

(p.29 and 37), raise further questions of reliability.

Shortcomings notwithstanding, this volume brings together good information, and its overall message is unmistakably positive. While acknowledging the naysayers, the contributors obviously expect multitype library cooperation to continue as a significant influence at all levels, with the states as the focal points. The most serious hazard, alluded to again and again, is the scarcity of stable (state-based) financial support, and the shining light, also recognized repeatedly, has thus far been the bountiful but unpredictable Library Services and Construction Act, the text of which is given in an appendix. An annotated bibliography of selected sources covering 1970-75 provides a useful guide to wider reading.—*Mary A. McKenzie, Executive Director, New England Library Board, Hartford, Connecticut.*

Thompson, James. *A History of the Principles of Librarianship*. London: Clive Bingley; Hamden, Conn.: Linnet Books, 1977. 236p. \$10.00 LC 77-3335. ISBN 0-85157-241-3 Bingley; 0-208-01661-9 Linnet.

This is a fascinating book that seeks to establish the historical foundations for a current theory of librarianship. It was written by the librarian of the University of Reading in England.

Thompson reveals seventeen principles of librarianship and discusses them in a historical context. Briefly, these principles are: libraries are created by society; libraries are conserved by society; libraries are for the storage and dissemination of knowledge; libraries are centers of power; libraries are for all; libraries must grow; a national library should contain all national literature, with some representation of other national literatures; every book is of use; a librarian must be a person of education; a librarian is an educator; a librarian's role can only be an important one if it is fully integrated into the prevailing social and political system; a librarian needs training and/or apprenticeship; it is a librarian's duty to increase the stock of his or her library; a library must be arranged in some kind of order, and a list of its contents provided; since libraries are

storehouses of knowledge, they should be arranged according to subject; practical convenience should dictate how subjects are to be grouped in a library; and a library must have a subject catalog.

Each of these principles is treated in great detail, and convincing evidence is provided from numerous sources. Though written from a British perspective, examples are given from U.S. library history, as well as that of Great Britain, and world library history going back 3,000 years. Footnotes lead to references at the end of each chapter. A selected bibliography appears at the end. The book is written in a readable style, though there is at times repetition of content under the various principles.

This is a unique approach to library history and would be a valuable book for all librarians needing reinforcement of the historical traditions of their profession. It should be purchased by all libraries having even a relatively small library science collection. *A History of the Principles of Librarianship* would, of course, be of special value to students of library history.

Readers of this work will also want to read Thompson's *Library Power* (1974), a companion volume attempting to promote a philosophy of librarianship based on certain well-proved principles.—*George S. Bobinski, Dean and Professor, School of Information and Library Studies, State University of New York at Buffalo.*

Library Budgeting: Critical Challenges for the Future. Edited by Sul H. Lee. Library Management Series, no. 3. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Pierian Press, 1977. 111p. \$10.00. LC 77-85231. ISBN 0-87650-083-1.

For those librarians who have slept through the past several years and who thus have had no opportunity to keep up with the vast literature on planning, resource allocation, scientific management, and other budget-related responses to the current fiscal stringencies facing academic libraries, here is a slim volume that can fill in the lacunae painlessly, provided one is after only a brief overview of the field.

For the wakeful and reading librarian there isn't too much here that is new: most