

ancient times. It gives an overview of social conditions there and how these affect information organizations. It includes a history of the development of libraries during the colonial era and under successor national governments, and mentions foreign influences in the later shaping of African libraries. How local professionals took over management and professional education also features in the discussion.

The discussion continues with the institutions and practice of Australasian libraries: their histories, successes and shortcomings. The chapter explains the many ways Australasian libraries have been forward-looking but how, in other ways, they fell short, for example, in providing services to Aboriginal people.

Which parts of the world to include or exclude in a work like this is challenging, and I imagine the editors faced these decisions in the development of the book. The subtitle refers to Western cultures, and as mentioned, there are chapters on Europe, Canada and the United States, Australasia and Africa. It is unclear why Africa is Western for the purposes of this book when Latin America is not, and it would be interesting to read about the history of libraries in Asia. One wonders whether Africa was included for functional reasons, or whether African libraries are closer to the libraries of the other regions included than those of Latin America or Asia. This could easily be the case, since expatriate and colonial librarians were influential in the founding of library traditions in Africa.

*A History of Modern Librarianship* is likely the most dense and concise outline of library history one is likely to find, and it seems an indispensable tool for anyone looking to write about libraries, including as it does historical detail and anecdotes. Its bibliographic information is extensive, which alone makes it a valuable source for anyone looking to do research on the history of libraries.

That said, its geographical, chronological and functional format, while excellent for conveying large amounts of factual information in a relatively short book, is not the best format to create an engaging read.

~ REVIEWED BY SARAH SUTHERLAND

## *Canadian Binders' Tickets and Booksellers' Labels*

BY GAYLE GARLOCK

(OAK KNOLL PRESS, 2015, US\$95)

BOOK COLLECTORS are familiar with the small paper tags glued into books, usually on the front or back pastedown, that record a name and city and occasionally the address of the bookseller or bookbinder. Gayle Garlock, formerly a librarian at the University of Toronto, has collected 793 of these ephemeral Canadian printings, the oldest dating from the late 18th century. His comprehensive knowledge of this subject is consolidated in *Canadian Binders' Tickets and Booksellers' Labels* from Oak Knoll. If you have ever attempted to make a collection of these little objects, you will know what an exceptional feat Garlock has accomplished. (Readers may also enjoy the article by former Alcuin Society chair Jim Rainer, "Booksellers' Tickets," *Amphora*, no. 108 [Summer 1997]: 50–54.)

This 158-page book includes a CD with a bibliography of nine pages. Catalogue A enumerates 178 bookbinders' tickets, including a full description (size, printing method, a colour reproduction, and dates and addresses of the binders' locations). Catalogue B lists 615 booksellers' labels, including the information above and adding data on the book in which the label was found, where in the book the label was located, occasional provenance notes, occasional biographical information on the bookseller, and information on changes of ownership of the business.

The most comprehensive book on the subject of booksellers' labels is Reinhard Öhlberger, *Wenn am Buch der Händler klebt* (Vienna: Löcker, 2000). Öhlberger, an Austrian writing in German, based his study on a personal collection that spanned the globe. Garlock's work is equally comprehensive in its scope, despite its national focus. It is hard to imagine that anyone will ever eclipse Garlock as the authority on this subject in Canada.

~ REVIEWED BY RALPH STANTON