

Young, Arthur P. *Books for Sammies: The American Library Association and World War I.* Lexington, Ky.: Beta Phi Mu, 1982. 149p. \$12.50. LC 81-17095. ISBN 0-910-23015-3.

Young has added an evocative title to Beta Phi Mu's series of valuable library memorabilia. He points out, with clarity and insight, several of the dichotomous, indeed ambivalent, courses followed by ALA in its involvement in the Great War, 1914-19. There can be no doubt, as he demonstrates carefully and clearly, that librarians, operating libraries in wartime conditions at home and abroad, "performed exceptionally well under sometimes exhausting, stressful conditions" (p.96). Yet, the small national organization, rapidly politicized and polarized into a controversial operation with either many enemies or few understanding supporters, found itself embroiled in many undesirable morasses of professional concerns, personnel problems, and public difficulties.

Too few jobs and activities, all told, for too many men—this statement by John Cotton Dana—pointedly summarizes the entire 1917-20 service period. Herbert Putnam, Library of Congress extraordinary (forty years worth), was director of ALA's War Service Committee, which controlled the military library program; he was ably assisted by several outstanding men and women librarians who left successful careers to serve at home and overseas.

The details about developments during the years of the committee's service reflect the difficulties of a small association's attempt to influence policy and operate professionally within the framework of a gigantic, total national conversion from peace to war. Problems arose constantly with many groups, including the YMCA. Such conflicts were important as they portrayed pettiness by people and organizations along the path of supplying reading and help to several million men in uniform.

Young's documentation is impressive, as a historian's approach should be. A synopsis of his bibliographic approach is an unusual and welcome gift to current

and future writers. The six chapters involve the use of 299 references (including ibids). The total may or may not be impressive; the facts revealed by such documentation are put into a fabric of well-connected, clearly stated reportage. The author acknowledges rightfully the fact that a new generation of library leaders emerged from this period—Carl Milam, Malcolm Wyer, Joseph L. Wheeler, Caroline Webster, Burton E. Stevenson, and others.

To us of a not-so-tender age (I was born one month before the U.S. entered the war in 1917, and I served under Mr. Wheeler at EPFL before World War II), this record will be fascinating for its revelation of half a lifetime (ALA's and mine) of concern with librarianship. Did war service responsibilities help ALA mature? Did the emerging leadership seize the opportunities gained from wartime public exposure to go on to greater heights? Another volume may be needed to answer these two questions; the author provides his answers: "new horizons of professionalism and service were the enduring legacies of the American Library Association's participation in World War I (p.99)." This slender volume is deserving of a wide readership—there are many names to conjure with listed in appendix I, "Major Army/Navy Camp Libraries (1917-1919)," some of whom might well be worth a story or book in future writings.

A quarter of a century later, America was at war again. Is the ALA of post-World War II so different from the ALA of 1919? (PS Dr. Young, what's a "sammy"? See Webster's for the answer.)—Harold Goldstein, Florida State University.

Hébert, Françoise and Noel, Wanda.

Copyright and Library Materials for the Handicapped: A Study Prepared for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. Hamden, Conn.: Shoe String, 1982. 111p. \$20 cloth. ISBN 3-598-20381-0.

Most of the numerous publications on copyright law that have appeared since

the United States revised its copyright statute in 1976 have been practical advice on the law's implications for classroom, interlibrary loan, reserve, and photocopy room operations. In contrast, in their study prepared for IFLA, Françoise Hébert and Wanda Noel consider in terms of international law the needs of a minority of library users, those who cannot read standard print. For the handicapped, copyright restrictions are of critical importance because they must have standard print transcribed into an alternative medium—Braille, large print, or audiotape—before they can use it.

Materials in alternative media are produced principally by nonprofit organizations including libraries. Libraries take copyright law into account both at the time of original transcription and at dissemination. The authors point out that obtaining the right to transcribe usually entails delay and is sometimes costly. Rights to disseminate are usually divided geographically, and obtaining them frequently involves considerable time and expense.

While Hébert and Noel see special provisions in domestic laws as the ultimate way to meet the needs of the handicapped, they expect the process leading to these provisions to be long and difficult. They recommend that IFLA in conjunction with the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind, prepare positions that can be presented to the Berne and Universal Copyright Conventions, UNESCO, and member nations of these groups. Most important among their recommendations is that IFLA "must give serious consideration to the principle that a copyright owner should not have the right to refuse permission for a published work to be transcribed into another format for use by a person unable to read the printed edition" (p.67). Because of the great variation throughout the world in rules governing remuneration to copyright holders for transcription of their works, the authors contend that IFLA should not object to remuneration if copyright owners agree to the proposed payment system in a given country. Their position on remuneration is consistent with what they argue else-

where in the book. But their recommendation that IFLA "must give serious consideration" to elimination of an author's right of refusal to transcriptions is weaker than arguments against such refusals that they make in earlier pages. Their analysis persuaded this reviewer that there is no reasonable or moral basis (although there is a technical legal basis) for such a right of refusal, particularly if there are guarantees of remuneration.

Since 1976 academic librarians who specialize in copyright have mastered the basics and now read with profit discussions of international law and of issues beyond photocopying. *Copyright Law and Library Materials for the Handicapped* is a brief and well-organized discussion that will expand one's understanding of the implications of copyright law for library services.—Stephen E. Wiberley, Jr., *University of Illinois at Chicago*.

Online Search Strategies. Ed. by Ryan E. Hoover. White Plains, N.Y.: Knowledge Industry Publications, 1982. 345p. \$29.50 paper. LC 82-17179. ISBN 0-86729-004-8.

The first in a Professional Librarians series, this work is aimed at the intermediate to advanced searcher of bibliographic databases and presumes a familiarity with at least one search system, a background in library or information science, and a knowledge of general search strategy. Its purpose is "to stimulate . . . searching curiosity . . . to try new approaches and techniques."

Ten chapters cover government information, chemistry, the biosciences, energy and the environment, social and behavioral sciences, patents, legal research, health sciences, news banks and news databases, and business and economics. They discuss the primary databases for the subject area, their special characteristics, and sometimes their specific indexing practices. Sample searches done on multiple files are provided. Though the chapters take the same general outline, some are more detailed than others, usually dictated by the number of databases in a field. The four chief vendors—BRS, DIALOG, NLM, and SDC—are emphasized,