of this book one will not find the objectivity and dispassionate appraisal that have characterized many other writings of this genre. On the contrary, here is a panegyric to the honor and success of Halsey W. Wilson, the company he founded and his associates in the undertaking.

Mr. Wilson succeeded in subject bibliography, the history of which is strewn with the wreckage of ill-fated enterprises. Almost the only man who has made bibliography profitable, he created an organization that is characterized by “an innate sense of duty, respect for the company’s founder, delight in the challenge of a responsible job, recognition of its opportunities, pride in accomplishment” (p.139). His was a staff that suffered from “a strange disease . . . called the Bibliographical Urge” (p.139), a staff that enjoyed “conditions of work [that were] favorable” (p.140), a “sense of adventure” (p.140), a “policy of welcoming women in a period when prejudice barred them from most business firms” (p.140), an “encouragement of initiative on the part of its workers” (p.140), in short a congenial “family” (p.141).

This reviewer does not wish to belittle the achievements of the Wilson Company, though the author himself almost does as much by the very excesses of his praise. The Wilson bibliographic services are a substantial contribution to the development of bibliographic organization in the English-speaking world, and as such they merit a really serious study based on a solid understanding of the problems of subject bibliography. But the pages before us fail to perform this task.

The work itself is divided into three parts: Part I: The Past, in which the librarian who is reasonably familiar with the Wilson services will discover little of importance that is new or significant. Part II: The Present, which contains, among other matters, two quite excellent chapters on the compiling of the C.B.I. and the periodical indexes, the only part of the entire work that makes any substantial contribution to the informed librarian’s knowledge of the subject. The work concludes with a series of appendices that supply listings of the Wilson publications, and a “Note on Sources,” which, incidentally, seem to be far more voluminous than was necessary for the execution of the work.—Jesse H. Shera, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago.
United States. The recent surveys of the libraries of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute and of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute reached conclusions which are similar to those arrived at by Orr and Carlson for Texas A. and M. A recommendation, common to the other surveys, reached by the surveyors is as follows:

If the library is to give effective support to resident instruction, research and extension education, the book collections, especially scientific and technical journals in the basic and applied sciences, will have to undergo substantial development. A greatly augmented staff, some of whom would possess training in science and foreign languages, will also be necessary. Moreover, a library building that is larger and more functional than the Cushing Memorial Library building must be provided. Not until these needs are satisfied will the library be in a position to provide the publications, the services and the facilities that are required for the library program needed at Texas A. and M. College.

The surveyors have performed a valuable job for Texas A. and M. in outlining a program of development for the future. The methods of analysis used in examining the book collections, the personnel, public services and use, technical services, library building and financial support are not too different from those employed in other surveys of academic libraries with which we are now familiar. However, they are specifically directed at Texas A. and M.'s peculiar problems.

The surveyors recognize the great strides that are being made in the educational and research programs of land-grant colleges. Texas A. and M., like other similar institutions, "has long since advanced beyond the original Morrill Act assignment of instruction in agriculture and the mechanic arts." Its increased research program, stimulated by the Hatch Act, has resulted in greater demands upon the library. In addition, the growth of the Graduate College has made it essential for the library to provide resources and facilities on a more advanced level.

In order to correct the deficiencies of its library program, Texas A. and M. will need a substantial increase in its budget. The surveyors suggest an increase from the 1949-50 budget of $137,864.55 to $249,440. Actually, this represents approximately 2.95 per cent of the total general and educational expenditures.

Since funds, wisely spent, are necessary for a library enterprise to function effectively, it may be worth noting that from 1933-34 to 1949-50, Texas A. and M. allocated sums to the library which ranged from 1.09 to 1.69 per cent of the total expenditures, with the appropriation for 1938-39 reaching a high of 1.92. A large part of the increase is recommended for books, but 17 new staff members are proposed, nine professional and eight clerical.

Surveys have proven to be valuable blueprints of procedure to some of the institutions for which they have been made. The extent to which the authorities of an institution will consider serious recommendations and put them into effect is important in the future life of the libraries involved. Texas A. and M. has a carefully worked out program for direct action.—Maurice F. Tauber, Columbia University.

The New Gutenberg-Jahrbuch

Volume XXV of the Gutenberg-Jahrbuch has just been published as the silver jubilee volume commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Gutenberg-Gesellschaft in Mainz. A particularly handsome book as a physical specimen, it is truly international in character with its text in five languages (German, English, French, Spanish and Italian), each contributor writing in his native idiom. Among the contributors are Dard Hunter, who writes on "Papermaking by Hand in America, 1690-1811," Herman Ralph Mead on the 15 supposedly unique Spanish incunabula in the Huntington Library and Curt F. Bühler on "The Edition of the 'Ditz moraulx des philosophes' Printed at Paris by Michel Le Noir."

The basic purposes of the Gutenberg-Gesellschaft have been stated as research in the history of writing, printing, paper, bookbinding, illustration and other aspects of the graphic arts. In addition to the annual Gutenberg-Jahrbuch, the society publishes several smaller works every year. Of particular interest among recent publications are Director Aloys Ruppel's "Die Erfindung der Buchdruckerkunst und die Entdeckung Amerikas" (1948) and Helmut Presser's catalog of the Gutenberg-Museum's exhibit commemorating the Goethe Bicentennial, "Goethe und seine Drucker" (1949).