University Education


In a brief introduction, which apparently is considered to be one of the essays, Paul J. Braisted, president, the Edward W. Hazen Foundation, outlines the genesis of this book. Beginning in 1952, and continuing over a period of seven years, a series of regional conferences for senior Fulbright scholars was organized under the auspices of the Conference Board of Associated Research Councils, with the aid of the Hazen Foundation and the Department of State. Some 500 visiting scholars and more than 150 American scholars gathered in twelve of these conferences to explore the meaning of the American experience in higher education. Eight representative American scholars were selected to describe aspects of the American university, each contributing his own independent reflections on the facts he describes, with the interests, needs, and criticisms of scholars from abroad fundamentally in mind, and the editor prepared the concluding and summary essay.


These essays are more universal and comparative in their scope than are those by Franklin, Brode, Sanders, and Strozier. The latter concentrate their attention primarily on those features of American colleges and universities which mark them off most sharply from the educational institutions the foreign scholars know at home.

Franklin considers the movement to broaden educational opportunities, particularly for Negroes. Brode is concerned primarily with the responsibilities and freedoms of the scholar as they exist in American institutions. Sanders explains the wide assortment of service bureaus, extension activities, and other seemingly nonacademic functions of the American university in terms of the larger social picture in which these activities have arisen. Strozier, a former dean of students, ponders the question, which apparently is almost universally raised by visitors from abroad, of whether the services offered to students, the extent of these services, and their place in the total educational scene are important, and he arrives at an affirmative conclusion.

This book will serve a useful purpose primarily for the foreign scholar who needs a brief introduction to the American university. Americans interested in the general subject will find the essays interesting as an attempt to provide such an introduction and to make some relation of the distinctive and special problems on the American educational scene to the problems of teachers and scholars whose mission, in the final analysis, is the same as that of scholars anywhere. The person, whether he be American or foreign, who wishes to consider seriously the issues treated in this book must read far beyond its confines. As just one example, the essay by Sanders should lead anyone interested in the service motif of universities to the book, The Campus and the State, by M. C. Moos and others, also published in 1959.

The values of the conferences, which led to this book as a by-product, should be obvious. As McKeon states it, "The wandering of scholars should contribute to the formulation of common problems and to the dis-
Cover of common truths rather than simply to the satisfaction of curiosity concerning the odd ways other people do things which we do differently or to the confirmation of prejudices and stereotypes concerning alien errors, illusions, and depravities.”—Eugene H. Wilson, University of Colorado.

The New Ulrich


The appearance of a new edition of Ulrich’s is always a welcome event. Its tremendous fund of information, up-to-date, difficult to find elsewhere, handily arranged and packaged, is a basic reference work for every library, large and small. The ninth edition has some new features, and has expanded some old features that add even more to Ulrich’s usefulness: there is a new list of indexing services; a more inclusive list of “Abstracts and Abstracting Services”; a new selected list of newspapers, foreign and domestic, with addresses and circulation figures; nineteen new categories of subjects have been added; the subscription prices, when known, are given in United States currency and, of course, the number of titles included has increased, with approximately one thousand titles new to this edition. The large number of advertisers is not only a tribute to the book’s reputation, but provides a handy source of names of agents and dealers.

A serials librarian reviewing Ulrich’s is not unlike a member of the clergy reviewing the New Testament. To us who continually need information about the prices, addresses, indexing, etc. of periodicals it is somewhat of a bible. Yet it should not be likened too closely to gospel, for it does have its shortcomings. So that it will be used with a certain amount of caution and so that future editions may be improved, these should be pointed out.

A book published by Bowker, priced at $22.50, and a standard reference work for every library, should be as free as possible of errors. It augurs poorly for such an important work to see on the very first page of text the phrase “is in itsel” (page v), to read a little farther on that the Indexing Services are on page xi when they are actually on page xv, and to note other errors and misprints in the prefatory pages. There are many misprints: on page 297, for example, Arctic is spelled “Artic” four times; some titles in the index are out of order and thereby virtually lost. These few examples are minor, perhaps, but they should not have been permitted.

There also are numerous errors in the bibliographic information. A relatively small number of the total titles were checked, but in these there were enough errors to be disturbing. For example: the Geographical Journal started in 1893, not 1883, and is published quarterly, not monthly; Good Housekeeping began in 1885, not 1855; Ecology in 1920, not 1897; the Current History that is current began in 1941, not 1914; Anjou historique ceased publication over two years ago, Confluence over a year ago. Perhaps these also are minor, but again most of them should have been caught.

A number of periodicals seem to have been classified by their titles or subtitles, or by their sponsors, rather than by their actual contents. For example, the American Journal of Philology is under “Literature and Philology,” while the Philological Quarterly: Devoted to Scholarly Investigation of the Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures is under “Classical Studies.” Actually, the former periodical emphasizes classical studies, and the latter modern philology. Manuscripta is concerned with “Literature and Philology” only as it is with other subjects in which the use of manuscript materials is important and, as a matter of fact, it has not carried any articles on literature in its three years. House and Home deals with “Interior Decoration” only incidentally—that is, if such decoration would help to sell the houses built by the magazine’s readers, who are builders and architects. Daedalus, published by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, is a general periodical with a much broader scope than “Natural and Physical Sciences.”

Ulrich’s is a “selected list,” and the editor’s criteria must be respected. From the viewpoint of a university library, however,