

both in instruction and in daily operations, is but one difference from the four-year institutions which is reflected in the philosophy of the community college as reported.

The most useful aspect of the report is the synthesis of interviews of staff members of the various institutions which provide a framework within which the budget is used to interpret the services provided. As a result this is a document which can be used to evaluate possible services and to justify budget requests for expansion of services or staff. College financial and administrative officers could read the report with profit. Its best uses will come from the clearer understanding of the functions of the learning resources programs provided and as a source of management data for budget planning until a more comprehensive study is possible.—James O. Wallace, Director of Learning Resources, San Antonio College, San Antonio, Texas.

Clarke, D. A., ed. *Acquisitions from the Third World: Papers of the Ligue des bibliothèques européennes de recherche seminar 17-19 September 1973*. London: Mansell, 1975. 276p. £5.95 (U.S. \$15.00) (Distributed in North America by International Scholarly Book Services, Inc., P.O. Box 4347, Portland, OR 97208) (ISBN 0-7201-0453-X)

This volume contains the papers of a seminar sponsored by the Ligue des bibliothèques européennes de recherche (LIBER), held in 1972 at the University of Sussex, Great Britain, dealing with the acquisition of materials from the "Third World." The introduction states that the purpose of the meeting was "to examine the problems of acquisition [of Third World publications]; the availability of materials in European libraries both for reference and for lending; and the feasibility of setting up a European centre for the collection of such material, to be available for loan." These designs were clearly within the scope of LIBER's intentions which include a special effort to encourage cooperative relationships among the research libraries of Western Europe.

The recommendations offered by the seminar are largely predictable, somewhat

lacking in specificity, and reminiscent of the aims and objectives of such antecedent efforts as NPAC, LACAP, and the Farmington Plan. The seminar suggests, for example, that the acquisition of Third World material is important to meet the needs of scholars, that at least one copy of this published material should be available in a library in Europe, and that the collecting of this material must proceed from cooperation with library and book trade centers in countries of the Third World. The seminar further recommends that LIBER should establish a "working party" to undertake the implementation of these proposals.

It is particularly encouraging to note, however, that the seminar placed special emphasis on the need for general availability as opposed to widespread ownership of these materials, going so far as to suggest the establishment of a European lending library for Third World publications. In addition, the seminar made specific mention of the need to ensure the availability of information concerning the location of loanable copies. Too often, much ado is made about interlibrary loan in lieu of local ownership, but unless the scholar is provided with quick and easy information regarding alternate locations, much time and effort is lost or repeated.

The real strength of this publication is to be found in the content of the chapters of the individual contributors. One hesitates to single out any of the papers on grounds that to do so would suggest that the rest are somewhat pedestrian by comparison. It is perhaps sufficient to note that here are to be found theoretical considerations for the head of collection development, practical suggestions for the acquisitions librarians, and historical perspectives for the student. In short, the collection of parts is greater than their sum.

As is so often the case with the publication of conference proceedings, this volume did not appear until two years after the close of the seminar. It is regrettable that the publishing cycle frequently introduces such inordinate delays, and we are perhaps fortunate that the hiatus was not greater in this instance.—J. Michael Bruer, Associate University Librarian, New York University.