Book Publishers Directory. Issue No. 1, June 1977. Edited by Elizabeth Geiser and Annie Brewer. Detroit: Gale Research Co. iv, 174 p., paper, quarterly, annual subscription \$75.00 LC77-74820 ISBN 0-8103-0188-1

Book Publishers Directory: An Information Service Covering New and Established, Private and Special Interest, Avant-Garde and Alternative, Organization and Association, Government and Institution Presses, to give the work its full title, is a new reference tool from Gale Research Company. It has been prepared to provide librarians and booksellers with an up-to-date listing of publishing houses not usually listed in traditional sources.

Issue number 1 contains 695 entries, arranged in a single alphabet, each providing the following information: name, address, and phone number; the ISBN; founding date; affiliation; the names of the principal officers and managers; as well as the (estimated) number of titles per year; a brief description (which may describe the group or the works or both); and the subjects published by the press. This is followed by information on discounts and returns policies; imprints, divisions, subsidiaries; a listing of any articles about, selected titles; and magazines, journals, or serials.

Each issue contains two indices, which will begin to cumulate with the second issue: Publishers and Personnel Index and Subject Index. The former includes names of publishing companies, their affiliates and imprints, and the names of the principal officials and managers. There is some use of key words to try to facilitate locating little known presses, but I did not find it particularly useful. Of much greater help is the Subject Index which provides a listing of presses under major and specialized subject headings. For example, the key word 'Children' yields only two entries in the Publishers and Personnel Index; yet under 'Books, Children' in the Subject Index twenty entries can be found.

Information for entries has been obtained through questionnaires. Canadian publishers and publishing houses are given good representation. Listed are such examples as the Alcuin Society, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and Cheam Publishing Ltd which 'publishes only John Green's books on Sasquatch research.'

This is not only an extremely useful reference tool, but one which is filled with entertaining and fascinating details of the publishing industry.

The one drawback is, of course, that given the precariousness of the alternate press, a number of those listed have ceased operation by the time the *Directory* itself is published. And yet, even to have the press and its works listed is a boon to those researching the small press scene.

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