Guide to Basic Reference Books for Canadian Libraries, edited by Edith T. Jarvi. Rev. ed. Toronto: University of Toronto School of Library Science, 1970. iv, 184 p. \$5.00

In 1967 this reviewer was a member of the first class at the University of Toronto School of Library Science to use Miss Jarvi's original edition of this reference work, which was entitled *Guide to Basic Reference Books*. Its purpose was to provide a factual basis for class discussion in the use of general reference works, in conjunction with the eighth edition of Constance Winchell's *Guide to Reference Books*. A well-thumbed and worn copy still bears mute evidence that the first edition served its purpose admirably.

Now the editor has produced a revised edition, which by its very title – *Guide to Basic Reference Books in Canadian Libraries* – suggests a much greater contribution to Canadian librarianship. While no doubt continuing to serve its primary function of assisting the library science student to analyse the varied reference works available, it will also provide the Canadian reference librarian with a valuable aid for the selection of a basic reference collection.

Expanded from a modest 84 pages to a substantial 184 pages, the revised edition includes lists of reference works in the Humanities and Social Sciences as well as general reference works. Additional statistics might prove useful. Total entries have increased from 379 to 1056. Of greater importance, 267 Canadian reference works are listed as opposed to the original 103. The author-title index has grown from 8 to 22 pages.

Within each of the three main sections, the *Guide* is further divided and subdivided into appropriate and well-defined classifications. Bibliographical data for each entry are most complete and include paging and illustrations, which were omitted from the original edition. Entries listed include reference works published in 1970. More than half the total entries contain annotations. In addition, many entries refer to reviews in other sources such as Winchell. Both the Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification numbers are supplied.

Miss Jarvi and her co-workers are to be congratulated on producing such a detailed reference guide with a truly Canadian flavour. Perhaps eventually efforts will be made to prepare a further expanded edition to include a Pure and Applied Sciences section. By then one can also expect that the *Guide* will be published in ordinary book format. The present three-ring binder format will never withstand the wear and tear of constant use by Canadian library science students and reference librarians as foreseen by this reviewer.

ALPHEE S. J. BAKE,
Royal Military College of Canada Library