

Recent Publications

Gondos, Victor, Jr. <i>J. Franklin Jameson and the Birth of the National Archives</i> , reviewed by Nancy E. Peace	247
Wolfe, Gerard R. <i>The House of Appleton</i> , reviewed by David Kaser	248
Cline, Hugh F. and Sinnott, Loraine T. <i>Building Library Collections</i> , reviewed by Barbara A. Rice	249
<i>European Americana: A Chronological Guide to Works Printed in Europe Relating to the Americas, 1493-1776, Volume I: 1493-16250</i> reviewed by Paul S. Koda	250
Henry, W. M. et al. <i>Online Searching: An Introduction</i> , reviewed by Danuta A. Nitecki	254
Olson, Nancy B. <i>Cataloging of Audiovisual Materials</i> , reviewed by Andrew Lisowski and Judith A. Sessions	255
McCrimmon, Barbara. <i>Power, Politics and Print: The Publication of the British Museum Catalogue, 1881-1900</i> , reviewed by Douglas W. Bryant	258
Hubbard, William J. <i>Stack Management: A Practical Guide to Shelving and Maintaining a Collection</i> , reviewed by Jean W. Farrington	260
Dessauer, John P. <i>Book Publishing: What It Is, What It Does</i> , 2d ed., reviewed by Fred C. Lynden	260
Abstracts	262
Other Publications of Interest to Academic Librarians	270

BOOK REVIEWS

Gondos, Victor, Jr. *J. Franklin Jameson and the Birth of the National Archives*. Philadelphia: Univ. of Pennsylvania Pr., 1981. 232p. \$20. LC 80-54050. ISBN 0-8122-7799-6.

This volume is a tribute to the energy and persistence of two men—J. Franklin Jameson, its subject, and Victor Gondos, Jr., its author. After a fifteen-year career as an architect and an officer in the Coast Artillery Reserve, author Gondos earned a master's degree in history from the University of Pennsylvania. In 1942 he began his twenty-three-year career with the National Archives, where at the time of his retirement in 1965 he headed the Army and Navy branch. While engaging in an active professional life which included several organizations, Gondos also pursued a doctorate at American University. In 1971, at age sixty-nine, he completed his dissertation and was awarded the Ph.D. This volume is an edited version of

that dissertation, prepared posthumously for publication by James B. Rhoades, formerly Archivist of the United States.

Like Gondos, J. Franklin Jameson had a long and active career as historian, author, and member of various professional organizations. The present volume focuses on one of these activities—his twenty-five-year campaign for establishment of a federal archives. Gondos chronicles Jameson's efforts from 1901, when the American Historical Association passed its first resolution calling for a hall of records, to 1926, when public law 281 authorized erection of various structures, including an archives building. It is a saga of vision thwarted by bureaucracy, of federal needs in conflict with local agendas. It is also a tale of one man's intelligence, commitment, and political acumen.

This volume makes two significant contributions. First, it fills an important gap in the literature of American archives. The two major histories of the National Archives—H. G. Jones' *Records of a Nation* and Donald R. McCoy's *National Archives*—acknowledge

Jameson's contribution to the establishment of the institution. Indeed, Jones calls Jameson the "most influential single force in the drive for a national archives." Neither volume, however, chronicles the years of work and many disappointments that Jameson endured before his dream was realized. By filling out the record, Gondos' study documents the basis for Jones' assessment and serves as a fitting tribute to Jameson's tireless efforts.

Second, Gondos' study is important because it reminds us that the National Archives was born of the political process. The long and difficult struggle to establish the Archives drew support initially from only a small portion of the citizenry. Had Jameson and his colleagues not engaged the active support of historical and patriotic groups, in particular the American Legion, one wonders if the Archives would ever have been established. As Gondos noted, "it was not until the rise of the American Legion, able to claim thousands of votes in each congressional district, that any organization was in a position to compel a congressman to think twice about failing to support the archival demand."

In this current period of political and fiscal assault by the Reagan administration, is there not need for a new coalition of citizen

groups, commanding thousands of votes, to save the institution for which Jameson worked so long and hard? Those of us who would take up Jameson's legacy will, I believe, learn much from Victor Gondos' thoroughly researched, meticulously written study.—*Nancy E. Peace, Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts.*

Wolfe, Gerard R. *The House of Appleton*. Metuchen, N.J. and London: Scarecrow, 1981. 450p. \$17.50. LC 81-2564. ISBN 0-8108-1432-3.

Franklin D. Roosevelt once observed that there were few businesses more intimately interwoven with the national fabric than publishing houses. Gerard Wolfe must have had that statement in mind when he wrote this book, because throughout it he strives to relate events in the history of the House of Appleton to contemporary circumstances in the development of the nation.

Appleton's of course is one of the most distinguished names in the history of the American book industry. It was in 1825 that Yankee merchant Daniel Appleton opened his dry goods store in New York City with more than half of its floor space set aside for the retail marketing of books. Only six years later, however, he forsook all other selling in favor

Acquisition Librarians

Now is the time
to try the
best source for:

- ANY BOOK IN PRINT
- accurate invoicing
- meaningful reports
- rush order service
- competitive discounts
- plus many other services

CALL TOLL-FREE TODAY

—1-800-248-1146

In Canada & Michigan

CALL COLLECT (517) 849-2117

ANY BOOK IN PRINT.....means delivery to your library of "any book in print" from any publisher or distributor in the U.S. or Canada. We have no list of publishers you must check.....

WE ACCEPT THEM ALL!

the
**BOOK
HOUSE**

JOBBERS SERVING LIBRARIES WITH
ANY BOOK IN PRINT SINCE 1982
206 WEST CHICAGO STREET
JONESVILLE, MICHIGAN 49250

SAN 169-3859