this is more and more evident in recent volumes, are, like Stange on preservation in "From Rags to Riches," by nonlibrarians and appeared originally in non–library journals. It is interesting to see the aspects and ideas of librarianship that are capturing the imagination of the outside world. Perhaps we are seeing, to some degree, a return to the golden days of the early nineteenth century when librarianship was of somewhat greater interest to the world in general.

While, fortunately, this particular volume contains no examples of what Shaw castigated as articles on "how-I-run-my-library-good," it is replete with the relatively new kind of speculative essay on "how-I-should-run-my-libraries-good" that has become popular in recent years. In one sense such essays continue the kind of innocuous "glad tidings" essay that Beals deplored some forty years ago, but, in another sense, they are somewhat more substantial and valuable because they build on an increasingly solid base of literature and research. They seem to represent the beginnings of a more analytical approach to librarianship designed to synthesize ideas and information into a philosophical structure. For pointing up that trend this series, and its editor, deserves credit.

All in all, this is a volume you may want to borrow from your library and dip into. Unless you are aiming to maintain a complete series, it is not one that you are likely to want to buy for your own collection.—*Norman D. Stevens, University of Connecticut, Storrs.*

Mason, Ellsworth. *Mason on Library Buildings.* Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow, 1980. 348p. $25. LC 80-12029. ISBN 0-8108-1291-6.

Boll, John J. *To Grow or Not to Grow: A Review of Alternatives to New Academic Library Buildings.* LJ Special Report #15. New York: Bowker, 1980. 32p. $5; prepaid, $3.95. ISBN 0-8352-1322-6. ISSN 0362-448X.

New Academic Library Buildings. LJ Special Report #16. New York: Bowker, 1980. 71p. $7; prepaid, $5.95. ISBN 0-8352-1323-4. ISSN 0362-448X.

How refreshing it is to read a lively and well-written book on an important aspect of librarianship! Mason presents five chapters on building problems, originally published from 1965 to 1969. The chapters on lighting and air handling are superb, and the chapter on interiors remains very good indeed. There follow six chapters providing library building reviews, three of which were published previously. The new critiques are of Harvard's Countway Library of Medicine, Dalhousie University, and the Robarts at Toronto. Stimulating and sometimes humorous footnotes greatly add to the text.

A typical note comments that removal of shields from light fixtures provides more footcandles "but at the same time anyone exposed to the fixture has constricted eye pupils, and he gets less light. In addition, the diffusing properties of the fixtures are greatly impaired and interreflection of light in the room drops enormously. *Sic crescit stultitia!* (Loose translation, 'Fools may take over the world')."

Mason at times presents but one view of what should be done. For example, he mandates use of a building-planning committee, but states later, however, that he is grateful he had no committee of any kind at Hofstra "to muck-up affairs." And, as another highly questionable assertion, an institution should never use an architect who has not designed libraries.

This volume is full of wisdom. Mason properly points out that seating was in the past generally projected at too high a percentage of enrollment. Construction penalty clauses in contracts are nearly impossible to invoke successfully. There has been a rather wide student reaction against carrels. Many interiors are left to the mercies of the purchasing agent, and "in this direction madness lies." And custom-designed furniture can be less expensive then ready-made furniture.

Mason provides a great service with his candor. For example, he is frank to say that OSHA issues stupid regulations. He is good on details. (But false in repeating that "water is more destructive to books than fire.") This is an attractive book, with a good selection of appropriate photographs; building floor plans and a demonstration model building program are appended. Anyone entering the task of planning an academic library addition or substantial renovation

would do well to peruse this compilation born of discriminating experience. *Si jeunesse savait, si vieillesse pouvait!*

Two publications of *Library Journal* also treat of library buildings. The first, #15, constitutes a review article. Boll provides sixty-nine references largely from the 1970s and adds a useful index. Boll's product is quite comprehensive and competently presented.

The LJ Special Report #16 superficially treats sixteen academic libraries of the early 1970s—a couple of paragraphs by the librarian, a few from the architect, a trivia of building statistics, and half of the publication pictures of no particular distinction. It is hoped the planned second issue of "new academic library buildings" will produce something more than totally inadequate floor plans with a bit of froth.—*David C. Weber, Stanford University, Stanford, California.*

Networks for Networkers: Critical Issues in Cooperative Library Development. Edited by Barbara Evans Markuson and Blanche Woolls. New York: Neal-Schuman, 1980. 444p. $17.95. LC 79-24054. ISBN 0-918212-22-7.

This volume contains the proceedings of the Conference on Networks for Networkers held in Indianapolis, Indiana, from May 30 through June 1, 1979. The conference included "136 official delegates, observers, guests and speakers from the U.S. and the Virgin Islands . . . their purpose was to listen, ponder, discuss, argue, and make suggestions concerning the critical issues in library network development" (Introduction, p.xiii).

These proceedings include eight major theme papers that were delivered at the conference, twelve background papers, two keynote speeches, supplementary reading material, and appendixes that include conference participants' viewpoints, resolutions of Pre-White House Conferences on Libraries and Information Services, a glossary, and a list of acronyms.

The conference topics were selected to address public-policy issues and were geared almost exclusively to computer-based library networking. Part I is entitled "The Network Revolution" and presents a history and overview of networking. Part II,

"National Policy and Network Development," deals with national information policy development (or nondevelopment, in the view of several conference participants). Part III, entitled "Network Technology and Standards," describes in considerable detail the state of existing technology and telecommunications relevant to library networking, and looks at some trends and innovations. Part IV, "Network Governance and Funding," includes discussion of the legal apsects as well as the economics of networking. Part V, "Network Users and Services," concentrates on the interaction of networks and their clients, with presentations on the role of several types of libraries in networking.

This conference was held almost ten years after one sponsored by the U.S. Office of Education with the American Library Association, which concentrated on the establishment of library networks. *Networks for Networkers* is at once a ten-year review of the development and progress of networks in this country and a presentation of some clear-sighted assessments of the impact networks have had on libraries and librarians. There is necessarily some repetition in these chapters; from different points of view several of the papers refer to the same groups, projects, agencies, and technologies and discuss common problems in network progress. Although some libraries have resisted the movement, many academic and research libraries are in some way connected to a network, and the issues discussed in this volume are of critical importance to academic librarians. Of particular interest are the areas of national library and information policies, network governance, network economics, technology, and the crucial questions of user access to network services. The planners of the conference did not pretend to provide answers to all the networking questions and dilemmas, but all the presentations are lucid and well prepared. They range from theoretical (Don Swanson on trial-and-error evolution in library network development) to technically specific (James Barrentine on future computer technology) to pragmatic (debate between Swartz and Evans on whether state-level networking should evolve from the state library agency or a member-governed