

lyn Hickey (Chicago: American Library Assn., 1984) is a very good example of one such work.

The enduring contribution of *Library Technical Services: Operations and Management* will most likely be realized as users refer to its guidance on "keeping up" and to the references and bibliographies that document operations in the functional areas of library technical services.—Don Lannier, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb.

Leaders in American Academic Librarianship: 1925-1975. Ed. by Wayne A. Wiegand. (Beta Phi Mu Chapbook, no. 16) Pittsburgh: Beta Phi Mu, 1983. 419p. \$50. LC 83-21448. ISBN 0-9102-3016-X. (Distributed by American Library Association.)

This book will be of value to all those interested in ascertaining the paths to influence and renown in the American academic world followed by academic librarians in the period surveyed. This volume might, however, more accurately be entitled *Leaders in American Libraries* since the fifteen people included have all been library directors. The avowed goals of the editor are to: (1) increase academic librarians' awareness of their profession by reviewing crucial events and the leaders who shaped or reacted to them, (2) recall a generation of leaders now being forgotten, and (3) generate more interest in academic library history. While the collection of essays should do these things, as well as occasion speculation on how the approaches discussed would apply to contemporary situations in academic libraries, the unfortunately high price of the book will effectively keep it out of the hands of many potential readers and some libraries.

The academic librarians included have been rather arbitrarily chosen: a committee of six well-known librarians narrowed down an original list of twenty-five academic librarians to fifteen on whose importance consensus could be reached. Secondary sources were not consulted in these deliberations, and the final group selected is not claimed as a definitive list of the greatest academic librarians of the period. Many readers will feel that omitted

librarians rate inclusion as much or more so than some of those selected, but this dissatisfaction is inherent in any brief selection, no matter how it is arrived at, and the editor is honest in his subjectivity.

Some readers will feel that too heavy an emphasis has been placed on library directors to the exclusion of other types of academic librarians. Once again, in an avowedly subjective survey that does not claim representativeness, such an emphasis is harder to fault. This lack of any explicit editorial focus does, however, result in a variety of unmediated viewpoints from which the reader must isolate and synthesize those traits that contributed to effective performance and leadership in the academic library context.

Those librarians included are Charles H. Brown, W. S. Dix, Robert Downs, Ralph Ellsworth, Lillian B. Griggs, Guy Lyle, Stephen McCarthy, Blanche P. McCrum, Keyes DeWitt Metcalf, Jerrold Orne, Lawrence Powell, Ralph Shaw, Maurice Tauber, Robert Vosper, and Louis Round Wilson. All are known primarily as library directors except for Tauber and Wilson, best known for their activities in cataloging and library education, respectively. They, too, however, had directed libraries. No member of the Library of Congress is included except for McCrum, who ended her career there as a specialist in documents and a bibliographer after decades as the director of two academic libraries.

The editor allowed considerable freedom to his contributors as to style and organization. While most articles summarize all facets of the subject's library activities, the one on Wilson is conceived as a supplement to his authorized biography. While most of the writers endorse the editorial committee's choice of subjects, the biographers of Dix and Lyle claim that their high reputations among contemporaneous librarians were more the result of luck and personal charisma than of vital contributions to, or innovations in, the field. The biographers of Griggs and McCrum, on the other hand, present the case that these librarians' careers have been unjustly ignored because of the bias against female leadership in the

period. My own feeling, based on these essays, is that Dix, Lyle, and McCrum were sufficiently active in a variety of organizations and influential pursuits to justify their inclusion in this group, whereas the case for Griggs is much less persuasive. While her contributions seem worthy and valuable within the libraries in which she worked, they did not gain her national or international prominence or prove lastingly influential. Much is made of her influence on the ideas of Harvie Branscomb, but he does not figure among these librarians.

Examining the goals that many of these people shared as well as the individual excellences or accomplishments that stand out, it seems that the committee was more concerned with librarians who were nationally or internationally recognized in library associations, and on the wider non-library front, than with those whose activities were more narrowly focused within the libraries in which they worked. The superior management of an academic library in itself does not lead to selection, though all of these librarians had such merits among their more public achievements. Bringing honor and recognition to one's library through action on the national or international levels is clearly a vital criterion here. The librarian as scholar and/or faculty member was, then as now, a vexed topic. Several of the biographees favored faculty status for academic librarians; others stressed that the academic librarian must be a scholar-librarian in order to work most effectively with faculty and to win their trust and esteem.

While such activities will continue to assure visibility and influence for academic librarians, modern developments such as restrictive budgets and participatory management styles are apt to make the library director's operations within his or her library more problematical than it was for many of these earlier librarians. Indeed, some of these directors, whose careers ended recently, retired with a sense of pessimism about the future of academic libraries for these very reasons and because of dismay at the increasingly technological bent of the modern research library, to the detriment of humanistic scholar-

librarianship as they perceived it. On the other hand, two of them, Metcalf and Wilson remained active in professional life up to their deaths at extremely advanced ages. The earliest generation of librarians in this survey had to face the deprivations of Depression and war, so contemporary readers can find precedent for dealing with distinctly unpromising situations with resourcefulness, dedication, and energy.

Thus, despite the casual nature of the selection process and the exorbitant price, this book can be recommended to those concerned with the development of American academic libraries and the strengths and limitations of those library directors who built and dominated them for fifty years.—*John Cullars, University of Illinois at Chicago.*

Library Instruction and Reference Services. Ed. by Bill Katz and Ruth A. Fraley. New York: Haworth, 1984. 254p. \$24.95. LC 84-505. ISBN 0-86656-288-5. (This work has also been published as *The Reference Librarian*, no. 10, Spring/Summer 1984.)

Increasing the Teaching Role of Academic Libraries. Ed. by Thomas G. Kirk. (New Direction for Teaching and Learning, No. 18) San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1984. 102p. \$8.95. LC 83-82744. ISBN 87589-791-6.

Third International Conference on Library User Education: Proceedings. Ed. by Peter Fox and Ian Malley. Loughborough, England: INFUSE, 1983. 174p. £12. ISBN 0-946084-15-7.

These three books are additions to the vast, and growing, body of literature on bibliographic instruction. The first two works are collections of essays and the last a collection of the papers presented at a conference. As such they are, in varying degrees, prone to the faults of collections of papers; they are uneven, occasionally repetitious, and cacophonous. However, sitting down to read them seriatim, while occasionally tiring, was never a trial. Individually, the essays are well written and make their point or points in a clear and forthright manner—a tribute, no doubt, to the skills of the editors.