

the book remains a valuable standard work. It provides a thorough, coherent introduction to acquisitions for the novice and a convenient source of reference for the veteran. It would be a suitable textbook for a course on acquisitions, and the practitioner will find valuable suggestions of sources and procedures for acquiring materials in formats that are unfamiliar. This new edition should join its predecessors on the shelves of acquisitions departments and library school collections alike.—*Eric Carpenter, Oberlin College Library, Oberlin, Ohio.*

**Grafton, Anthony.** *Forgers and Critics: Creativity and Duplicity in Western Scholarship.* Princeton: Princeton Univ. Press, 1990. 157p. alk. paper, \$14.95 (ISBN 0-691-05544-0). LC 89-28347.

Accounts of the production and unmasking of forgeries have universal appeal—pitting the forger's superior understanding of what must have existed against the critic's belief that systematic comparison of data leads to truth. Most studies of forgery familiar to librarians deal with specific items (Mormon documents, the Vinland Map), perpetrators (Thomas Chatterton, T.J. Wise), types (facsimiles of newspaper issue or Lincoln letters), or historical periods. Studies of criticism—whether biblical, historical, literary, or textual—are categorized separately.

In this brief but tightly written essay, Anthony Grafton analyzes serious and skillful forgeries including textual matter produced in Western culture over the past 2,500 years, always with intent to deceive. Thousands are known: historical records of an heroic past, literary remains of a canonical nature, sacred texts offering spiritual authority, and legal documents legitimizing practices and possessions. In modern times, personal or professional gain has proved a temptation to creative and often prominent scholars, as they buttress an argument or fill in a gap. Concerns of the forger include not only the text's linguistic and physical aspects but also a convincing explanation of its provenance.

From extensive reading and hundreds of examples familiar and unfamiliar, Graf-

ton argues compellingly that criticism developed not through some abstract need for it but as a result of the stimulus provided by forgers. The critical method is not an invention of Renaissance humanism or nineteenth-century German scholarship but continues a tradition begun in classical Greece. It has increased in sophistication concomitantly with the challenge of better forgeries and has changed chiefly in the mass of data supporting its contentions. It tends to be less discriminating when dealing with texts that coincide with the critic's assumptions and desires. "Forger and critic have been entangled through time like Laocoon and his serpents," writes Grafton in his introduction; "the changing nature of their continuous struggle forms a central theme in the development of historical and philological scholarship" and has given us a richer sense of what the past was really like.

The author's erudite and wide-ranging theory—originating as a public lecture at Princeton University where he is Professor of History—represents a logical extension of his ground-breaking publications in the history of classical scholarship and in Renaissance education. His exposition of "a fascinating but troubling feature of the Western tradition" gives perspective to the critical judgment bibliographic instruction librarians endeavor to instill and to the "spurious works" catalogers find pervasive in the PA schedule of the Library of Congress classification. More generally, Grafton's lucid thought offers academic librarians a rare and welcome opportunity to step back and consider the authenticity and intellectual origins of some of the materials we care for, as well as the motivations behind the scholarship our efforts support.—*Elizabeth Swaim, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown, Connecticut.*

**Libraries and Scholarly Communication in the United States: The Historical Dimension.** Ed. by Phyllis Dain and John Y. Cole. New York: Greenwood, 1990. 148p., \$37.95. (ISBN 0-313-26807-X). LC 89-23248.

The collection of essays in this book derives from a conference of the same name

## The reading list for academic librarians from ALA Books

✓ **Selection of Library Materials for Area Studies, Part 1: Asia, Iberia, the Caribbean and Latin America, Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, and the South Pacific**

*Cecily Johns, editor*

\$55.00cl. 460p. 0-8389-5328-5 July 1990

Describes the strategies and methods that North American librarians have developed for collecting materials from other regions of the world, including buying trips, exchange agreements, and working with national exporters. Part 2, to be published in 1992, will cover Western Europe, Africa, and the Middle East.

✓ **Measuring Academic Library Performance: A Practical Approach**

*Nancy Van House, Beth Weil, Charles R. McClure*

\$29.00pbk. 194p. 0-8389-0529-3 June 1990

With database package: \$70.00 0-8389-0542-0

Measure the impact, efficiency, and effectiveness of your library's activities, with output measures specifically designed for academic libraries. Also available with a database software package for data collection and analysis.

