rejoinder, "Librarianship and Information Research: Together or Apart?" Rayward comments on each response. Unlike a standard symposium or anthology that includes a series of unrelated papers on a given subject, this plan works well for providing a form of dialogue among scholars in a given discipline. Altogether there are fifty-six articles in these principal sections.

A length introduction to the volume, "Cultural Diversity in Studies of Information," provides a setting and context for the following principal sections. In an epilogue, "Semantic Quirks in Studies of Information," Machlup gives his own rejoinder to the previous papers, presenting his views on what the authors mean by information, by science, and by computing. Machlup died before he had completed writing this section, and Mansfield prepared the final text for publication, noting the missing parts and what they would have included.

A list of approximately one thousand references and a name index conclude the volume. The list of references, arranged alphabetically by author, does not, however, serve as a subject bibliography for the individual disciplines covered.

This is not a volume one will read from cover to cover. Instead, one will consult its individual sections to discover how present-day scholars view their subject disciplines and relationships with other fields. But as readers study one section, they may be led to others and may also benefit from Machlup and Mansfield's introductory and concluding essays.

This volume is but one part of the mammoth legacy Fritz Machlup has left to the world of scholarship. We hope that his colleagues and students will be able to continue and conclude the research that he began.—Richard D. Johnson, State University of New York, College at Oneonta.


The New-York Historical Society, founded in 1804, is the second oldest historical society in the United States. A cultural institution of national significance, the society maintains a library and a museum, the latter devoted to the fine arts and the decorative arts. The resources of the society include more than five hundred thousand volumes, several million transcripts, and an extensive collection of prints, photographs, drawings, and paintings with a particular emphasis on the history of New York City and New York state and the early colonial period.

In Scholars and Gentlemen: The Library of the New-York Historical Society, 1804-1982, Pamela Spence Richards traces the fortunes and misfortunes of the institution during its 178-year history. As the subtitle indicates, she places her emphasis on the library that played a dominant role in the development of the historical society: the collecting of historical materials was seen as the primary task of the society from its inception. Richards does, however, show how the museum collections grew, how they occasionally seemed to overwhelm the scholarly functions of the library, and how the museum eventually became a separate department that took on the general educational functions of the society.

Evident throughout Richards' narrative are the difficulties that the society faced as a result of its limited financial resources. Although it received an occasional grant from the state of New York early in its history, and some funds from private foundations and federal funding agencies in the twentieth century, the institution has survived primarily on an endowment built up by philanthropic New Yorkers. Financial constraints over the years nearly led to the sale of the library in 1825; caused delays and ultimately the suspension of the publishing activities of the society; affected its public services because of cramped quarters, insufficient staff, and inadequate cataloging; and resulted in a strike by some two dozen of the society's clerical, technical, and professional workers in 1979.

A problem of equal significance, as Richards presents it, was the conflict, particularly in the second half of the nineteenth century, over the focus of the institution. Related to this issue were the challenges the society faced at that time as a result of the social changes in the city and the professionalization of scholarship and librari-
anship. Frederic de Peyster, president of the society from 1864-1866 and 1873-1882, emphasized the broad educational role of the institution, while George Henry Moore, librarian from 1849-1866, viewed it as a professional library serving specialized scholars. Under Moore's successors, William and Robert Kelby, the society became one of the city's chief centers of genealogical research and hereditary patriotic organizations. A solution to this issue was eventually facilitated by the departmentalization of the functions and purposes of the society by librarian (and later director) Alexander J. Wall in 1939. The library continued to function as a scholarly resource while the new museum allowed the society to meet the popular educational demands.

Despite these difficulties, the New-York Historical Society managed to attract collections of major importance. Richards' account is peppered with descriptions of the manuscript and printed riches that came into the institution. Unrelated materials were accepted as well. This "vacuum cleaner" approach to acquisitions was eventually refined by director R.W.G. Vail, who established a policy of building to the strengths of the collection in 1959. Like his predecessor, Alexander J. Wall, Vail worked to achieve closer cooperation with other New York institutions.

Richards brings her story up to the present with a discussion of the recataloging and conservation projects of the society under director James D. Heslin and librarian James Gregory. The problems of escalating costs and a stagnating endowment fill the final pages of her study. Scholars and Gentlemen is a fine contribution to the history of the cultural institutions of New York City and of the United States.—Marie Elena Korey, Free Library of Philadelphia.