things spiritual.

Two chapters entitled "The Scientific Spirit in Religious Experience" deal with this endeavor, which stood for confidence in the potential unity of "intellectual integrity and vital religion." They portray the conflicts of which Bosworth was conscious as he surveyed the Christian thought of his time; the essence of the scientific spirit as it impressed him in relation to religious matters; the principles he emphasized in making the approach to religion both reverent and rational.

Bosworth aimed at full acceptance of the scientific method, but with affirmation that much of the truth to be dealt with, even in the physical world, is not objectively demonstrable. Then, holding that negation can have small part in a universe which patently is developing and expanding, he refused to consider it the sole alternative to conviction based on positive proofs, and thus left the way open for whatever realities intuition and informed judgment might identify, after scrutiny of the total array of available facts and experience.

The endeavor of Bosworth to view religion in the light of science corresponded with the contemporary tendency of scientists to discern religious significance in their findings. In seeking in his own field to accord place to all the evidence, he adopted a course which hardly can be assailed, even by those who might distrust the conclusions likely to follow its pursuit in particular cases; or who, specifically, might not conceive the causative energy of creation in terms of a fatherly God, as Bosworth did, nor look upon human life and personality as the ultimate expression of that energy.

With The Biography of a Mind there is published a companion volume captioned The Christian Religion and Human Progress, in which are assembled various published and unpublished addresses of Dr. Bosworth.— Ernest James Reece, White Plains, New York.

### Alabama Author Headings

Author Headings for the Official Publications of the State of Alabama. By Anne Ethelyn Markley. Chicago, American Library Association, 1948, xviii, 123p. \$4.75.

This list of the names of the government departments, bureaus and other agencies of the territory and state of Alabama is important in itself and even more noteworthy as the first volume of a projected series of similar publications to cover the forty-eight states and the District of Columbia. Thirtyseven others are completed or in progress. A careful study of this one leads one to wish Godspeed to their compilers and to the A.L.A. in its publication of them. For here, even at the seemingly high price of \$4.75, is one answer to the oft-repeated question: "How can we cut our cataloging costs?"

It is generally agreed that official publications must be cataloged under the names of their issuing bodies, assuming that those names are known or can be determined by a method practicable for library use. However, to obtain that knowledge is a timeconsuming and costly process performed over and over in the various libraries of the country with varying degrees of success, be-

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cause until now there has been no one good source for the information. Each cataloger has had to ferret it out of the statutes or depend upon inadequate secondary sources. Most American libraries have tried to get their information about the names of state agencies from Library of Congress cards. Their success, at least as far as Alabama is concerned, is clearly demonstrated by a comparison of the Markley list with the Library of Congress catalog. The printed list presents 521 names of state departments, boards, bureaus, commissions, etc., both current and obsolete, of the state and territory of Alabama, and several times that many references from other forms of the names. The Library of Congress catalog reveals only 148 Alabama headings plus the corresponding references. About twenty-five of these seem to be given in a form which is obsolete or which was incorrect in the first place. Many of the earlier headings were established solely on the basis of information to be found in the publication being cataloged, a procedure which frequently proves to be uneconomical in the case of official publications, but one that is sometimes unavoidable. This means that at the present time a library seeking information on the correct form of catalog entries for Alabama official publications would get only 23.2 per cent as much help from the Library of Congress catalog as from the Markley list.

This situation in the Library of Congress may not be typical of the headings for other states because there are comparatively few Alabama official publications listed in the catalog. The more additions made the more likely it is that the headings are kept up-todate or put in the correct form. Nevertheless, the A.L.A. Division of Cataloging and Classification has been aware for many years of the need for such a reference tool as these lists will provide. Since 1938 it has had a Special Committee on State Author Headings to encourage and sponsor their production.

