

There are some subjects omitted which one wishes were included. The section on bibliography of individuals might have given space to the tendency of a minority to keep these, so far as possible, out of the bibliography number and to send them, along with biography of individuals, to the narrowest possible subject position.

To sum up, we can say that there will be many differences of opinion concerning various decisions in the *Code for Classifiers*. There will be, as Mr. Merrill says, frequent need to modify one's own copy of the *Code* to meet local needs or types of service. The book is a valuable addition to texts for library schools and it is an indispensable tool for the classifier's desk.—*Elizabeth D. Clark, University of Missouri Library, Columbia.*

*Archives and Libraries.* A. F. Kuhlman, ed. American Library Association, 1939. 108p. \$1.75. (Planographed)

THE PROCEEDINGS of the Committee on Archives and Libraries of the American Library Association, published in 1937 and 1938 with those of the Committee on Public Documents, are issued as a separate publication in 1939. The papers included were presented at a joint meeting of the A.L.A. Committee on Archives and Libraries, Pacific coast members of the Society of American Archivists, and the Historical Records Survey.

The first four papers report on the progress of the inventory and publications of the Historical Records Survey by Colonel J. M. Scammell, regional director; the immediate and long range programs for the survey of Luther H. Evans, national director; and proposals for ensuring the perpetuation of the results of the survey. Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., of the National Archives, makes two suggestions:

first, a national program for the establishment of adequate archival agencies; and second, the immediate appointment of centralized "finding" bureaus to keep up to date card files on changes affecting the status of archives listed in the survey inventories. Theodore C. Blegen, of the Minnesota Historical Society, describes the manual on the writing of local history, presumably largely by amateurs, which he is preparing for the Social Science Research Council.

The two papers on cataloging by Evangeline Thurber of the National Archives and Grace Lee Nute of the Minnesota Historical Society illustrate concretely the fundamental differences between the cataloging problems of the archivist and of the manuscript curator. A failure to recognize these differences is responsible for the chaotic condition of so many archival catalogs.

A description of three outstanding western manuscript repositories by their respective curators is followed by an exposition of the application of microphotography in their respective institutions. The papers as presented at the conference were accompanied by photographic exhibits. Herbert I. Priestley describes the Bancroft Library, George P. Hammond the Spanish archives in the University of New Mexico, and Captain R. E. Haselden and Lodewyk Bendikson, the Huntington Library.

Vernon D. Tate of the National Archives summarizes the discussions on the application of microphotography to archival work. Dr. Hammond points out two of its limitations. His institution has been forced to the expense of making enlargements of its films because of damage from careless use in the projectors and complaints of eye strain involved in extensive

use of reading machines. One other limitation not mentioned is that current records which involve comparisons between documents, as most current records do, cannot be used efficiently on films because of the time involved in threading films in and out of the reading machines.—*Margaret C. Norton, Archives Division, Illinois State Library, Springfield.*

*Report of the President* [of the Carnegie Corporation]. Carnegie Corporation of New York, 522 Fifth Ave., New York, 1939. 90p.

ACCORDING to President Keppel, the Carnegie Corporation does not consider the year 1938-39 to be one of outstanding achievement in its history. Be that as it may, no person concerned with the problems of higher education should fail to read this report, for it indicates the difficulties that beset a group of men earnestly trying to direct the resources of a huge fund into the most productive American and British educational channels. The problems, plans, hopes, and fears of such men are of vital interest to those of us who are trying to achieve a better educational system.

Especially interesting to this reviewer are the discussion of a somewhat new emphasis upon timeliness in making certain grants, the remarks upon general education and the relation of the professions to the community, and the conclusion, in which the progress of the American people in the fields of interest of the corporation since its creation in 1911 is surveyed.

The report begins with an account of the general effect of world-wide unrest and uncertainty upon the investment policies of the corporation. These policies have been made even more conservative than before with the result that the 5 per

cent interest rate on Carnegie Corporation investments of 1927 has shrunk to 3.04 per cent this year. The dwindling income from investments is one very concrete factor that makes the corporation uncertain about the future. The long-term programs for the development of adult education, library, fine art, and museum facilities which consume about three-fifths of the Carnegie income have not been affected greatly, but the corporation has been very careful in making long-term commitments with the remaining two-fifths.

The main body of the report and a large section of the Appendix summarize the work and appropriations of the corporation so succinctly that a brief review can only send its reader to the original. In the opinion of this reviewer, the report's most challenging idea relates to academic degrees and their slight significance today as signs of educational achievement:

Only in a few strong professions . . . can it be said that the possession of a degree today necessarily means anything. Elsewhere, all too often, a degree as such may mean literally nothing. All over the country teaching and other vacancies are being filled by degrees, not by men or women, the appointing bodies accepting the diploma as a substitute for the tiresome process of really finding out something as to the professional and personal qualifications of individual human beings.

It cannot be too strongly urged upon the corporation that some study be made with a view to the rectification of this situation. Such a study would be arduous and charged with dynamite, for it would touch accrediting standards and agencies, questions of emphasis upon teaching or research for college faculty members, and many other controversial issues. It is possible, however, that a thorough study of academic degrees might throw considerable