

sumably will be trying to use these boring recitals as exemplars. Most bright students will benefit from ignoring the prescribed and stodgy and doing their own thing. The perspicacious Anderson questions at the end of each case are surely guides enough.

Perhaps some day a study will be made of the academic library's problems with censorship and possible violations of intellectual freedom; until then, this volume will more than repay the time spent in reading it by any professional librarian who works in an academic library. As a quotation from Thomas Paine which begins the volume says, "those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must undergo like men the fatigue of supporting it." Amen!—*Eli M. Oboler, University Librarian, Idaho State University, Pocatello.*

Mumby, Frank Arthur, and Norrie, Ian. ***Publishing and Bookselling. Part One: From the Earliest Times to 1870***, by Frank Arthur Mumby. ***Part Two: 1870-1970***, by Ian Norrie. 5th ed. London: Jonathan Cape, 1974; distributed in the U.S. by Bowker, New York. 685p. \$33.50.

The first four editions of this work appeared in the years 1930-1956. The present edition, the fifth, has been revised by Mr. Ian Norrie. The first part of the work, covering the period from classical times to 1870, has been revised only slightly. Perhaps in some future edition Mr. Norrie or a later editor will have time to revise this portion of Frank Mumby's book extensively, for a great deal of research on the history of the book has been done in the last three decades, the results of which ought to be incorporated. The remark is not intended as a criticism of Mr. Norrie. He cannot be taxed for not doing that which he never intended to do, nor that which he had not time to do.

The second part of the book is devoted to the hundred years 1870-1970, and is wholly Mr. Norrie's work. Mumby noted indirectly in his preface to the first edition that a difficulty in writing a history of publishing is to avoid producing a book which is a series of histories of individual publishers. Ian Norrie has overcome that difficulty by interspersing his accounts of individual companies with a number of chapters headed "Trade Affairs," in which are treated the

activities and problems of bookselling and publishing as a whole.

There are a few minor blemishes in the second half of the work. On the first page of that portion the author says that the encouragement of "the civilizing force in *Homo sapiens* . . . is the basic business of the British and every other book trade." It is an imposing statement. In the pages that follow it is not always apparent that those in the book trade have kept this primary objective well in mind. The author also discusses the proposal by government in 1940 to impose a sales tax on books, a proposal vigorously opposed by the book trade. Of those fighting the tax the author says that "Europe was disintegrating around them. At any moment each and every one of the people concerned with the fight against the purchase tax might be fleeing for their lives from the Gestapo, but they were able to concentrate their minds on this important issue. And they won." It is worth recalling what else was occurring in 1940 aside from the epic struggle against the tax on books. The German Panzer divisions smashed the Allied armies, and France was defeated. Three hundred thousand British soldiers were gotten off the beaches of Dunkirk by the strenuous efforts of the Royal Navy and its civilian auxiliaries. The pilots of the RAF, those to whom so many owed so much, won the Battle of Britain. It is barely possible that there might be two views of a group who in Britain's finest hour concentrated their efforts on defeating a proposed tax on a commodity which they were marketing. It should be emphasized that these criticisms are directed at relatively few pages in a book of more than six hundred.

The bibliography of publishing and bookselling by William Peet which was an appendix to the first edition also appears in this edition, and it has been brought up to date by Monica Carolan. There are other appendixes: a list of the officers of the Publishers' Association and of the Booksellers' Association from the 1890s to the present time; a table giving the number of books produced in subject categories for significant years; and another table giving the total value of book sales in pounds sterling for important years. The work will be probably most valuable as a reference book.

Those who read it for pleasure may find that six hundred pages on book-trade history is at times grim going.—*D. W. Davies, Lloyd Corporation Ltd., Claremont, California.*

Thompson, Donald E. *Indiana Authors and Their Books, 1917-1966.* Crawfordsville, Ind.: Wabash College, 1974. 688p.

In a superficial sense this volume represents an exercise in vanity. Funded by Hoosiers, sponsored by Hoosiers, prepared, published, and distributed by Hoosiers, it is a biographical directory of Hoosier authors of the half century from 1917 to 1966. We take care of our own. . . .

But the motivation for the present volume has some nobler aspects as well. Indiana has produced substantially more and better authors than one would normally expect. When the ten best-selling American novels for each year from 1895 to 1965 are assigned points (ten for first place, nine for second place, etc.), and their authors' native states are determined, the total points amassed by Indiana authors are second only to those of New York State. Indiana is also second only to New York State when fiction and nonfiction are taken together. Yet the population of Indiana has never attained one-fifth that of New York State.

No one knows why authorship has so flourished in Indiana, and although the present volume does not attempt to explain it, it does lay out the data necessary for future analysis. Here are biographical sketches of the 2,751 authors who made it happen. Every author included either was "born in the state, or [if] born elsewhere, chose to spend the majority of his or her maturity within Indiana bounds." Authors solely of pamphlets, periodical articles, textbooks, genealogies, and similar publications are not included. A wide net has still been cast, however, and as a result the volume contains biographical sketches of authors as different as Kenneth Rexroth is from Vance Hartke, and as Ernie Pyle is from Alfred C. Kinsey. Much of the information presented on the lesser figures is virtually unobtainable through any other source.

The present biographical directory is a continuation of a similar work compiled by R. E. Banta and published in 1949 entitled *Indiana Authors and Their Books, 1816-*

1916. The two works together, therefore, now provide coverage for Indiana's first century-and-a-half of statehood. The new work matches the Banta volume both in quality of contents and in format and design. Yet it also suffers the same basic weakness. Since the coverage attempted is so broad, it is unlikely ever fully to be attained. It is ironic, for example, that this reviewer, although gratified to find his own name in the new volume, must point out that his father, who also meets the criteria for inclusion, is unaccountably omitted. Other and more important omissions will be turning up for years. Such oversights, however, do not mean that this book will not serve a useful reference function in large libraries or in smaller ones with special interest either in authorship or in the Hoosier state.—*David Kaser, Graduate Library School, Indiana University, Bloomington.*

Palmer, Richard Phillips. *Case Studies in Library Computer Systems.* New York: Bowker, 1973. 214p.

This book consists of twenty case studies of computerization of classical library procedures and comments; there are no cases of network computerization. Six cases deal with circulation systems, eight with serials systems and six with acquisition systems. Graduate students in the School of Library Science at Simmons College did "much of the initial gathering of information." The author made additional on-site visits and wrote up the cases. He also introduces the book and summarizes it.

The purpose of the book "is to describe and document a number of operational library computer systems, including their cost, so that librarians and library school students may better determine whether computers should be stamped out or whether they are appropriate for library use." (The phrase "stamped out" comes with Ellsworth Mason.) The author concludes that although there have been failures in library computerization, there also have been successes, and some of these successes are cases that appear in the book. He anticipates that there will be an increasing number of successful library computer applications in the decade that lies ahead.

By and large, the objectives of the cases