

mentation (information science). Chapters 5 and 6 move the analysis of texts, historical events, and sociological interpretations forward to the 1970s. Ishmael reappears in chapter 7 for a final dialogue which reveals how Bennett's original expectations about the problem and his understanding of hermeneutics have been affected by the trip through time.

Bennett has, in effect, organized his dissertation in such a way that careful examination of the structure leads to greater understanding of the hermeneutical method. The structure itself instantiates (i.e., provides an example of) the investigative tool, so that both structure and substantive findings (textual and historical analyses, etc.) shed light on the research question. Needless to say, this is not an easy thing to pull off, but Bennett has done it very well indeed. Furthermore, he is—at least to this reviewer's knowledge—one of the few librarians, if not the only, to attempt this method. Most of our existing literature relies on more widely practiced forms of historical, sociological, or textual analysis.

Persons interested in the origins of library and information science, questions of social reproduction, professionalization theory, or education for librarianship should read this work not only for its methodological sophistication but also for the substantive findings that it presents. Some of the findings uphold work done by other investigators, for example, the sense of subordination common to the library profession. Other findings—for example, the fleshing out of Shera's gradual move over the course of a lifetime toward his "recantation"—represent a fresh understanding of perennial professional questions and are worthy of further study by others.

Normally a review of a Scarecrow Press dissertation-turned-into-book either begins or ends with a snide remark about the Scarecrow format and/or about authors who do not take the trouble to translate their theses out of "dissertationese" into the common tongue. Consider the remark made and immediately set aside as unimportant in the face of Bennett's achievement.—*Patricia Ohl Rice, Pennsylvania State University, University Park.*

Baughman, James C. *Trustees, Trusteeship, and the Public Good: Issues of Accountability for Hospitals, Museums, Universities, and Libraries.* New York: Quorum, 1987. 187p. \$35 (ISBN 0-8930-195-9). LC 86-25574.

Who controls the affairs of charitable organizations? Most would say trustees. However, according to James Baughman, trustees are only managers of a charitable institution's resources, which ultimately belong to the public. As trustees are charged with the task of running the charitable organization for the public good, he says, in the final analysis they are accountable to the public. Yet, occasionally in the past, trustees have demonstrated that neither they nor the public are aware that trustees are accountable to the general public for their actions.

Baughman says that nonprofit institutions constitute a remarkable 11 percent of the national wealth of the United States. Their direction is of great importance and concern to the whole of society because their failure would be of great consequence. Furthermore, he reminds his readers of part of a past court ruling which states that every dollar a charitable institution saves in tax levy becomes another dollar that other taxpayers must pay.

