

## SOURCES

Library historians have long wished for a twentieth-century counterpart to Elizabeth Stone's *American Library Development* (H. W. Wilson, 1977), a thick chronology that covers colonial times through 1899. Although George Bobinski's *Libraries and Librarianship* does not provide that level of detail, it is a very welcome outline.

Technology is an obvious theme for this time period, yet Bobinski reminds us that other "core" areas of librarianship have also changed. Themes include the growth of state libraries and interlibrary cooperation, federal funding, intellectual freedom, diversity in library employees, standardization, and LIS education. Reading the book, one realizes that many features of our everyday work evolved only recently.

The author is well qualified to write on this subject. Bobinski's other books, *Carnegie Libraries: Their History and Impact on American Public Library Development* (ALA, 1969) and the *Dictionary of American Library Biography* (coedited with Bohdan Wynar and Jesse Hauk Shera, Libraries Unlimited, 1978) are still favorites. Like the Carnegie book, *Libraries and Librarianship's* brief text is peppered with names, organizations, dates, and tables. For instance, a list of "Prominent Leaders in the Field of Libraries and Librarianship" comprises one chapter, and a ten-page chronology appears in an appendix. In compiling the book, Bobinski drew upon the *ALA Yearbook*, *Bowker Annual*, and the *Whole Library Handbook*, as well as published articles and handbooks. One only wishes that there were endnotes in addition to the bibliography.

Recent works examine some of Bobinski's topics in much greater depth. Examples include John Y. Cole and Jane B. Aikin's *Encyclopedia of the Library of Congress* (Bernan, 2004), Robert S. Freeman and David M. Hovde's *Libraries to the People: Histories of Outreach* (McFarland, 2003), and Toni Samek's *Intellectual Freedom and Social Responsibility in American Librarianship, 1967–1974* (McFarland, 2001). Yet there does not appear to be a broad survey of the intellectual, financial, organizational, social, and technical history of the profession for the second half of the twentieth century. Therefore *Libraries and Librarianship* may be a good student text for graduate courses covering recent American library history. It is also a worthwhile read for new historians and practitioners who wish to understand their colleagues and environment more deeply.—Bernadette A. Lear, *Behavioral Sciences and Education Librarian, Penn State Harrisburg, Middletown, Pennsylvania*.

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**Library Board Strategic Guide.** Ellen G. Miller, Patricia H. Fisher. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2007. 236 p. \$35.00 (ISBN 0-8108-5689-1).

Written for public library board members, this book lays out the basic issues facing public libraries in clear language for easy reading. This guide will appeal to busy board members needing specific information on a specific topic, such as disaster planning, and library directors wanting to clarify the relationship between directors and boards. The book address

the most crucial issues facing library boards, such as risk management, materials challenges, and funding. Chapters are filled with current examples, such as the fate of libraries in Hurricane Katrina's path and what this has taught us about library disaster planning. The authors do not shy away from the thorny problems of boards in conflict or contentious relationships with directors. They address these difficult topics head-on and give practical advice that library boards and directors would do well to follow. The companion Web site provides downloadable forms to use in conjunction with the book.—Rebecca Montaña-Smith, *Librarian, Village Branch, Lexington (Ky.) Public Library*

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**Library Collection Development Policies: School Libraries and Learning Resource Centers.** By Frank W. Hoffmann and Richard J. Wood. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2007. 203 p. \$40 (ISBN 0810851814).

This useful book is the second volume in the *Good Policy, Good Practice* series edited by Kirsti Nelson and Martin Dowding. It expands upon the issues and practices the authors explored in their 1996 book, *Library Collection Development Policies: A Reference and Writers' Handbook*. As collection development is one of the most intellectually challenging components of librarianship, it comes as no surprise that the expansion of the topic has gone from being covered by a single title to becoming a part of a series on the subject (the first title in the series is *Library Collection Development Policies: Academic, Public and Special Libraries*). Additionally, the ubiquity of electronic resources and their many collection development issues also merits extended coverage.

In writing this book, the authors examined hundreds of collection development policies from school library media centers across the country. For all issues involved in collection development, the authors first provide an overview of the collection development issue and provide sample policies taken from among the many school library media centers policies examined. These issues include collection development policy, selection aids, weeding, and collection evaluation, among others; also included is a bibliography for a collection development policy.

This section of the work is followed by chapters concerned with the ethical and legal issues arising from the use of electronic resources. This chapter also includes sample policies. The chapters on virtual collection development and policy components of virtual resources are longer chapters that both provide background information and address the issues from a broader perspective.

The work has two appendixes: one is a list of the schools (including contact information) that were used as sample policies in the work, and the other lists ALA documents often included in collection development policies.

Because it includes information on the unique issues related to electronic resources, this title would be useful for both experienced and new librarians responsible for collec-