

range, university adult education can play a meaningful role only by rigorously defining its distinctive place, by setting a limit to the tasks that it will undertake and an order of priority among them." (page 129).

University administrators, working with the National University Extension Association, face some difficult decisions as adult educational needs continue to multiply. If the decision is to concentrate university adult education programs at the "college level" (and financial support may dictate this decision in view of the special function of universities in the field of higher education) then the public library, as "the people's university," undoubtedly will be expected to assume, with other agencies, major responsibility for adult education. The role of the universities, other than university adult education as defined by the Petersens, may well be limited to assisting and nurturing other agencies through leadership training, preparation and dissemination of educational materials, applied research, and consultation.

"For a richer, fuller life, wake up and read" is a fine slogan for a National Library Week. The Petersens' book is the kind of reading that should "wake up" librarians to the kinds of problems and decisions they may be facing soon in the field of adult education.—*Eugene H. Wilson, University of Colorado.*

Fifty Years Old

Search and Research; the Collections and Uses of the New York Public Library at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street. By William K. Zinaser. New York: The New York Public Library, 1961. 46p. \$1.00 paper, \$3.00 bound.

Written and published to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the New York Public Library, this handsome little book is addressed to a wide lay audience, and exemplifies the best sort of public-relations pamphleteering. Necessarily superficial, because it covers a vast subject in small compass, with reliance on anecdote and vignette to suggest complexity rather than on exhaustive description which might be more accurate if more dull, it nevertheless contains little tidbits of information interesting to even the most blasé librarian already convinced that here is one of the very greatest libraries of the world. If a fault must be found, it may lie in the fact that nowhere in this work, or in other anniversary literature this reviewer has seen, has it seemed pertinent to mention the name and identify the contribution of John Shaw Billings, the library's great founder.—*Frank B. Rogers, National Library of Medicine.*

African, Chinese Sources

A new bibliographical guide listing more than two thousand titles of periodical publications concerned with Africa has just been published by the Library of Congress. Entitled *Serials for African Studies* (1961, 163 p.), it was compiled by Helen F. Conover of the Library's Africana Section.

The serial titles listed in the new guide represent institutional serials—such as journals, annual reports, and memoirs—as well as independent magazines published in Africa and abroad. The list is based on the library's earlier *Research and Information on Africa, Continuing Sources* (1954), but—unlike it—includes a variety of ephemeral publications in Western and African languages, processed newsletters and bulletins of current information, and missionary journals and magazines, which, although not devoted exclusively to African affairs, carry articles on Africa frequently enough to be of value for research.

The entries include information on holdings in the Library of Congress or other American libraries, addresses of publishers not readily available, and, in some cases, notes describing content.

The publication is for sale by the Government Printing Office at \$1.00 a copy.