

Adkinson's prognostications for the future, and Warren Haas' statement of common needs deserve reading. One new note was added to this conference by the insertion of one whole section on Negro Research Libraries. The picture of resources presently found in black research libraries was cogently developed by Jean-Anne South and others.

Although no earth-shaking effects have been achieved by this or its predecessor conference, a third is in planning and the cumulative effect may be important. These meetings do assure continued communication, and in our harried world this is an achievement not to be discounted.—*Jerold Orne, University of North Carolina.*

Robert H. Muller, Theodore Jurgen Spahn, and Janet M. Spahn. ***From Radical Left to Extreme Right.*** 2d. v.1. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Campus Publishers, 1970.

The present book is a revised and expanded edition of Robert Muller's 1967 book of the same title. It is a bibliographic guide to current periodicals of "protest, controversy, advocacy, or dissent. . . ." (Title page)

The authors classified about 400 fringe publications into nineteen groupings each of which constitutes a separate chapter. Some of the groupings fell along the usual two-dimensional continuum as being "Radical Left," "Marxist-Socialist Left," "Conservative," and "Anti-Communist." However minimal use was made of this device which, as the authors note, often does more to cloud issues than to clarify them. Other groupings were more precise and topic-oriented. E.g.: "Civil Rights," "Sex," "Peace," "Servicemen's Papers," "Underground," "Race Supremacist," "UFO's," and "Miscellaneous." Each chapter has a brief signed preface, usually written by Muller.

For each periodical title included, information is given as to address, cost, publishing history, circulation, format, and an indication of which issues were examined by the reviewer. Following this information appears a one-half to several page signed review of the publication's content.

Each review includes the reviewer's observations about the periodical's particular

area(s) of concern, its basic editorial policies toward those issues, special features, typical advertising accepted, regular contributors, columnists, cartoonists, etc. The name of the publisher is usually stated. A typical review also includes a variety of quotations which are intended to be representative of the editorial attitudes, quality of writing, types of issues covered, and the general flavor of the issues. The reviewers avoided making value judgments about the publications—no recommendations were made pro or con. The intention was to let the reviewers' observations and the selected quotations speak for themselves.

Proofs of each review were sent to the editor of the respective periodical for comment. The editor's comments are included in the "Feedback" section of each review. In the cases where changes were made in the original review at the request of an editor, the reviewer noted the change in the "Feedback."

Most of the feedback was positive, although a few editors availed themselves of this opportunity to further espouse their position while condemning the reviewer as being the victim of one or another conspiracies or indoctrinations.

Two indexes are provided. The first is geographical by state and then by locality. The only information given in this index is the title of each periodical published in that location; no page numbers are given. The second index is by title, both present and former. An effort is made also to index the names of editors and publishers. The latter could be particularly helpful in answering reference questions about the publication activities of groups not listed in the standard directories. The authors also index each title by basic editorial attitudes such as male chauvinism, firearms control, minority rights, etc., thus providing a specific topical approach to what are basically topical publications.

Most librarians considering this book for their collection will be asking themselves how subscribing to such publications would enrich their library collection, if at all. These librarians are referred to Muller's introductory essay in which he discusses the pro's and con's of investing part of a library's resources for polemic publications. Most of Muller's thoughts are pro as might

be expected in a book designed to help facilitate the use of such publications. He raises some very worthy, albeit not startlingly new, questions regarding standards for acquisition. Can traditional standards of book selection be applied in these cases? He asks: "How important, after all, is the style in which an opinion is expressed? What if a viewpoint be printed on poor paper, with bad typography, many errors in spelling, inelegant language, and much profanity?" (P. xxii, xxiii). But bad style is not so much the concern as are seemingly libelous statements, intentional deceit, faulty reasoning, and a desire to appeal to man's hatreds. What place does this material have, in libraries, and under what circumstances? Should libraries collect only "quality" publications, or should they also strive to represent all gamuts of thought even if it means lowering their standards of selection?

Any library desirous of building any sort of collection of fringe publications will undoubtedly need to carefully scrutinize its selection policies. As to locating these materials, selecting the "better" ones, and maintaining a balance within this collection, this bibliographic guide should be of the utmost help. *Alternative Press Index* (Radical Research Center, Carleton College, Northfield, MN 55057) should help the librarian make at least some of these publications more readily usable. The reviewers note if a given title appears in this index. The question of whether one feels a need for such a collection or has the available resources is, of course, an individual one. But even for those libraries which do not wish to actively subscribe to these polemic publications, the guide can be a useful tool in handling gift subscriptions, patrons' requests for new subscriptions, and in general reference service. It also makes fascinating browsing.

The book appears to have been carefully researched and even though, according to Muller, ". . . few [reviewers]—if any—were conservatives," the reviews and the selection of material reviewed seemed objective. Unfortunately, the book is already somewhat dated since the most recent issues examined are from 1969 and in many cases from a year or two earlier. Due to the transient nature of many of

these publications, the time factor is of special importance.—Willis M. Hubbard, *Eureka College, Eureka, Illinois*.

Lowell, Mildred Hawksworth. *The Management of Libraries and Information Centers, v.4: Role Playing and Other Management Cases*. Metuchen, N.J., Scarecrow Press, 1971. 420p.

Volume four of Dr. Lowell's series is intended to provide a simulated library experience through the use of role playing case studies. She defines role playing as the "flexible acting out of various types of interpersonal problems in a permissive group atmosphere; it involves action, doing and practice." It is part of the decision-making process. The case study technique is not new and is the special orientation of volumes one through three, but role playing, while it has been used in library education, has not been afforded equal time in the literature. Lowell has contributed a great deal merely by defining role playing, inventorying the many uses of role playing and its nonlibrary origins, comparing a role case study and a standard case study, and finally providing an extensive bibliography.

Another objective of the volume is to provide role playing cases. While cases in the previous volumes could perhaps be adapted to role playing, they are not specifically designed as such and hence are not as effectively contrived. As a result the cases in volume four are heavily personnel-oriented, although some planning, organization, and controlling cases are included as well. The latter are designed to supplement the earlier volumes.

To the reviewer who has approached the case study technique with some scepticism as a teaching device, and who has used the earlier volumes as a text base for management courses with only fair success, this fourth volume appears as a valuable addition to the set and a "star" in its own right. The work is carefully researched, well documented, and organized, and does not belabor the obvious. The cases and roles are well designed, interesting to read, and exciting to consider. The cases appear smoother technically than the earlier ones which is perhaps the result of being tailored for role playing. The preponderance