Each name is based on sound research working with the session laws, digests and codes of Alabama. In each case the legal name of the agency is given as it is specified in the body of the law, or if not there stated, in the title of the act authorizing the agency. If no name is specified in the authorizing act, but subsequent laws consistently refer to an agency by a given name, that name has been accepted as the legal one. Lacking such authority an attempt has been made to determine the most frequently used name. The name is followed by the citation of the authority for the form, a chronological record of name changes, transfer of duties, if such transfer affects designation of a department or division, mergers with other offices or abolition of the agency, with reference whenever possible to laws authorizing each change, and finally by a list of "see also" references.

Although the essential information needed for the catalog entries for the publications of all the agencies listed has been assembled, the headings are not all presented according to the form prescribed by the A.L.A. Catalog Rules. Miss Markley has interpreted the rule to enter an agency under its latest name to mean that all of the agencies which follow others in a direct line, discharging the same or closely related duties without extraneous intervening organizations to disrupt the succession, should be considered a single unit, and be entered under the name of the latest agency. This is not the customary interpretation and it is certainly not a practical one. Although sometimes an agency has the same

name as another it supersedes, this is rarely the case; by using both names as headings with "see also" references explaining the succession one avoids the necessity of recataloging the earlier publications when an agency is superseded by another. Various other complications such as duplication in the numbering of annual reports are also avoided. Because of this difference in basic policy, at least a dozen of the names that are used as cross references to the names of later agencies are themselves used for catalog entries by the Library of Congress.

For example, the Library of Congress uses as headings both "Alabama. Banking Department" and "Alabama. Bureau of Banking" whereas Miss Markley provides a "see" reference from the former to the latter. The Department of Banking was abolished in 1939 and its duties assigned to the Bureau of Banking in the Department of Commerce. Complications avoided by entering the publications of each under its own name are apparent from the fact that the department published an annual report from 1911 to 1938/39, and the bureau's annual report, beginning with 1939/40, appeared as a part of the annual report of the Department of Commerce. On the shelves of a library the annual report of the Banking Department must stand alone, completed with the 1938/39 volume. It is difficult to see what would be gained by changing the entry to "Alabama. Bureau of Banking." Furthermore, by so doing one creates a bibliographical freak. There was no Alabama Bureau of Banking in 1911 and not even a Department of Commerce which could have published an annual report. On the other hand, it is a simple matter to lead the user of the catalog to the entry for the later agency where its publications are listed.

A similar case is that of the Department of Conservation which was created when several other agencies were abolished: the Oyster Commission, the State Commission of Forestry, the Monument Commission, and the Department of Conservation of Game, Fish and Seafoods. Each of these except the last appears in the list as a name to be used as a catalog heading; the last one is presented only as a cross reference to the Department of Conservation. The illogic of this is the more apparent when it is discovered that a

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Division of Forestry was created in the Department of Conservation to absorb the functions of the State Commission of Forestry.

Another basic policy in the construction of the list should be examined. This is the form of the names used for cross references. In order to simplify headings, the direct form was preferred to inversions-for example, "Alabama. Finance Department" (rather than "Alabama. Finance, Department of") See "ALABAMA. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE." This policy can be followed only with extreme caution if meanings are not to be distorted or complications increased. The policy followed here results in references from such forms as "Alabama. Deceased Soldiers Claims Agent," "Alabama. Convict Inspectors" and "Alabama. State Offices Examining Commission," in place of "Alabama. Deceased Soldiers, Agent to Settle Claims of," "Alabama. Convicts, Board of Inspectors

of" and "Alabama. State Offices, Commissioners to Examine."

Future lists should present the names of territorial agencies together at the beginning of the list instead of between the state "Tax Commission" and its "Treasurer."

These details of cross references and arrangement are minor points which would not even be mentioned were it not anticipated that this volume will set the pattern for the others as well as guide librarians in the construction of their catalogs. It is such an excellent piece of work that it sets a high standard for the rest. Since it was originally prepared as a Master's thesis at the University of Illinois Library School, one cannot resist expressing regret that the new curriculum at Illinois is not providing the time for this kind of contribution that is so valuable both to the student and to the profession.— Lucile M. Morsch, Library of Congress.

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