use of French libraries and archives, there are descriptions of the most useful libraries in Paris and a similar section on archives, both arranged by broad subjects. A briefer listing of archives and libraries outside of Paris arranged by departments follows.

The length of the descriptions varies with the size and complexity of the institution; the Bibliothèque Nationale requires eight pages and the Archives Nationales eleven. In general, the following information is given: address (with specific location within a large building complex), telephone number, Metro route, scope of the collection, hours and closing days, requirements for using the collections, how to request books and manuscripts, catalogs and indexes available, copying facilities, and publications about the institution. Appendixes include bibliographies on French libraries and archives, outlines of the classification of the Archives Nationales and of departmental archives, suggestions for locating manuscripts, and a list of useful addresses for American students in Paris.

It is difficult to imagine an academic library that would not have this book on its shelves, whether it has the Répertoire des bibliothèques et organismes de documentation or not. Reading Welsch's handbook is a little like being taken by the hand by a kindly, knowledgeable uncle. A future edition including the principal libraries pertaining to literature, the arts, and sciences would be highly desirable.—Joe W. Kraus, Illinois State University Library, Normal.


The foremost characteristic of Soviet librarianship as an instrument of the state is the basis for all library activities not only in the Soviet Union but also in other Eastern European countries under Soviet influence. This concept of librarianship has evolved in contrast to the profession as practiced in the West. Library literature in socialist countries constantly compares and differentiates the opposing philosophies.

Soviet authors attribute their professional library theory mostly to Lenin, whereas Boris Raymond in his work Krupskaia and Soviet Russian Librarianship, 1917–1939, demonstrates that it was really Lenin's wife, Krupskaia, who "successfully linked librarianship with Lenin's name by gathering and publishing his scattered remarks on the subject." This in turn enabled her to reinforce her own arguments concerning the importance of libraries. The study, based on the author's doctoral dissertation, is the only comprehensive analysis in English of the work and impact of this remarkable woman, who in her many speeches and writings developed the theoretical foundation of Soviet librarianship.

A review of the role of books and libraries in nineteenth-century Russia is followed by a detailed historical account of library-related events and institutional pressures from the Civil War through the periods of the "New Economic Policy," the First Five-Year Plan, through the Stalin purges. Krupskaia's theories of librarianship and related fields (adult education and children's literature) are traced to their roots: Lenin's theory of mass communication that is directed toward the building of socialism and
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Krupskaia’s efforts contributed significantly to the emergence of the library as the instrument for the indoctrination of the masses, resulting in the “Bolshevization” of librarianship. Since another responsibility of libraries is to raise the cultural and technical level of the masses, the study illustrates in addition the role libraries have played in the process of national cultural and economic development of the Soviet Union.

The extensive bibliography cites predominantly primary Russian-language sources, archival material, periodicals, and monographs, many on loan to the author from the Lenin Library in Moscow and therefore not easily accessible. The work thus provides a rich and unique source of information for all interested in librarianship in Eastern Europe. It constitutes a major contribution to comparative librarianship and is thoroughly documented, well organized, and very readable. It should be required reading in library school courses dealing with the library as a social institution in general and in comparative librarianship in particular.—Mathilde V. Rovelstad, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.


Most publishing house histories written by American scholars have tended to be primarily literary history, cultural history, or economic history (in that order), or some combination of those several types. The present volume, however, while not eschewing those concerns, addresses first and foremost the aesthetic qualities of the physical volumes produced by the fin de siècle Boston publishing firm of Copeland & Day.

The young Herbert Copeland, late of Harvard College, was already an experienced editor and budding literary figure when in 1893 he allied himself with the more artistic, moneyed, and somewhat flamboyant Fred Holland Day to publish books with greater aesthetic merit than was then generally available in the United States. Although inspired by the contemporary private-press vogue in England, Copeland & Day were a commercial house throughout their six-year existence. Day’s ample capital, however, enabled the firm always to cover losses incurred by any of its publications, which, despite handsome formats, found only limited markets. It was an avant-garde press. Numbered among its authors were the young Bliss Carman, Louise Imogen Gurney, Oscar Wilde, Richard Garnett, Stephen Crane, Richard Burton, Walter Pater, and Richard Le Gallienne. Good art work, careful printing, and extensive use of laid paper were hallmarks of the imprint.

Joe Kraus is a thorough and disciplined scholar, and he writes well. He has researched his subject widely for almost four decades, says the preface, and the book is certain to stand the test of time. In accord with its subject matter, this volume is done in handsome format, with fine illustrations, generous white space, good type selection, and appropriate binding. The price is a little steep, but considering the literary and artis-