

afford the luxury of hand binding, and there was constant need for expert repair and restoration of both printed books and manuscripts. Incidentally one might add that after the collector had learned to cherish the precious shabbiness of "original condition," there was work for the binder in making slip and solander cases to enclose the worn covers.

To these foreign binders may be attributed something like the apprentice system, for many students, especially women, were trained by them both in this country and abroad. In fact the number of women is striking, and of the bindings chosen for illustration in this short account, fully half were made by women.

Important in stimulating interest in binding have been the exhibits from the 1890's onward. Many of them were fostered by the book clubs, and the illustrations in their catalogs, as well as in the craft periodicals, are helpful in studying the styles of individual binders.

For those interested in the book arts in general and the handicraft of binding in particular Mr. Thompson has gathered together in these less than fifty pages a vast amount of valuable scattered information. He not only mentions scores of binders but often locates examples of their work, and shows the special contribution to the craft of various centers on the East Coast, West Coast and in mid-country too. Anyone who has tried to systematize the profusion of names of nineteenth- and twentieth-century binders in this country will appreciate the research involved, and teachers of courses in the book arts especially would be glad if the valuable matter in English in the *Libri* article could be made available for wider circulation.—*Eunice Wead, Hartford, Conn.*

One Librarian

One Librarian. By Katherine Smith Diehl. New Brunswick, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1956. 165 p. \$3.

This is a book on how to live as the only professional in a college library; and it is affected as to content and presentation by the fact that the author's college is church related. Thus the hortatory note: the reader is addressed as "One Professional," perhaps

not *ad nauseum*; but this expression is so constantly repeated, that it becomes a heavy burden for the book to carry.

The reviewer read the book twice, and the second time he wrote down the numbers of the pages which he felt contained material of permanent value, either for the manner of expression or for the material set forth. There are 29 of these pages. This is very good, for as the author herself says in another connection: "Ideas don't come so frequently as does their restatement. Restatements fill many libraries."

The book is marred by too much sprightliness, too much striving for effect, and too much attention to whether or not the plants get watered; but these defects are offset by a deep-seated and wholly satisfying love for the job, and by an appealing statement of the inner reward when the librarian does his job well. There are a few surprises: one being a spirited defense of closed stacks, even in so small a library, and another being the narrow limits to which student assistants must be confined in dealing with other students. A surprise of a different nature is the policy for dealing with faculty who put books on reserve which do not get read.

The author wrote as a small college librarian for her fellows in the field, and a very good field it is; for there is none to whom the buck can be passed, and one is in there pitching all the time. But more than this, the author makes one statement, or credo, rather, which all college librarians, whether they are in large or small institutions, should hold as their goal. This statement begins on page 70 under the heading "The Policy Committee." Any librarian who can say, "This is the way it is in my place," has indeed reached the summit.—*Wayne Shirley, Finch College Library.*

Recent Foreign Books on the Graphic Arts, Bibliography, and Library Science

The first volume in the general series of the great Yugoslav encyclopedia was issued late in 1955 under the title of *Enciklopedija Leksikografskog Zavoda*, including 720 double-columned pages and extending as far