A number of changes in classification have taken place in this edition, with heavy emphasis on a new listing, "Area Studies." This classification includes 62 entries, which is exceeded only by 78 titles under "Education" and 108 under "General." "Area Studies" is subdivided into eight categories: General, Asia, East Asia, South and Southeast Asia, Africa, Middle East, Latin America, Soviet Union and East Europe. Another revision in classification puts "German" and "Romance Languages" under the heading "Modern Languages" to allow for the inclusion of "Russian." Reflecting the greatly increased interest in films and film-making, journals on these subjects have been combined with other performing arts under the heading, "Music, Drama, Film, Dance." This is an improvement over lumping them into the "General" category which was done previously. However, the "General" category includes "Journalism," and the expansion in the area of communications might well warrant a separate entry for this subject in future editions.

This volume is an important one in the field of periodical selection for small liberal arts college libraries. The recommendations and selection information it contains have been distilled from earlier editions, the personal experience of the author, examination of lists of periodicals of various college libraries, faculty recommendations, and bibliographical literature pertaining to periodical publications. The "Bibliography" section in this compilation cites the major sources used including Bill Katz’s Magazines for Libraries which with its cosmopolitan inclusion and candid critiques can be used as an important complement to Farber’s work. The Classified List of Periodicals for the College Library is a useful reference work for selecting periodicals as long as the limits delineated in the preface are kept in mind.—William H. Huff, University of Illinois Library, Serials Librarian, Urbana, Illinois.


The current trend towards realism in Library Science education, bridging the gap between the sterility of classroom theory and the fecundity of real-world situations, is skilfully illustrated in these case studies dealing with technical services. Each study presents a realistic and vivid focus on a different aspect of library practice. The impact of technical services on reader’s services, staff relationships, the patron, and internal procedures are clearly defined by actual example. Each case study is followed by a series of comprehensive questions designed to stimulate discussion.

The cases span a range of topics, and are set in a variety of libraries: college, university, public, school, and special. Within each study, the author has included information about the library system in which the case is set. There is a recurrent emphasis on the human element and the personality traits of the people involved, with deep implications for management. Wit, empathy, and human insights are reflected in each of the cases, as well as a profound knowledge of the subject matter. Many of the studies emphasize the value of preplanning and analysis of all aspects of a system before altering or adding techniques.

The use of the case study as a teaching device continues to be debated. An obvious drawback is the inability of the inexperienced graduate student to discern the underlying issues in a problem such as a backlog in a cooperative processing center, inaccuracies surrounding implementation of a machine-readable serials catalog, or the complexities of relationships between interdependent library procedures. Nevertheless, these are matters of concern to the profession, and are often not satisfactorily resolved by the professionals involved. The student should be made aware of these complexities, and should begin to develop problem-solving techniques to test flexibility of judgment and breadth of solutions.

Some of the cases are of such a complexity as to presuppose a large body of technical information. There is a fund of compressed knowledge in statements such as "a volume could be pulled from the current shelves, checked, shelf-listed, and processed for shipment" and "subject cross-references can be reconstructed from the check marks we’ve put in the printed sub-
ject heading list.” Such condensed statements imply an awareness of procedures and techniques not normally common to the graduate student.

Nevertheless, for these very reasons, i.e., scope, technical complexity, and variety, this volume should have wide application. The cases present admirable organizing centers for instruction. The studies could be particularly valuable for in-service training. A staff engrossed in its own particular problems might well profit from engaging in problem-solving techniques using one or more of these cases. Discussion of hypothetical situations and development of model solutions by the staff could be a managerial tool in devising methods for problem-solving in the real world by the same staff members.

The worker in the field can profit by reading the studies, if only for reassurance that his or her particularly pressing problems are shared on a large scale by all sectors of the profession.—Gloria Terwilliger, Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria Campus.


When Bowker made its rather low-keyed announcement that they would publish a multivolume history of American publishing written by John Tebbel, the well known popularizer, we were skeptical and not a little alarmed at the audacity of both author and publisher. However, it now appears, if the first volume can be considered typical of those to come, that our skepticism was unjustified; for Tebbel has written a clear, well organized, and detailed synthesis of American publishing history to the Civil War, and while the whole project still strikes us as audacious, we feel compelled to compliment both the author and publisher for the remarkable success they have achieved with this first volume. Tebbel has presented an enormous amount of specialized information on the subject in a readable fashion, and happily has broadly defined “American publishing” to include the history of bookselling, copyright, children’s books, and a multitude of other subjects. Some scholars will be critical of the lack of a bibliography in this volume, and yet, the recent publication of Tanselle’s *Guide to the Study of United States Imprints*, really makes such pedantry superfluous in a work of this kind. Scholars who have worked the major manuscript collections relating to this period, such as the Carey, Thomas, and McCarty-Davis papers at the American Antiquarian Society, will doubtless find fault with various aspects of this work, and it is lightly sprinkled throughout with those factual errors and stylistic slips which are to be expected in a work of this magnitude, but these matters really become mere quibbles when measured against the high quality of the whole work. Tebbel’s *History of Book Publishing in the United States* should be acquired by all libraries, large or small, which profess any interest at all in the history of American publishing, and if the succeeding volumes (two more are projected) are of equal merit, this work should easily become the standard history of publishing in the United States for years to come.—Michael H. Harris, Associate Professor, College of Library Science, University of Kentucky, Lexington.


My initial response to this book was negative. I actually wrote a review which, if not truly scathing, was at least derogatory. Things I didn’t like (and still don’t): paperbacks that cost $10.00, books that have no index (especially reference books), books that are five years out of date the day they are published, and books that are created by direct transcription from tape recordings. This volume commits all those sins, but it does have its virtues.

Academic librarians about to embark on a new building program can find help here. Although only eight academic library buildings are analyzed they represent a wide