✓ **Understanding the Business of Acquisitions**

*Karen A. Schmidt, editor*

\$45.00pbk. 334p. 0-8389-0536-6 July 1990

The interactions of non-profit libraries and for-profit publishers and vendors do not always run smoothly. One remedy is increased awareness by librarians of the business practices and concerns of the booktrades. *Understanding the Business of Acquisitions* addresses these issues by examining the complex area of library acquisitions from the perspectives of all three parties concerned.

✓ **Strengthening the U.S.-Japan Library Partnership in the Global Information Flow: Fourth U.S.-Japan Conference on Library and Information Science in Higher Education**

*Theodore F. Welch, Warren M. Tsuneshi, and Mary F. Grosch*

\$40.00pbk. 320p. 0-8389-3378-5 August 1990

The proceedings of this conference form a lively, state-of-the-art assessment of academic librarianship in the U.S. and Japan. One important theme of the papers is the current concern in Japan and the U.S. for the need to share bibliographic data more effectively.

### ALA Books

American Library Association ■ 50 East Huron Street ■ Chicago, Illinois 60611

held in 1987. The broad rubric of "communication" allows disparate essays to appear in the same volume; the only thread tying them together is the historical overview provided in each essay.

Phyllis Dain's introductory essay, "Scholarship, Higher Education, and Libraries in the United States: Historical Questions and Quests," is the least successful of all the essays due to its discursive nature. Dain traces the rise of American libraries and the role of collection development from small collections in the colonial period and the nineteenth century to serious expansion after World War II. In the process she also traces the emergence and importance of librarians as professional caretakers of collections. Discussed at length is the New York Public Library and its ability to build a performing arts collection and a strong collection in African-American materials. Large public libraries have one major advantage over their academic counterparts: because they are staffed exclusively by library personnel, there is no rival group—such as faculty—competing for collection development responsibilities.

John Cole, in "The Library of Congress and American Scholarship, 1865-1939," traces the rise of LC as the preeminent library in America. He particularly focuses on the contributions of Ainsworth Rand Spofford and Herbert Putnam. Spofford's energies were directed at making the Library of Congress a national library, modeled on the great libraries of Europe, such as the British Museum Library. According to Cole, Spofford's major accomplishment was gaining copyright privileges for LC. This enabled it to build strong collections in a variety of areas, since two copies of all copyrighted materials were to reside in the Library. Cole contrasts Spofford's contributions with that of Putnam. Whereas Spofford was concerned with collection development and establishing LC as a premier library, Putnam wanted LC to provide technical services, particularly its cataloging, to other American libraries. Under Putnam, major collections—such as Asian, Russian, and Judaica—grew as well. With its narrow focus, Cole's essay is one of the strongest in this collection.

Neil Harris, in "Special Collections and Academic Scholarship: A Tangled Relationship," analyzes the rather late appearance of special collections in academic institutions. One of the most useful features of Harris' essay is his taxonomy of special collection libraries. Historically, libraries evolved from private collections of wealthy patrons, to libraries open to the public (e.g., New York Public Library and the Newberry Library), to corporate collections and those of special interest groups. Harris argues that because of the expense and the special considerations that attend the physical space of a special collection, academic libraries have sometimes viewed rare books departments as more trouble than they are worth. He counters that special collections have a transformational power as "places to test arguments, make discoveries, hold classes, and generally re-examine the meaning of knowledge as personal and social experience and as statements of power and domination."

Entitled "Research Libraries, the Ideology of Reading, and Scholarly Communication, 1876-1900," Wayne A. Wiegand's essay joins the relatively new genre of canon-bashing. He believes research librarians, by obsequious acquisition of faculty-recommended titles, have abdicated their intellectual responsibility in materials selection. He focuses on the ideology of reading—the best texts selected by the best minds are made available to patrons. What he fails to take into account are the financial constraints placed upon most institutions, that is, their inability to buy all works, hence the establishment of author hierarchies.

