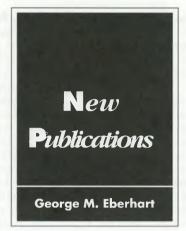
Academic Librories: Their Rationale and Role in American Higher Education, edited by Gerard B. McCabe and Ruth J. Person (230 pages, April 1995), reports on the changing information environment that library administrators will be weathering in the coming years. Highlights include contributions from Joanne R. Euster (the institutional roles played by the library), David R. Dowell and Jack A. Scott



(community college libraries), Lloyd W. Chapin and Larry Hardesty (liberal arts college deans), Anne Woodsworth and Mary Westermann (professional education), and Tom Wilding (staff development). \$55.00. Greenwood Press, 88 Post Road West, P.O. Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881-5007. ISBN 0-313-28597-7.

Ancient World Lists and Numbers: Numerical Phrases and Rosters in the Greco-Roman Civilizations, by David Matz (254 pages, September 1995), brings together information on famous numerical lists associated with the Greeks and Romans. Not only are the Seven Wonders of the World and the Twelve Labors of Hercules summarized here, but also the Six Librarians of Alexandria, the Eleven Aqueducts of Rome, the Twenty-Nine Titles of Zeus, the Thirty-Seven Books of Pliny's Natural History, and the Thirty-Four Participants in the Calydonian Boar Hunt. This book makes it clear that the David Letterman Top Ten List is as old as the Seven Hills of Rome. \$44.50. McFarland & Co., Box 611, Jefferson, NC 28640. ISBN 0-7864-0039-0.

**The Combridge Dictionary of American Biography**, edited by John S. Bowman (904 pages, 1995), includes, unlike other biographical dictionaries, living Americans as well as deceased. In addition to government and military leaders, scientists and artists, this dictionary also profiles individuals in specialized areas (food scientists, conservationists, writers of popular fiction), others who are difficult to categorize (Charles Ponzi, Hannah Dustin, Onesimus), and some who are semilegendary (Johnny Appleseed, Uncle Sam, Casey Jones). A name index lists anyone mentioned in someone else's biography. \$44.95. Cambridge University Press, 40 W. 20th St., New York, NY 10011-4211. ISBN 0-521-40258-1.

**The Cambridge Paper-back Encyclopedia**, edited by David Crystal (1,080 pages, 2d ed., September 1995), and **The ConciseColumbia Encyclopedia** (973 pages, 3d ed., September 1995) are roughly com-

parable in scope and coverage. The Cambridge has a European orientation and British spellings, while the Columbia has a North American perspective. The Cambridge has more (20,000+) but shorter entries, while the Columbia has less (17.000+) but longer ones. The Cambridge scores better for definitions of animals, plants, popular culture, and new words ("hacker"), while the Columbia is better for biographies, historical dates, and events for particular cities, regions, states, and countries. The Cambridge has much better maps; the Columbia is very inconsistent. The Cambridge has been updated through the end of 1994, while the Columbia seems only to go through the end of 1993. Population estimates in the Cambridge are for 1995, while the Columbia relies on the most recent official census. The Cambridge has an 108-page ready reference section with geographic and political data, measurements, signs and symbols, and sports lists. The wise reference librarian will order both books, which will see heavy use. Cambridge, \$18.95, Cambridge University Press, 40 W. 20th St., New York, NY 10011-4211 (ISBN 0-521-55968-5). Columbia, \$19.95, Houghton Mifflin, 215 Park Ave, South, New York, NY 10003 (ISBN 0-395-62439-8).

**Computer-Related Technologies in Library Operations**, by Kieth C. Wright (202 pages, August 1995), is aimed at libraries that are just now implementing or replacing com-

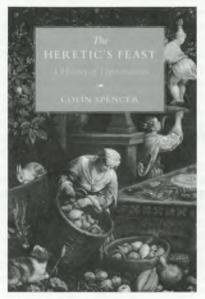
George Eberhart is editor and compiler of The Whole Library Handbooks for ALA Editions (1991, 1995). He served as editor of C&RL News from 1980 to 1990. puter systems. Circulation, cataloging, reference, Guidelines for Bibliographic Description Brookfield, VT 05036. ISBN 0-566-07630-6.

