

Editorial

A recent cartoon in the *New Yorker* struck home: A man and a woman are walking along a beach, the man thoughtfully looking ahead as the woman says to him, "I *do* think your problems are serious, Richard. They're just not very interesting." This thought, to a new editor, prompts him to remember that he has a dual mission to the readers of this journal: through his choice and arrangement of articles to present a serious and responsible consideration of pertinent matters and to present them in a way that will engage and retain the attention of his readers.

It has been stated in the past, and we reiterate that *College & Research Libraries* is a journal presenting the reports of scholarly research. It will cover the variety of subjects germane to academic and research librarianship. In this issue, for example, a number of such subjects are represented: resources, interlibrary cooperation, library management, specific library operations as shown in inventory and loan procedures, library automation, and international librarianship. We welcome and encourage new manuscripts for consideration for publication and in this issue present guidelines to authors preparing manuscripts for the journal.

As we encourage new manuscripts, we also trust that authors will present their thoughts in such a way to hold their readers. Recently, the editor of a new journal in the field of higher education, *Change*, gave the back of his hand to library periodicals. Replying to an inquiry, he abruptly dismissed a librarian's questioning the methodology employed in an article in his journal. In the process he accused the library profession in general with an undue emphasis on research methodology "strung out like so much wash." This led him to suggest that this is one reason his journal is read and library journals are not.

That editor's comments notwithstanding, we hope our journal will be read and that as necessary we shall display our methodology discreetly and neatly so as not to offend or discourage our readers.

Through the articles in this journal we shall address many of the recurring problems that confront academic librarianship, with the hope we shall understand them better and possibly achieve some solutions.

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