

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

Hermann Fuchs. *Kurzgefasste Verwaltungslehre für Institutsbibliotheken*. Wiesbaden, Otto Harrassowitz, 1957. 132p. DM14.

Hermann Fuchs's manual for librarians of *Institutsbibliotheken* (our departmental and collegiate libraries) should be a welcome contribution to the German literature of library science. While we have worked towards absolute centralization, perhaps a bit too zealously at times, some of the German universities have lost all administrative control over the *Institutsbibliotheken*. In many cases they are entrusted to untrained, even indifferent, personnel responsible to no competent library authority. Fuchs's work, essentially a general manual for scholarly libraries reduced to the scope of a special collection, will help bridge the gap. There is little that is new in the work, but it is intelligible to the non-librarian. The section on cataloging rules is especially valuable.

E. I. Shamurin. *Ocherki po istorii bibliotечно-bibliograficheskoi klassifikatsii*. Moscow, Izdatelstvo Vsesoiuznoi Knizhnoi Palaty, 1955. v.1. 399 p. 12R. 35K.

This history of classification is the most comprehensive work that has appeared on this subject in any language. Shamurin originally presented his study as a doctoral dissertation in 1944, but he has now completely revised it. In all he has devoted twenty years of research to his project. The first volume covers the history of classification up to

the nineteenth century. Beginning with the classification schemes of the ancient Near East and classical antiquity, the first three of the ten chapters cover the period prior to the Renaissance. Especially heavy emphasis is placed on French schemes in chapters IV-VII. The last two chapters deal with the history of classification in Russia. Thoroughly documented and provided with many illustrations (mainly portraits and facsimiles of title-pages), Shamurin's work is a major contribution to bibliographical scholarship. It is to be hoped that the publishers will soon bring out the next volume.

Leendert Brummel. *Miscellanea libraria*. The Hague, Martinus Nijhoff, 1957. 233p.

The sixtieth birthday of Leendert Brummel, noted director of the Dutch Royal Library, on August 10, 1957, has been commemorated by the publication of ten of his most important essays. There are in English: "The Netherlands and the International Exchange of Publications," "The Librarian as a Scholar," and "The Fagel Library in Trinity College, Dublin." The others, in Dutch, deal with American library problems, library history, literary archives, the Royal Library from 1948 to 1957, the Tongerlo Collection in the Royal Library, Dr. Ludwig Tross and the Royal Library, and Jacob Boehme in seventeenth-century Amsterdam. Dr. Brummel is a thoughtful writer and a thorough scholar. No better or more appropriate *Festschrift* could have been brought out than this chrestomathy of his own writings.

---

*Dr. Thompson is Director of Libraries, University of Kentucky.*

*Joris Vorstius. Die übrigen Kulturländer. Wiesbaden, Otto Harrassowitz,*

1957. 856-928p. (*Handbuch der Bibliothekswissenschaft*, 2d ed., v. III).

The *Handbuch der Bibliothekswissenschaft* should be reviewed in a special critical article. Nevertheless, the conclusion of the third volume, the only major history of libraries we have, should be noted. Joris Vorsius, workhorse of German bibliographical circles for four decades, has reached into the most remote corners of the library world. Here we find the best available outlines of library history in Latin America, in the Balkans, in Australasia and elsewhere. Fully documented and written by a man with the broadest possible experience in the history of bibliography and libraries, this concluding chapter of the *Hankbuch*, v. III, is an adequate sample of most of the other chapters.

Jiří Louda. *Soupis prvotisků univerzitní knihovny v Olomouci a její pobočky v Kroměříži*, Praha, Státní pedagogické nakladatelství, 1956. 368p.

At the beginning of this century Anton Schubert published a rather scrappy catalog of the incunabula in the K. K. Studienbibliothek in Olmütz (Olomouc), a collection which has served since World War II as the library of the University of Olmütz *redivivus*. The nature of this catalog and the subsequent acquisition of hundreds of other fifteenth century books (including the whole archiepiscopal library from Kroměříž) necessitated the new catalog. The first part of the catalog is an author list (1,902 numbers in all) with references to the GKW and to Hain-Copinger-Reichling. There are references to the Second American Census and to Proctor for works not recorded yet in the GKW. The second part is a geographical list with references to numbers in the first part. The third part is a concordance with GKW, Hain-Copinger-Reichling, Schubert, and other lists of collections removed to Olmütz. Finally there is a section of plates showing some of the Olmütz rariora.

P. Voorhoeve. *Handlist of Arabic Manuscripts in the Library of the Univer-*

*sity of Leiden and Other Collections in the Netherlands*. Leiden, University Library, 1957. 542p. ("Codices manuscripti Bibliothecae Universitatis Leidensis," VII.)

