Book Reviews


This volume supplements Richard E. Banta's compilation of *Indiana Authors and their Books, 1816-1916*, and includes some names omitted from the earlier period. It follows the pattern established for the original volume, excluding textbooks, genealogies, laboratory manuals, spellers, pamphlets of less than twenty-four pages, articles in periodicals and serials, and "state or federal publications and addresses, unless the latter were obviously intended principally for publication" (p. ix). An author was considered eligible for inclusion if he or she was born in Indiana or had lived half of his or her life in the state. Since this is a fifty year supplement, the authors had to have had at least one book published by 1966.

The names of the authors are arranged alphabetically followed by the date of birth and death, if deceased, and by a biographical sketch. Included also is a bibliography of the author's published works arranged by place and date of publication. In Banta's volume 950 Indiana authors were listed, and in Thompson's volume there are 2,751.

In a study made by John Moriarty on the best selling novels between 1895 and 1945, Moriarty devised a point system to determine which state had been most productive in this field. Only New York state with 218 points surpassed Indiana with 213 points. Banta followed the same system for the best sellers between 1895 and 1965. In the fiction category New York state was first again with 460 points and Indiana was second with 288 points. In non-fiction Indiana was in eighth place, but when both categories were combined, Indiana remained in second place.

The names and information about authors was obtained from academic, public, and special libraries in Indiana; historical societies in the state; newspapers; and numerous

*Indiana Authors and Their Books, 1917-1966* will be distributed free on request to libraries, collectors of Indiana materials, and historians. The volume is not for general sale. *Indiana Authors and Their Books, 1816-1916* has been reprinted and will be available free on a limited basis, particularly to those libraries that did not receive a copy of the first printing. Requests should be addressed to Donald E. Thompson, Lilly Library, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana 47933.
other publications. The inclusion of pseudonyms and writing names in the present volume is an invaluable addition to the supplement.

Thompson and his committee are to be commended for the present tome which will serve as a sturdy crutch for libraries, collectors, and scholars engaged in research pertaining to Indiana. Since hundreds of additional names have already been collected, it is to be hoped a second supplement will follow this volume.

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From Institute to University: Moores Hill Male and Female Collegiate Institute, 1854-1887; Moores Hill College, 1887-1919; Evansville College, 1919-1967; The University of Evansville, 1967—. By Ralph Olmsted. (Evansville: The University of Evansville, 1973. Pp. vii, 340. Illustrations, notes, appendices, index. $13.00.)

Ralph Olmsted has written the first complete history of the second largest private institution of higher education in Indiana. The Methodist school operated in the small southeastern Indiana town of Moores Hill until World War I, and its only previous published history (John W. Winkley, Moores Hill College: An Intimate History, 1954) included just these pre-Evansville years. The present volume is only a modest improvement over the Winkley book in describing the Moores Hill years; its major contribution is its discussion of the heretofore unrecorded Evansville period. The author nowhere clearly states the audience for whom he has written the book; however, internal evidence suggests that he is addressing primarily—although not exclusively—the Evansville College “in group” (students, alumni, faculty, Indiana Methodists, and Evansville residents).

The book reflects the author's experience with the school. His four undergraduate years coincided with the college's first four years in Evansville, and he has spent most of his adult years as business manager at the school. Olmsted's narrative for the years after he arrived at the college is more dynamic than it is for the earlier period. Also, as an administrator, he has emphasized the organization and management of the school more than the learning processes.