

through Adler, Hutchins, and Whitehead to Mill, Newman, Bacon, Aristotle, and Plato. While the times may appear unpropitious for new ventures, the obligation of educators, Professor Bowen correctly reminds us, is not to "supinely accept the present situation as permanent but . . . [to] continually present new long-range possibilities to the public and their leaders."

This book is about what higher education could potentially become and about what it could potentially contribute to American society. As such, it is a welcome contrast to much of the current literature of academic planning, and recommended reading for all who have a serious concern for the future of the university.—*Thomas J. Galvin, School of Library and Information Science, University of Pittsburgh.*

[Editor's note: This book recently received the Frederick W. Ness Book Award for the outstanding publication of the year on a subject dealing with the liberal arts, from the Association of American Colleges.]

**Goodrum, Charles A. and Dalrymple, Helen W.** *The Library of Congress*. 2d ed. Boulder, Colo.: Westview Press, 1982. 318p. \$25 cloth, \$10.95 paper. LC 82-8457. ISBN 0-86531-303-2 cloth; 0-86531-497-7 paper.

The first edition of this work was written solely by Goodrum and published as part of the Praeger Library of U.S. Government Departments and Agencies series. A number of changes at the Library of Congress, including the sizable reorganization effected in 1977 under the direction of Librarian of Congress Daniel J. Boorstin, obliged Goodrum and coauthor Helen W. Dalrymple to issue a revised and updated version of the 1974 work. The result is a pleasing and useful account of the Library of Congress, the world's "largest center for information storage" (Introduction).

In an unobtrusive and easy writing style, the authors structure their narrative in four parts. Part one traces the history of LC from its beginnings to the present, including a chapter on its current components. We are told of its major units ("six great empires") within which "eighty-five independent operations" function; an organizational chart provides guidance through the maze. Part two describes the internal processes: acquisitions, control, and research services. Here the authors wax eloquent about the treasures to be found in the manuscript, geography, and map collections, as well as other divisions and collections. There are informative discussions on the importance of gifts, the copyright deposit procedures, the awesome responsibilities of the Congressional Research Service, the famous "K classification" of the law library, services to the blind and physically handicapped, and the several "glamour" collections and activities, such as music, poetry, and the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts Library.

Part three addresses the problems and tensions that arise from LC's efforts to serve three demanding clients: the Congress, the library profession, and the scholarly research world. The authors wryly observe that these groups "barely tolerate each other at best, and at worst, they resent each other bitterly." Dis-

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cussed in detail is the vexatious, perennial dispute inherent in an organism that attempts to be on one hand a library for Congress, and, on the other, a library for everyone. Although this section of the book is of great interest, one question with raised eyebrows the assertion that "for years, librarians have been urging that the Library of Congress be put into the Department of Education," an entity that has only been in existence since 1980 (90 *Stat.* 668). Part three also notes LC's initial reluctance to accept the computer (followed by its subsequent embrace), the difficulties of locating materials at the Library, and Boorstin's impact upon the institution he directs. The last part is a brief comment on the future of LC as it begins to harness the technological wonders of videodiscs and digital storage in the service of enhanced control and access.

Throughout the narrative run basic philosophical issues. Does LC really help Congress govern? Is the Library doing a proper job of preserving the nation's his-

tory? Are the manifold information needs of users really being met? While the conclusion is affirmative, it is tempered with the caveat that future managers of this vast enterprise must be ever alert to the processes and technologies by which its disparate clientele will be served wisely and well.

This informative monograph contains a six-page bibliography. No index was available for evaluation, presumably because the above review is based on a "not for sale" advance copy made from uncorrected proofs. With the assumed inclusion of an index, the book when published will be a valuable addition to our professional literature and may well enjoy a wider audience.—Joe Morehead, *School of Library/Information Science, State University of New York at Albany.*

**Neustadt, Richard M.** *The Birth of Electronic Publishing: Legal and Economic Issues in Telephone, Cable and Over-the-Air Teletext and Videotext.* White Plains, N.Y.: Knowledge Industry, 1982. 143p. \$32.95. LC 82-6614. ISBN 0-86729-030-7.

Ever since "the paperless society" became buzzwords in our language, there have been many discussions debating the pros and cons of electronic publishing. The discussions this reviewer has heard have typically been subjective and sometimes emotional. The issues raised have related to the emergence of a new mass medium, described eloquently by the author:

Until recently, mass distribution of information has been dominated by publishing and broadcasting. Now, technology is marrying these media to spawn a new one: electronic publishing. Print-type information—text and graphics—is being distributed over electronic channels: television, radio, cable TV and telephone wires.

Electronic publishing . . . has no place in the law at present. No statute or regulation mentions it, and the first court decision on this medium was issued in the fall of 1981. In the next few years, policy-makers must answer a string of questions to fill this vacuum. How will the First Amendment apply—will electronic publishers have the full freedom of newspapers or will they be covered by content regulations, as are broadcasters? Will would-be electronic pub-

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