

of the book trade, and in 1831 also, his imprint first appeared in a tiny religious work entitled *Crumbs from the Master's Table*.

Wolfe's book recounts faithfully the chronicles of the Appleton firm from those modest beginnings through the next 150 years. From religious books the firm went on to children's books, Spanish-language books, medical books, subscription books, fiction, science books, periodicals, atlases and travel guides, history and biography, and virtually all other imaginable aspects of trade publishing.

The House of Appleton proceeds not unlike a picaresque novel itself. The saga is told of the many members of the family who guided the firm through the period of its greatest ascendancy (between 1850 and 1900), and the circumstances that led to its latter-day transmogrification as a conglomerate subsidiary issuing books solely in the fields of health and nursing are related.

The book is graciously written and easy—even fun—to read. Its breezy, journalistic style captures quite effectively the sense of hustle and bustle that have pervaded the New York book trade, especially through the middle years of the nineteenth century. The gossip and fashions, as well as the political news and economic fortunes of the times, are reviewed for each period in a lively panorama of social history.

Some will feel that the book sometimes departs a bit far from its central theme, however. For example, only about 15 percent of the chapter on the Civil War has, except by inference, even the remotest relationship either to Appleton's or to the book trade.

The book also tends to superficiality. The chronicle is all here, with myriad detail about every member of the firm, every author it published, every title on its lists, but there is a dearth of interpretation. The author nowhere either asks or attempts to answer the question "What does it all mean?" In that sense, the book is less a history than it is a record—albeit a full, well written, useful, and much needed record—of one of America's great imprints.—David Kaser, *Indiana University, Bloomington*.

\$16.95. LC 80-8602. ISBN 0-669-04321-4.

Sociologists Cline and Sinnott use a comparative case study methodology to analyze collection development in relation to the structure and function of complex organizations and in relation to resource allocation theory. This is not a book for readers interested in the "how to" of collection development, but is for the reader who seeks a theoretical framework for and detailed analyses of the fund allocation and item selection aspects of collection development.

The authors collected data related to the organizational locus and collection development practices of seven academic libraries: Earlham College, Stockton State College, Brown University, Pennsylvania State University, University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill), University of Wisconsin (Madison), and University of California (Los Angeles). The data were then analyzed with respect to the planning for and implementation of collection development.

The analysis of the distribution of acquisitions funds spent by vendor, librarian, and faculty at each of these groups in the collection development process is especially interesting. In addition the work includes the more traditional analyses of expenditures by format and broad discipline.

The summary tables and detailed discussions of the planning and implementation process, both within specific institutions and in comparative summaries, document and highlight the wide variability of collection development practices, something most collection development librarians are well aware of. The strength of this book lies in the authors' collection of comparable data and placement of the information in a broad theoretical context, something heretofore sorely lacking in the library literature. The mobility of libraries to relate collection development policy statements to actual expenditures is interpreted in relation to the complex reporting responsibilities of the library within an institution and in relation to social change.

The only weakness of the book lies in the final chapter, where the authors go beyond their data collection and analyses and discuss several areas of librarianship that they perceive as important to change and adaptation in academic libraries; namely, library instruction, special collections, microforms,

Cline, Hugh F. and Sinnott, Loraine T. *Building Library Collections*. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1981. 170p.



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and library research. Although thought-provoking, there is little in the data gathered that support their analyses of the importance of these topics to collection development.

This is a well-organized work and should provide considerable insights to the thoughtful collection development librarian or library director. In addition it should be read by planning officers and administrative officials having to deal with library budgets in academic institutions.—*Barbara A. Rice, State Library Cultural Center, Albany, New York.*

European Americana: A Chronological Guide to Works Printed in Europe Relating to the Americas, 1493-1776, Volume I: 1493-1600. Ed. by John Alden with the assistance of Dennis C. Landis. New York: Readex, 1980. 467p. \$50. LC 80-51141. ISBN 0-918414-03-2.

Scholars have long relied on Charles Evans' *American Bibliography* and Joseph Sabin's *Bibliotheca Americana* for bibliographical and historical information about the Americas. In spite of the excellencies of these works, however, they have recognized limitations for research. The usefulness of Sabin's work for investigating a particular year or decade, for example, is virtually nil because of its dictionary arrangement by name and not by date. Evans' work, on the other hand, does have a chronological arrangement, but it also inconveniences the researcher by only recording imprints of the British North American continent.

These limitations of chronology and geography have now been bridged in *European Americana*. The name of the editor, John Alden, may well become as familiar as those of Sabin and Evans. And rightly so, for this first volume signals the appearance of an excellent, major reference work. Even the most casual examination of the book reveals several potentials for research. This volume, for example, covers the years from 1493 through 1600, with future volumes to include works published through 1776, thereby including all colonial history of the United States. The book also adds many "unknown" works about America for "of the works thus described, some 4300 in number, only a fourth appear already in 'Sabin'" (p.xvii). The implications for historical studies of this startling increase of "newly available" primary