

mation and the role of advertising in the changing information environment. He concludes by challenging librarians to convince those paying for the construction of our technological future that we librarians "can add value by furthering the objectives of the financiers."

James Love couples real-world activism aimed at changing the penurious dissemination of public domain information by the U.S. federal government with a comprehensive exposition of current legislation, policy, and bureaucracy as they relate to federal information policy. His synopsis of the Security and Exchange Commission's EDGAR project, the Department of Justice JURIS system, and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-130 makes this a contribution that should be used in all graduate-level courses dealing with government information for at least the next twelve months—a shelf life typical of any work dealing with the existing technological and economic environment. A cursory examination of one element of the published OCLC data in this collection (the current size and number of files at the FTP site wuarchive.wustl.edu) shows an unsurprising steep increase in both figures since the very recent publication of OCLC's study.

Although the overall quality of this compilation will also make it a valuable item for historical purposes, some of the presentations are of the ubiquitous "look-what-we-did" genre. Such writings are valuable in other contexts, but they tend to clash with the overall scholarly nature of this book.

As would be expected from one of the flagships of the profession, the Graduate School of Library and Information Science of the University of Illinois, these are high quality proceedings of a professional conference with work of current and relevant information for academic librarians.—*Raleigh Clayton Muns, University of Missouri-St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri.*

The African-American Mosaic: A Library of Congress Guide for the Study

of Black History and Culture. Washington D.C.: Library of Congress, 1993. 300p. \$24 (ISBN 0-8444-0800-X).

As the first fully referenced, illustrated, and indexed resource guide to the Library of Congress collections on African-American materials, this work is an essential reference tool for librarians and sophisticated library users. Its aims are to ease the work of researchers who visit the library and to increase public awareness of the full range of the library's resources for the study of African-American history and culture.

The guide is chronologically arranged in three sections of nine chapters that span the years from the antebellum period to the Civil Rights era. Although the guide presents the initial story of African-American history and culture through the window of slavery, it ignores the history of the African American before the slave trade. There is no mention of LC's extensive African civilization collection or its works on African exploration of America before the slave trade, key components in the study of the African-American experience in the United States.

African-American Mosaic is a logistical blessing for researchers faced with the prospect of visiting three different buildings, secondary storage facilities, and many reading rooms to explore or access materials. Now researchers can identify and direct themselves to relevant LC materials via number, date, name, or title, as well as to other libraries and archival holdings.

The book reveals an impressive array of resources not generally known outside the Library of Congress. Previously obscure resources include, for example, the House Un-American Activities Committee collection of four thousand pamphlets that document "the activities and thinking of militant or extremist African American groups"; the collection of Daniel Alexander Payne Murray, an African-American bibliophile who worked for the Library of Congress for fifty-two years; and the LC Carter G. Woodson collection papers on Hiram Revels, the first African-American U.S. senator.

This work, however, has a conservative slant. Its terminology fails to correct past biases; for example, the reference to writer David Walker (1785-1830) as a "black militant," whereas abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison (1805-1879) is a "white radical." In addition, its representation of politics, science, and industry is weak; more should have been said about these important aspects of African-American history.

Nevertheless, the *African-American Mosaic* is a tool all should consult who wish to explore the rich African-American historical and cultural resources at the Library of Congress.—Itibari M. Zulu, *University of California, Los Angeles*.

Encyclopedia of Library History. Ed. Wayne A. Wiegand and Donald G. Davis, Jr. New York: Garland, 1994. 707p. alk. paper, \$95 (ISBN 0-8240-5787-2).

In the *Encyclopedia of Library History* (EoLH) editors Wayne Wiegand and Donald Davis offer a handy, one-volume encyclopedia of library history. The word *history* in the title distinguishes it, at least in intention, from other library-limiting lexica. In practice, however, some of the 275 articles have not much more historical content than entries in other encyclopedias, particularly the *ALA World Encyclopedia of Library and Information Services* (2d ed., 1993), with which the present title will inevitably be compared, and the *Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science* (1968-), which, indeed, it occasionally cites.

Too many of the articles fail to provide new information or a different perspective. Sometimes, however, a fresh perspective is achieved. One of the editors' stated goals was to focus on the library as an institution. Thus we find entries on military libraries, prison libraries, services to labor groups, fiction in libraries—topics other encyclopedias have ignored or treated only fleetingly. Articles on the library as institution, exemplified by "Film Libraries and Librarianship," constitute one of the major achievements of this new reference work.

The EoLH breaks subjects down into smaller units than some other reference works do, making it easier to find arti-

cles about major libraries without having to wade through the entire entry on a particular country. One result of the focus on institutions is that separate biographical entries are not included. Although some key figures in library history can be located with the thorough index, the EoLH is not the first place to look for biography of librarians. The index is also necessary to find standard terms such as *bookmobile* (found under "Itinerating Libraries") and *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* (listed as "German Research Society").

Organizing the work of more than 220 contributors is a daunting task. Quite a few of the authors write about subjects in which they have established reputations. Thus we have Paul N. Banks on conservation and preservation, Francis L. Miksa explaining classification, and E. Stewart Saunders writing on collection development. Most authors are drawn from the ranks of U.S. university libraries, although international librarianship is well represented. The editors write in the introduction about the difficulty in finding suitable contributors for each entry, and, indeed, a few contributors seem to be writing entirely out of their field. The quality of the contributions varies widely. A few entries are quite simplistic, offering very little substance, while others are extremely well written and informative. The entries on classification and collection development, in particular, are very well done, the former because it so elegantly and lucidly explains how librarians have attempted to organize classification, the latter because it takes a truly international and diachronic perspective on the subject.

The editorial decision to group smaller countries into cultural or geographic aggregate areas such as Francophone and Anglophone Africa probably saved some space. A side effect of this decision, however, is the large number of "see references" for country names (which are, of course, repeated in the index). The geographic grouping also leads to a disjunct and desultory quality in the articles, given the diverse library traditions within a geographic area. Some-