

arate list under such headings as Book Reviews, Home Economics, History, and Physics have now been divided into the five major categories of the books and are listed alphabetically at the end of all the subdivisions of each category. To this reviewer, the one major criticism of this very useful work is the failure to subdivide the periodical lists, placing, for example, the chemistry periodicals after the reference works on chemistry and the history periodicals after the reference works on history, leaving, as before, for the general section those which belong in no subject grouping. Under the present arrangement it is necessary to read through 195 titles in the social science group to locate the ten or twelve sociology periodicals.

A new feature in this edition is the notation of the sources of periodical indexing, an addition placed immediately in error by the many changes in the *International Index*. This only emphasizes the great difficulty of keeping lists of reference books and periodicals up to date, for the closing compilation date here was October, 1954.

In spite of a number of typographical errors and the loss of the *Biographical Directory of the American Congress* among the bibliographical entries, the index is greatly improved, placing this time in a single alphabet the authors and titles of the reference works and, in italics, the periodical titles.

Once more the editor warns against the use of the list as an acquisitions guide or for accrediting purposes without consideration of local needs and recognition that other titles might serve as well. These are valid warnings to be heeded in the use of any standard list and detract not at all from the value of this one as "a reasonably effective measurement for improving the quality of college libraries in the South."—*Winifred Linderman, Columbia University*.

The First Cambridge Press

The First Cambridge Press in its European Setting. By E. P. Goldschmidt. The Sandars Lectures in Bibliography, 1953. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1955. x, 99 p. \$3.75.

The First Cambridge Press (1521-1522) which the author describes in his preface as a

story of the "literary characteristics of the publishing venture of Siberch (i.e., John Laer of Siegburg) . . . in comparison with similar enterprises in other university towns on the Continent" is a fascinating and intriguing study. Even those who may not always agree with the theses of the late E. P. Goldschmidt will admire anew his tremendous fund of knowledge and his mastery of intellectual history.

The first chapter deals with the connections between Siberch and the Greek scholar Richard Croke, Henry Bullock, Bishop John Fischer (the chancellor of Cambridge University), and other more or less famous contemporaries. It analyzes in detail the ten books now credited to the first Cambridge press, among them Bullock's welcome to Cardinal Wolsey, the first edition of Lucian's *Dipsades* (in Latin), the first edition of Erasmus' *De Conscribendis Epistolis*, Galen's *On the Temperaments*, and the anonymous allegory *Hermathena*.

The second chapter serves to connect England's first humanist press with parallel developments on the Continent; it is in fact a concise and very useful history of Greek studies around the year 1500. It contains, besides a wealth of information on the spread of classical knowledge, some rather thought-provoking observations. Here is one example:

The magnificent effort of the Aldine editions of the Greek authors marks the end, not the beginning, of humanism in Italy. They are the culmination of the endeavours and wishes of a whole century; but their sequel is negligible in Italy. They bear their fruit beyond the Alps.

Chapter three is entitled "Continental Scholar-Printers" and deals with Siberch's Roman type and with the humanist presses in Erfurt, Wittenberg, Leipzig, Cracow, Vienna, Basel, Louvain, Paris, Caen, Toulouse and some few other towns.

The three chapters (originally planned as lectures) are accompanied by an equal number of appendices of which one will prove particularly useful. Appendix B, "Renaissance Translations from the Greek," lists in tabular form the first Greek printing and the first Latin translations of Greek authors and texts produced during the Renaissance. This compilation alone will serve as a monument to the erudition of the scholar-bibliographer-bookseller E. P. Goldschmidt.

The book is most pleasingly produced and

well illustrated. Appendix B was unfortunately misbound in the review copy, but we trust this to be an error not repeated in the rest of the edition.—*Rudolf Hirsch, University of Pennsylvania Library.*

State Author Headings

Author Headings for the Official Publications of the State of Wisconsin. By Ruth Lillian Whitlock Jackson. Chicago: American Library Association, 1954. 211p. \$5.

Author Headings for the Official Publications of the State of Oklahoma. Compiled by Ruth Fulton Cramer; revised and extended by Carolyn Curtis Mohr. Chicago: American Library Association, 1954. ix, 114p. \$3.85.

Two volumes have been added to the series of state author headings published by the American Library Association. Earlier lists provide headings for Alabama (Markley), Louisiana (Foote) and Wyoming (Fischer). Like the Markley volume, the new additions are based on theses for the master's degree at the University of Illinois Library School. Despite its belated publication, the Wisconsin list was the first such compilation to be undertaken at the school in 1941.

The theoretical utility of listing author headings for official state publications lies in the difficulty of determining the legal form of an agency name. The compiler of such a list seeks to establish agency names authoritatively by systematically combing state laws, blue books, bibliographies of state publications, and similar sources. Any cataloger who has scanned the fine print of session laws to verify the name of a minor state agency can appreciate the boon of having the task done for him. Reference librarians, too, will find use for such tools in their own work.

The Wisconsin list covers agencies of the territorial government from 1836 to 1848 and the state government from 1848 to 1951. It offers about 1,000 author headings together with some 1,500 cross references. The Oklahoma list covers agencies of the territorial government from 1890 to 1907 and the state government from 1907 to 1953. It gives some 444 author headings with approximately 1,270 cross references. Both lists include numerous see-also references.

Of the two, the Oklahoma list seems to be the sounder piece of work. As the foregoing figures suggest, its proportion of cross references to headings more nearly conforms to the terrible necessity of providing catalog access to government publications. Even more important, it avoids useless proliferation of headings.

The Wisconsin list is unrestrained. It strives to give a heading for every subdivision of the main state departments, even though, admittedly, subdivision names are seldom established by law. As a result, it provides 64 different forms for each of two headings: WISCONSIN. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION; and WISCONSIN. STATE CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT. The heading WISCONSIN. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION. ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT has 21 subdivisions. Most of them transcend the bounds of cataloging propriety. What collection of state documents would ever require the heading WISCONSIN. PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION. ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT. INFORMATION DEPARTMENT. MAIN OFFICE SECTION? As a practical matter, few libraries use corporate entries in more than three parts unless they want the heading to wag the card.

The compilers of the Oklahoma list wisely chose to exclude headings for "temporary bodies appointed to complete a specific function, as construction of a building, where no publications were issued and the agency obviously no longer functions" (p. vi). In the Wisconsin list one finds:

WISCONSIN. AGENT TO PROCURE A BLOCK OF MARBLE OR GRANITE TO BE PLACED IN THE NATIONAL MONUMENT AT THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.

WISCONSIN. BOARD TO HEAR, TRY AND DETERMINE COMPLAINTS REGARDING THE FAILURE OF RAILROADS TO MAKE CONNECTIONS AT JUNCTIONAL POINTS WITHIN THIS STATE.

WISCONSIN. COMMISSIONERS TO PROCURE TO BE PUBLISHED SO MUCH OF THE DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THIS STATE AS HAD BEEN PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION BY WILLIAM R. SMITH.

We learn that the governor was the block-buying agent, that Mr. Smith's book was in fact published, but there is nothing to reveal whether train service was ever improved. All this makes charming reading, but it seems unlikely that these fleeting agencies would