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## BOOK REVIEWS

Adams, Thomas R. *The American Controversy: A Bibliographical Study of the British Pamphlets about the American Disputes, 1764-1783*. Providence, R.I.: Brown Univ. Pr.; New York: The Bibliographical Society of America, 1980. 2V. V. I: 1764-1777; V. II: 1778-1783. 1,102p. \$60. LC 77-76348. ISBN 0-87057-150-8.

Adams has performed a herculean task, the

results of which will benefit students of the American Revolution era for generations to come. *The American Controversy* complements his earlier endeavor, *American Independence: A Bibliographical Study of American Political Pamphlets* (Providence: Brown Univ. Pr., 1965). The polemical exhortations emanating from both sides of the Atlantic have now been carefully documented and analyzed.

*The American Controversy* is a painstaking

ing piece of scholarship. Many more pamphlets were produced in the mother country than in her rebellious offspring. Furthermore, Adams was forced to become a real bibliographic pioneer; there were no Evansque trailblazers to help him on his way. Fortunately, on a day-to-day basis, he had at his disposal the John Carter Brown Library, possessor of 62 percent of the pamphlets identified in this work. Situational advantage notwithstanding, the creation of *The American Controversy* required a scholarly, organized mind and a tremendous sense of commitment. That this seasoned bibliographer and librarian possesses these qualities will become apparent in the paragraphs that follow.

The revolutionary era prompted a sizable, though often obscure, pamphlet literature. Through a combination of scholarly techniques, the author was able to identify 1,400 distinct titles published in 2,350 editions in Great Britain between 1764 and 1783. Wisely, he chose not to include periodical citations. Such an attempt would have proven totally unmanageable. The excellent introductory essay clearly explains methodology,

parameters, and purpose.

The bibliography is arranged chronologically by year and within each year is organized alphabetically by main entry. Bibliographic description of each item is as complete as possible. The chronological approach is a sensible one for it allows the user to focus on key years and reactions to specific events. Someone wishing to investigate British attitudes towards the passage of the Stamp Act (1765), for example, could turn to that year and readily identify such items as Thomas Whately's "Regulations Lately Made concerning the Colonies, and the Taxes Imposed upon Them, Considered." The entry is a typical one—thorough bibliographic description, indication of printer and distribution points, and biographical and historical notes. Sixteen libraries owning copies of the Whately pamphlet are also listed. So *The American Controversy* is not only a bibliography but also a selective union list. Several very useful indexes are appended—places of publication, title, and general (authors and broad subject areas).

This handsome two-volume work deserves

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a place in all libraries that support detailed historical and bibliographical research. As Adams states in his introduction:

This bibliography will have fulfilled its purpose if it stimulates further inquiry into the bibliographical or the historical aspects of the role played by printing and publishing in political affairs.

It is an excellent tool, perhaps a paradigm. *The American Controversy* has amply fulfilled its purpose.—Mark R. Yerburgh, *State University of New York at Albany*.

Miller, Jerome K. *U.S. Copyright Documents: An Annotated Collection for Use by Educators and Librarians*. Littleton, Colo.: Libraries Unlimited, 1981. 292p. \$24 U.S.; \$30 elsewhere. LC 80-24768. ISBN 0-87287-239-4.

Taylor, L. J. *Copyright for Librarians*. Hastings, East Sussex: Tamarisk Books, 1980. 164p. £7.50. ISBN 0-907221-00-9. (Tamarisk Books, West Hill Cottage, Exmouth Place, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 3JA).

Just as one thinks that nothing more will be

written on copyright for the consumption of librarians, two more books are added to the literature. Each offers some new information and, therefore, they must be considered for study and/or purchase.

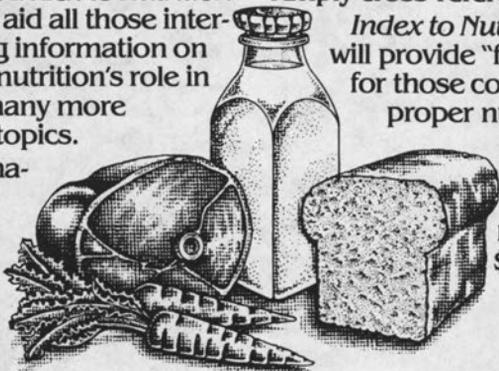
Professor Miller's *U.S. Copyright Documents* is an interesting cut-and-paste job of the basic documents relating to the U.S. Copyright Law. Fully 80 percent of the Miller book is nothing more than a rearranged reprint of the appropriate government publications. But let it be noted that it is a useful rearrangement. For ease of consultation, he has combined the appropriate sections of the Copyright Act, the House Report, the Senate Report, and the Conference Report. For instance, under section 107, the opening statement is the actual words of the law, and this is followed by extensive quotes from the House and Senate reports and the Conference Report. Where appropriate, the Congressional Record and other sources are included.

The first portion of Miller's book consists of seven essays on key points of the law affecting librarians and educators. The essays are well

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