In "Preservation, Library Collections, and the Concept of Cultural Property," Paul N. Banks proposes that research libraries have a dual function—to preserve the content of knowledge found in books, and to preserve the aesthetic artifact that is found in special collections. Much of his essay is a discussion of cultural property, or how artifacts were originally viewed as the exclusive property of the owner, to the development of international law that viewed them as the property of nations. One of the weaknesses of this essay is the failure of the author to demonstrate that

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countries took these laws seriously and abided by them. Banks singles out the Romantic period as the first "to bring a conviction that the preservation of beautiful historic objects was a responsibility of civilized man." Another essay with a narrow focus is Mary Niles Maack's "Scholarly Resources for the Study of the Third World: The Case of Africa." She discusses the small collection size of most African libraries, and the irony that many American libraries, Northwestern in particular, have much larger collections of African materials. As other writers on Africana have noted, bibliographic control and identification of these publications are still difficult, and bibliographies are often incomplete and out of date. Maack plays particular attention to how Africanists at

UCLA use the Africana collection. Few scholars, for example, use national bibliographies to identify new titles; rather, they use journals to which they subscribe for that function. Another finding, consistent with other surveys, is that few faculty take advantage of online databases to support their research, although some use the computer to download and manipulate data sets, or use videodisc and laserdisc technology to conjoin visual with textual information.

Most of the essays in this collection are readable and will assist librarians interested in the historical background to research collections and scholarly communications.—*Scott Stebelman, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.*

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

*The Acquisitions Budget.* Ed. by Bill Katz. New York: Haworth, 1989. 246p. \$29.95 (ISBN: 0-86656-930-8). LC 89-33790.

*Adaptation of Turnkey Computer Systems in Sci-Tech Libraries.* Ed. by Ellis Mount. New York: Haworth, 1989. 116p. \$22.95 (ISBN: 0-86656-859-X). LC 88-23593.

*Authority Control in Music Libraries: Proceedings of the Music Library Association Preconference, March 5, 1985.* Ed. by Ruth Tucker. 109p. (ISBN: 0-91495-437-7). LC 89-12683.

*Choosing a Bibliographic Utility: User Views of Current Choices.* Ed. by Leslie R. Morris. New York: Neal Schuman, 1989. 137p. \$37.50 (ISBN: 1-55570-048-9). LC 89-13582.

*Computing, Electronic Publishing and Information Technology: Their Impact on Academic Libraries.* Ed. by Robin Downes. New York: Haworth, 1989. 99p. \$22.95 (ISBN: 0-86656-788-7). LC 88-23594.

*Coping with Information Illiteracy: Bibliographic Instruction for the Information Age: Papers Presented at the Seventeenth National LOEX Library Instruction Conference Held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, 4 and 5 May 1989.* Ed. by Glenn E. Mensching, Jr., and Teresa B. Mensching. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Pierian Press, for Learning Resources and Technologies, Eastern Michigan University, 1990. 202p. \$35 (ISBN: 0-87650-267-2).

*Directory of Information Management Software for Libraries, Information Centers, Record Centers, 1989-1990 Edition.* Felton, Calif.: Pacific In-

formation, 1990. 300p. \$59 (ISBN: 0-91320-320-3).

Ford, Geoffrey. *Review of Methods Employed in Determining the Use of Library Stock.* London: British Library Research Fund, 1990. 83p. £15.00 (ISBN: 0-71233-210-3).

*The Freedom to Publish.* Ed. by Haig A. Bosmajian. New York: Neal-Schuman, 1989. 230p. \$35 (ISBN: 1-55570-005-5).

Hendricks, Evan. *Your Right to Privacy: A Basic Guide to Legal Rights in an Information Society.* 2d ed. Carbondale, Ill.: Southern Illinois Univ. Pr., 1990. 186p. \$7.95 (ISBN: 0-80931-632-3).

Hobson, Anthony. *Humanists and Bookbinders: The Origins and Diffusion of the Humanistic Bookbinding, 1459-1559.* New York: Cambridge Univ. Pr., 1989. 296p. \$125 (ISBN: 0-52135-536-2). LC 88-20335.

*Human Resources Management in Libraries.* Ed. by Gisela M. Webb. New York: Haworth Press, 1989. 130p. \$22.95 (ISBN: 0-86656-938-3). LC 89-11211.

*The Impact of Rising Costs of Serials and Monographs on Library Services and Programs.* Ed. by Sul H. Lee. New York: Haworth, 1989. 125p. \$19.95 (ISBN: 0-86656-885-9). LC 88-36774.

*Information Science: The Interdisciplinary Context.* Ed. by J. Michael Pemberton and Ann E. Prentice. New York: Neal-Schuman, 1990. 189p. \$39.50 (ISBN: 1-55570-048-9). LC 89-13291.

*Integrated Planning for Campus Information Sys-*