ter Asheim on "Current Problems and Prospects in American Library Education," and Herman Fussler on "Some Aspects of Technology and Change in Relation to University Libraries." These papers deserve a wider reading audience than this volume is likely to attract.

If the platitudes and rhetoric of amity, usually generated by a conference of this sort, can be ignored in some of the papers, publication of the Proceedings was justified. There would not seem to exist a more useful single volume containing a summary of current thinking on research libraries in both nations. The papers are recommended reading for all whose interests gravitate toward research libraries, information access, and (most especially) the international aspects of librarianship.—Cecil K. Byrd, Indiana University Libraries, Bloomington.


This brief but appealing work treats the activity of fine printing in England from the late nineteenth century to the Second World War, as created by private presses which were owned or controlled by individuals who put their own stamp on the products. Although Mr. Franklin refers frequently to the works of these presses as representing a movement and does show interesting influences and interrelations among them, his book is essentially composed of separate sketches, each devoted to a selected printer and press. His approach in presenting these rather discrete essays is not unlike that which he attributes to bibliophiles, of whom he says: "Collectors look at their things with love, preserve them worthily and show them to those who can appreciate."

Recognizing that "accounts of books can be tedious to read," Mr. Franklin concentrates upon lively sketches of the printers and the general tenor of their production. He does make good and generally succinct analytical comments on specific books and he provides some interesting allusions to the tastes of the times, as in his amusing account of the arts and crafts movement of guild socialism, although he does not attempt a fully unified narrative nor a developed critique of printing style. But Mr. Franklin has a nice eye for typography and a well-cultivated taste in approaching it so that he is able to draw from the books themselves a sense of their printers and the purposes of their presses. This allows him to make some sharp comparisons:

Morris had merry pleasure from most of the Kelmscott books—the medieval world he loved, the old poems and stories. There is aesthetic gaiety in some of the Vale Press books, French charm in Eragny, and Hornby's press could be domestic, entertaining, homely as well as serious. Nothing less than a fixed moral vision governed the taste of the Doves Press; with Cobden-Sanderson at the heart of it . . .

Upon occasion Mr. Franklin finds a need to take issue with the idea of judging these works by what he once calls "the awe of the sale room," yet he himself seems quite affected both by book prices and by the names of collectors, and the work concludes with a so-called Bibliography by David Lincoln whose only real contribution is the furnishing of auction prices. Indeed, Mr. Franklin himself addresses his last chapter to the collector's concerns rather than ending on a summation of typographic history or an analysis of the art of bookmaking. Yet, despite some disparity in purpose and tone, here is a useful, lively, and perceptive study.—James D. Hart, University of California, Berkeley.


This is an updated version of the classic A Bibliography of the History of Agriculture in the United States, by Everett E. Edwards, published in 1930 as U.S. Department of Agriculture Miscellaneous publication no. 84. The biennial Eunice Rockwell Oberley Award was presented to Mr. Schlebecker in June 1971 for his work.

It is a listing of 2,042 histories, government reports, biographies, and literary works which portray farming and rural life in all parts of the United States from the earliest settlement through 1967. Except for its subject, the new work differs considerably from the Edwards bibliography. For
instance, because of the vast amount of ma-
terial currently being published, references
to periodicals and documentary sources
were omitted, except for those in narrative
form.

There is a difference also in its arrange-
ment, which is a single alphabetical list by
author. In his introduction, Mr. Schlebecker
cites avoidance of the duplication of entries
as the deciding factor for this choice. The
reader, however, will regret the absence of
the subject, period, and state subdivisions
of the 1930 work, and that it was not pos-
sible to devise some way, such as brief cita-
tions referring to the primary entries, to re-
tain the more convenient topical arrange-
ment.

This drawback is partially compensated
for by an extensive title and subject index,
consisting of useful entries such as Nineteen-
th Century, Southwest, and New Deal
as well as the names of works included in
the main alphabet. The index would have
been improved by further breakdown of
subject headings such as “Federal farm aid,”
which may require the reader to refer back
to as many as 200 separate entries, and also
by an alphabetical rather than a random ar-
angement of subdivisions under headings
such as “Biography,” a procedure followed
inconsistently in some instances, e.g. under
the heading “Autobiography.” Another fac-
tor which must be kept in mind is that the
names of authors listed in the main alphabet
are not repeated in the index, except as a
secondary author or editor of another work.

The choice of titles is interesting and
varied enough to satisfy almost anyone.
Nevertheless, in spite of the author’s reluc-
tance to use the term preliminary or selec-
tive, the bibliography must be considered
representative rather than complete, and ad-
ditional titles for inclusion will immediately
come to mind. There are, for example, the
highly interesting Rural Life studies issued
in the 1940s by the U.S. Bureau of Agricul-
tural Economics, which describe the diverse
cultures of six rural communities. Perhaps
the difficulty is in applying the yardstick for
inclusion, that at least half of the work must
be about farming.

Approximately 15 percent of the entries
are annotated, a particularly helpful feature
because of the way the bibliography is or-
organized. A few errors have crept into the
annotations. For example, the time and lo-
cale of Gladys Hasty Carroll’s As the Earth
Turns have been incorrectly attributed to
late nineteenth century in the state of Con-
necticut, whereas the mixture of automobile
and horsedrawn traffic on the roads, and the
introduction of a minor character who was
a commercial pilot, dates the story much
closer to its copyright date of 1933, in a set-
ning which is clearly Maine.

The introduction states that 71 percent
of the titles included are new since 1930.
It is probable that most users will consider
the Schlebecker work as supplementary
rather than as a replacement for the earlier
bibliography.

Recommended for students of agricultural
history and for everyone who enjoys reading
about country life.—Catharine J. Reynolds,
University of Colorado.

Nemeyer, Carol A. Scholarly Reprint Pub-
lishing in the United States. New York:

Reprinting of older books and journals
is a publishing phenomenon which thrived
in the United States particularly in the
1960s because of the enormous educational
growth, the subsequent need for instant li-
braries, and the free and rather indiscrim-
inate flow and use of funds.

Carol Nemeyer estimates that between
85,000 and 120,000 titles in hard copy and
probably several millions in microform have
been made available again by a highly di-
ersified group of approximately 300 Amer-
ican publishers. It is a market of indeed
staggering proportions, which has created
considerable confusion both with producers
and buyers, especially when the economic
conditions began to change about two years
ago.

To uncover and describe typical aspects
in the motivation and activities of these pub-
lishers was the main objective of Nemeyer’s
survey, done between 1968 and 1971 as
work toward a doctoral degree at Columbia.
For practical reasons numerous limitations
had to be set on the scope of the survey; so
many in fact that it is sometimes hard to
distinguish which generalizations touch
upon the nature of the reprint trade and
which were predetermined by the choice of
limitations. One of the most severe restric-
tions of the survey is Nemeyer’s (under-