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