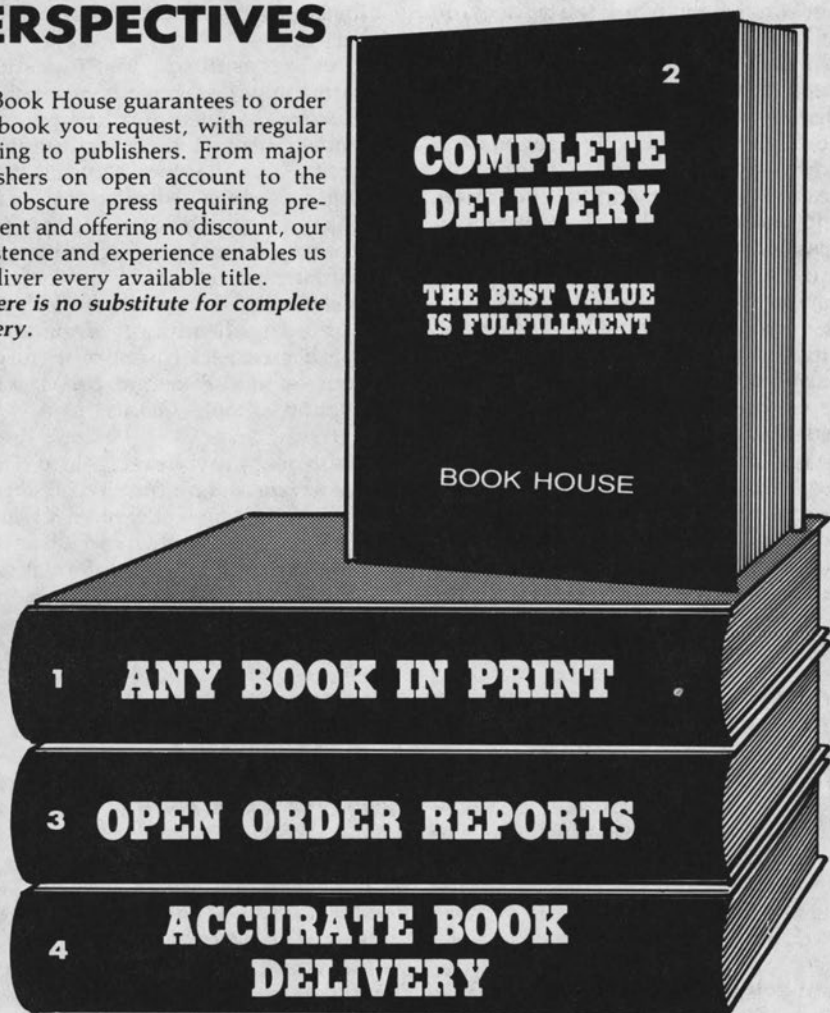
Baughman, who is a professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College in Boston, has written a lucid account describing the responsibilities trustees of charitable organizations have as found through various court cases. Having won the Research Roundtable's Research Competition Award for his work on knowledge control for interdisciplinary research, Baughman should be applauded once again for stepping beyond the usual bounds of librarianship. Writing in an easily readable style, the author cites court cases dealing with the fiduciary responsibilities of trustees in charitable institutions.

Baughman devotes separate chapters to such charitable ventures as hospitals, colleges and universities, museums, and school and public libraries. In each, he recounts events surrounding certain situations and cites data from court records and cases, newspapers, professional literature, and significant interviews to deter-

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mine the fiduciary obligations of trustees. Baughman allows the rulings of court cases to define the role of trustees rather than relying on traditional perceptions. He cites one case in which the trustees, on the advice of the president, attempted to close a college. The court ruled that the trustees' actions were neither necessary nor legal.

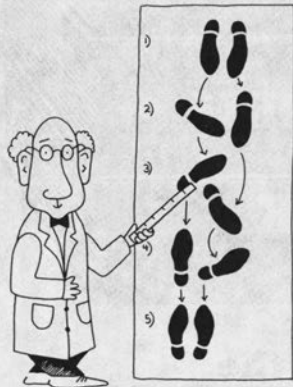
Although predominantly a serious and thought-provoking book, Baughman makes the rash comment that the trustee should know more than the "pedantic" professional administrator. This is an unjustified and unsubstantiated misrepresentation of that group. It is likely that trustees will often know less about the specifics of an organization than professional administrators, which is all the more reason for trustees to remain committed and alert, always expecting adequate information.

Baughman has taken what could be a very dry subject and turned it into an engaging study. It is obvious from the quality of the book that a great deal of work has gone into both the research and the writing. The book is of interest not only to

trustees and administrators of nonprofit organizations but also to librarians, many of whom work for charitable nonprofit institutions and can be directly affected by the involvement or lack of involvement of trustees.

As a result of his investigation, Baughman establishes that although trustees are given great discretion in the management of their institutions, they must realize that they serve as guardians and managers of the country's richest treasures which are designated exclusively for the public good and must be administered according to the donor's wishes. The author concludes his work with a very helpful set of guidelines for board members of nonprofit organizations.—Daniel A. Savage, *Redeemer College, Ancaster, Ontario, Canada.*

Robbins, Jane Borsch, and Douglas Zweizig. *Are We There Yet? Evaluating Library Collections, Reference Services, Programs, and Personnel.* Madison, Wisc.: School of Library and Information Studies, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison, 1988. 152p.



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