bridged—the bibliographer's work has to be presented in ways more accessible and engaging to the historian, while the historians could profit from a greater awareness of the contributions that bibliographers and historians of the book can make to their own work. Bibliography and histoire du livre are not ends in themselves, but avenues to greater historical awareness, avenues that Carpenter's volume has helped pave.—David H. Stam, The New York Public Library.


The purpose of this book is to "review some of the common problems that both the supervisor and the employee face, from the perspective of a practicing library director, and demonstrate how participatory management might contribute as an alternative management background." Sager, who has extensive practical experience in public library administration, is careful to note that this approach to management is only one alternative among many and is not for all libraries, librarians, or situations. However, by following his suggestions and illustrations carefully, one can get a good picture of what does and doesn't work in various situations. The book could be used as a guide to educate management and staff in their participative management roles and also makes good use of case studies to illustrate points. The studies and their solutions