Mary Ellen Snodgrass (644 pages, June 1995), Association for Library Collections and Techniexamines utopian and dystopian literature from cal Services' Committee on Cataloging: Descrip-This encyclopedia analyzes many of the themes items that should not be treated as reproducers, including Lao Tzu's minimalist philosophy, these guidelines within the USMARC format. Rabelais's Abbey of Theleme where nobles do \$15.00 (ALA members, \$13.50). American Liwhat they want, Doris Lessing's Memoirs of a brary Association, Book Order Fulfillment, 155 Survivor that depicts urban collapse, and An- N. Wacker Dr., Chicago, IL 60606-1719. ISBN thony Burgess's cynical Clockwork Orange with 0-8389-3450-1. its aimless teens bent on random mayhem. If that sounds like today's headlines, then per- The Heretic's Feast: A History of Veghaps dystopia is not merely a literary abstrac- etarianism, by Colin Spencer (402 pages, June tion. \$65.00. ABC-CLIO, P.O. Box 1911, Santa 1995), is a thorough and provocative examina-Barbara, CA 93116-1911. ISBN 0-87436-757-3. tion of the sociological role that vegetarian

beginning with the arrival of Paleo-Indians) and--most interesting-lists of superlatives (first, biggest, and best). Thus the casual browser will discover that New Brunswick boasts the world's longest covered bridge, Quebec houses the world's only continuous series of birth records stretching over three centuries, Alberta has the world's largest car park, and the Northwest Territories contain the world's oldest scientifically dated rocks. A must for Canadianists. \$35.00. H.W. Wilson Co., 950 University Ave., Bronx, NY 10452. ISBN 0-8242-0864-1.

and management functions are covered in ad- of Reproductions, edited by Bruce Johnson dition to selecting a vendor and site prepara- (32 pages, 1995), offers practical instructions tion. \$59.95. Ashgate Pub. Co., Old Post Rd., on cataloging such materials as photocopies, microform copies, reprints, and photomechanical and photographic copies of graphic materi-**Encyclopedia of Utopian Literature**, by als. These guidelines, developed by the ALA the Egyptian Book of the Dead to Lois Lowry's tion and Access, include 22 sample records and The Giver. Entries include not only authors and follow the AACR2 Revision and LC rule intertitles but characters, terms, and concepts as well. pretations. Appendices provide examples of and literary techniques utilized by utopian writ- tions and discuss the ramifications of applying

philosophies have played in both Eastern and Facts about Canada, Its Provinces and Western culture. It attempts to answer such Territories, by Jean Weihs (246 pages, July questions as: Did a vegetarian diet arise when 1995), focuses more on the provinces and ter- hunter/gatherers settled down and became agritories than the country as a whole. Besides riculturalists, or was meat-eating an innovative the familiar data on flags, coats of arms, geog- response by vegetarian hominids to the severe raphy and climate, parks, demography, gov- climate of the Ice Ages? How did vegetarianernment, and economy, this book provides ism become linked to heresy in Christian Euseparate provincial chronologies (uniformly rope? How did climate promote Hindu and



Buddhist vegetarianism and the concept of the sacred cow? Is there a link between radicalism and a vegetarian philosophy? If so, how could Gandhi and Hitler both be vegetarians? Are vegetarian concerns about health, animal welfare, and ecology new, or were the same issues debated in 600 B.C.? This book, which may well be the only history of the subject published since 1883, will make you question your relish for animal flesh because the arguments are historical, not rhetorical. \$29.95. University Press of New England, 23 S. Main St., Hanover, NH 03755. ISBN 0-87451-708-7.