

Review Articles

A Correction

As reviewer of *The Core of Education for Librarianship*, Mr. Shera has been privileged to express without editorial interference his doubts about the value of the Workshop, the quality of the reporting, and the intelligence of the participants. On the other hand, a serious misinterpretation of fact, which occurs in that part of his article which departs from the subject of his assigned review, should be corrected.

Mr. Shera is incorrect when he suggests that the relocation of the University of Chicago B.A. somehow results in a deterioration of the degree program in the Graduate Library School. Neither the quality nor the level of the preparation required by the GLS for the M.A. degree has in any way been lowered from that which was required for at least the last four years while Mr. Shera was on the GLS faculty. At that time, qualified students in the College of the University were eligible for a three-year program in the GLS following the award of the B.A. degree then in effect. This program was divided essentially as follows: one year was devoted to courses outside the GLS, one to basic "core" courses in librarianship, and one to advanced courses in librarianship. In other words, the M.A. degree might be earned five years after graduation from high school.

Now that the College degree has been relocated at the end of four years following high school graduation, the student will continue to follow a five year road to the M.A., the last three of which will remain devoted essentially to a year of courses outside the GLS, a year of "core" courses in librarianship, and a year of advanced courses in librarianship. Students who qualify for admission to the program leading to a higher degree in the Graduate Library School may thus elect to begin their professional training in the fourth year of their College work. The B.A. degree they receive is given by the College in General Studies, not in Librarianship. The first professional degree awarded by the Graduate Library School is still the M.A., and represents the total program of the core plus advanced

courses. The Division of the Social Sciences, the School of Business, and the Law School of the University of Chicago have also endorsed similar programs for qualified students.

The GLS core courses are taken at the same point in the student's academic career as before, and are still based on a background of general education which, if anything, is now better organized and integrated. The general education requirement continues to be a matter of demonstrated knowledge of content rather than an arbitrary number of quarters of exposure to it. Whatever the source of his information, Mr. Shera has been misled, I suspect, by the merely formal change through which the College will confer a new B.A. at the end of four years rather than at the end of two.—*Lester Asheim, dean, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago.*

Arctic Bibliography

Arctic Institute of North America. *Arctic Bibliography*, prepared for and in cooperation with the Department of Defense. [Project director and editor, Marie Tremaine] Wash., Govt. Pr. Off., 1953. 3v. \$12.75.

Previous to the publication of the three-volume *Arctic Bibliography* a variety of guides had to be examined for writings about the north-polar regions. One might scan, for example, Chavanne's *Die Literatur über die Polar-Regionen der Erde*, the first comprehensive polar bibliography, the *Katalog* of the Copenhagen Marinens Bibliotek or the bibliographies which have appeared in the *Polar Record*. It was on the basis not only of examining these and other existing bibliographies but also of searching the journals covering the Arctic region and by checking collections in some sixty libraries that the *Arctic Bibliography* was compiled.

These volumes were published not only to provide a needed comprehensive bibliography but also to satisfy the urgent demand for a guide to present Arctic knowledge—a demand which has increased with both the opening up of the northern frontiers and the growing importance of the polar regions in world politics. The evident intention of the

compilers was to produce as nearly complete a guide as possible within the limits imposed by the time available for the project and by the vast amount of material to be studied. Definite bounds of inclusion and coverage were established for this initial work. The area of geographic coverage is carefully delineated on pages 5-6 of the *Introduction*; it is outlined graphically on the index map which is reproduced in each of the volumes. The span of time included is almost entirely the nineteenth and twentieth centuries; this necessarily excludes important earlier works. Some publications which were too difficult to analyze in the time allowed for the preparation of these volumes were omitted. It has been estimated that approximately 50% of the material which might have been included within the scope of this set is yet to be indexed. There is, for example, in the Stefansson Library, alone, still a sizeable quantity of material in this category but, as yet, unrecorded. This fact does not detract from the *Arctic Bibliography*; rather, so much is presented to the user that he is impressed not only by the wealth of Arctic writings but also by the immense work which has been produced. Moreover, in order to bring the initial publication up to date and to include, as well, both older works not previously analyzed and some classics, supplements—several already nearing completion—will be issued.

One would probably be correct in presuming that in preliminary discussions the compilers debated the relative merits of the chosen author listing, with its subject-geographic index, in comparison with a chronological or other arrangement. The plan selected is probably the most convenient for the majority of users and, considering the bibliography as a tool of great value for citation verification, one is inclined to think that the best decision was made.

A few more than twenty thousand items are recorded in Volumes 1 and 2, the author listing. They represent coverage of almost all the earth sciences as well as anthropology, botany, zoology and sociology. Books, papers and contributions to works of multiple authorship are noted under each author's name. Entries include not only the transcribed title but also English translations of foreign-language titles—a great advantage where a majority of the listings are in Russian, Ger-

man or the Scandinavian languages. Generally, when books or articles include a bibliography, this is noted with either the number of items included in it or the paging. Descriptive annotations are given for each entry. A library location symbol indicates where the cited copy was examined. In this regard, the searcher should note, for example, that though Item 4472 is a Library of Congress copy, this does not signify that the Stefansson Library at Dartmouth does not have it. One might wish that in the case of monographs and books which, like this, are not found in many collections, more library locations could have been noted. (True—a footnote on page 8 indicates that the LC Union Catalog or the *Union List of Serials* should be consulted for other copies of books and locations of journals.)

Volume 3 comprises the index—in itself a remarkable tool. Not only do the geographic entries have subject subheadings but the subject entries have, first of all, geographic subdivision; then, subject subdivisions. This factor, plus abundant cross-referencing, makes it almost impossible for the user not to find the item for which he is searching. Inclusion of imprint date with the brief title is an additional aid. The index illustrates the intention of the *Arctic Bibliography* to note, first of all, the original records of explorations and reports of scientists; the entries under "Expeditions" extend for 107 pages.

The *Arctic Bibliography* was financed by funds from the U.S. Department of Defense under a contract with the Arctic Institute of North America. The Canadian government also contributed financially to its completion. Anyone whose work touches on the polar region and who must work with its literature and bibliography owes a debt of thanks to the compilers of the *Arctic Bibliography* but especially to Marie Tremaine of the Arctic Institute of North America who has both directed and inspired this undertaking.—*Virginia L. Close, Dartmouth College Library.*

Serial Publications

Periodicals and Serials, Their Treatment in Special Libraries. By David Grenfell. London, Aslib, 1953. 200p. (Aslib Manuals, vol. 3.) 12s.6d. (10s.6d. to members).

The so-called incunabula period for serials