The distinguished traditions of oriental scholarship in the Netherlands in general and at the University of Leiden in particular have resulted in very substantial collections of manuscripts and printed books. Indeed, the accumulation of Arabic manuscripts alone is so great that a detailed catalog would be a major job for a generation of Arabists. However, Voorhoeve's work is an effective stop-gap and will provide Arabic and Islamic scholars with a useable key to this part of the manuscript treasures of Dutch libraries. Leiden, of course, has the largest collection. Voorhoeve, a specialist in Sumatran languages, assumed responsibility for the Oriental Department at Leiden in 1947 and found the written catalogs in rather poor shape. After various interruptions he was able to begin on the present handlist in earnest in 1954. It consists of three parts: (1) titled texts arranged in alphabetical order, (2) untitled texts arranged by subject, and (3) an index of proper names. In part one there are the title, author, date (A.D. and Anno Hegirae) if known, reference to Brockelmann's *Geschichte der arabischen Literatur*, and other pertinent literature, foliation or pagination, and classmarks. Information on texts recorded in the second part is necessarily briefer. Although Voorhoeve's work in no sense replaces the older catalogs, it does make accessible thousands of more recent accessions. Voorhoeve is perhaps unnecessarily apologetic in his introduction, for he has done an accurate job, acceptable to orientalists. The more detailed catalogs to be hoped for will be much easier to compile as a result of Voorhoeve's fine work.

Iceland. Landsbókasafn. *Arbók*, 1955-1956. V. XII-XIII. Reykjavik, 1957. 194 p.

This double volume contains the Icelandic national bibliography for 1954 and 1955 as well as supplementary titles for the period 1944-1953. A particularly valuable section of

this *Arbók* is a full bibliography of books by Halldor Laxness in Icelandic and in translation.

Ester Pastorello. *L'epistolario manuziano; inventario cronologico-analitico, 1483-1597*. Florence, Leo S. Olschki, 1597. 348 p. ("Biblioteca di bibliografia italiana," XXX). Lire 6,000.

The remarkable mass of letters that has survived from the correspondence of Aldus Manutius (1449-1515), Paulus Manutius (1512-1574), and Aldus the Younger (1547-1597) is one of the most significant of all sources for our knowledge of early Italian printing and cultural life in this period. Ester Pastorello has brought together in an integrated work the chronological inventory of Manuzian correspondence which she had already published serially and in somewhat less adequate form in *La Bibliofilia*, vols. XXX and XXXIII; and she has made an exhaustive survey of both published and unpublished sources. At the beginning of the compilation is a list of sources, ranging from Budapest to Washington. Each source is assigned a symbol, which is used for reference in the chronological list. The chronological list of 2,401 letters is in three columns, viz., date or approximate date of letter, writer and recipient, and references to source. Lists of correspondents and incipits support the chronological list. The last part of the book, an analysis of contents arranged by personal names and subjects, contains short notes on each subject discussed in individual letters, with reference to date and number of the letter in the chronological list. The tedious job undertaken by Miss Pastorello has been executed with meticulous care, and she deserves the gratitude of all students of historical bibliography and of the Italian Renaissance.

Hanns Martin Elster, ed. *Georg Alexander Mathéy: Buchkunst, Graphik, Malerei*. Wiesbaden, Otto Harrassowitz, 1957. 90p. DM17.80.

Few artists of modern times have had such a profound influence on modern European

book design and book production as Mathéy. Here we have a picture of the whole artist in ten essays and two poems by friends and critics and one singularly important essay by Mathéy himself, "Architektur des Buches." Richly illustrated in black and white and in color, we have a representative selection of Mathéy's best work. There is a skillful selection by the editor to show how there is a basic inner relationship between Mathéy's paintings, sketches, book illustration, typography, book design, and design of bindings. The essay by Joachim Kirchner on Mathéy as a typographer and illustrator tells us much about the basic traditions of contemporary German book design. Elster's account of Mathéy's work for the old Horen-Verlag is not only a valuable contribution to publishing history but also a significant note on Mathéy's mature work in the twenties.

Werner Kreutzmann. *Die Praxis des Korrekturlesens*. Leipzig, VEB Verlag für Buch- und Bibliothekswesen, 1957. 206 p. DM10.70.

The cabalic symbols of the proofreader are a mystery to nearly everyone who doesn't actually get his fingers dirty with printer's ink, and this group includes most writers. In addition to the explanation of the proofreader's symbols (with variants in English and Russian), there is a resumé of what the proofreader must know about book production. Kreutzmann describes the various types in use by mechanical type-setting machines and the standards of measurement, formats, and the relationship of the proofreader to the binder. Finally there is a section on the qualifications of the proofreader. A glossary of technical terms concludes the book. Kreutzmann has organized his material according to certain basic principles that would be valid in any country, and his work may serve as a reference book not only in Germany but elsewhere as well. A practical feature of the book is the use of red for the proofreader's symbols.