

practice economy and to save space have resulted in the elimination of many footnotes, such as appeared in previous volumes of the series. In such a work as this, cross references and biographical citations are too valuable to be omitted. The text is well edited and apparently quite accurate. It is only fair that Ohio, Mississippi and Indiana, whose papers have now been published, should insist upon the ultimate completion of this rich and much needed historical compilation.

DONALD F. CARMONY

Union List of Serials in Indiana Libraries. Compiled and edited by Fava E. Goan, assistant reference librarian, Indiana University Library. Published under the auspices of the Indiana Union List Committee, Lafayette, Indiana, 1940 (Lithographed by Edwards Brothers, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan.) Pp. 680, \$5.00 (Twilltex), \$6.25 (cloth).

This work lists the serial holdings of forty-six of the public, college, university, institutional and special libraries of the state. The work of compiling and editing was done at the Library of Indiana University by Miss Fava E. Goan, assistant reference librarian. The book, which contains nearly seven hundred pages, is eleven by eight and a half inches. It is estimated that it contains approximately 15,000 entries and references, and is therefore one of the largest state or regional Union Lists to be issued.

This work will contribute greatly to the reference use of periodicals and other serial publications on a broad basis. It should stimulate inter-library loan service between the libraries of the state of Indiana, call attention to fields of study and research in which weakness is revealed, and encourage the transfer and exchange of serials between libraries.

The volume is offered in two bindings at prices that are based on the cost of printing only, all expenses of organization, compiling, editing and distribution having been borne by the cooperating libraries. An edition of two hundred fifty copies was printed and copies may be obtained from the Indiana Union List Committee, Purdue University Library, Lafayette, Indiana.

There need be no attempt to extol or enumerate the many uses to which a union list of this type can be put. In this

day of union list activities, every one is familiar with the value of the coöperative service which can and does afford to the scholarly workers of the state an efficiency not otherwise attained. Several libraries have already used this list to effect a transfer of some of their duplicates and serials, not usually catalogued by their libraries, to those needing them, and it seems well to make note of this. This union list, as a basic list, will serve as a clearing house for transferring such duplicate publications and placing them where they are most needed.

The scope of the list is comprehensive. The interpretation of the word "serial" has been made rather elastic to include many publications of local interest not covered by the limited interpretation of the term. A state that prides itself upon its literary achievements may well look to its libraries to reveal the titles and the history of the serial publications that have taken root in the soil. This list includes many local publications that have not been and will not be brought to light in a national union list. The titles of the publications of the colleges and universities within the state's boundaries will be found as well as the names of the publications of the religious, historical, educational, literary, political and other organizations. The work may be considered a monumental feat in that it has brought to a culmination a task that had no such set-up as is usually necessary to a work of such dimensions. Much credit is due to the mutual helpfulness of the libraries of the state.

ESTELLA WOLF

WILLIAM MURRAY HEPBURN

The Incorrigible Idealist: Robert Dale Owen in America. By Elinor Pancoast and Anne E. Lincoln. The Principia Press, Bloomington, Indiana. Pp. 150, frontispiece, \$2.00.

This small volume covers the life of Robert Dale Owen from 1826, when he was twenty-five years of age, to his death in 1877. The five chapters are headed "The Journalist," "The Lawmaker," "The Diplomat," "The Pamphleteer," and "The Mystic." The footnotes, running to thirty-four pages, follow the last chapter. There is a list of manuscript sources that were available to the authors, and a long calendar of the writings of Robert Dale Owen, including the names of three