ings and conclusions, with enough tables to reveal her evidence. After an introduction and general chapter on interlibrary distribution, the material is arranged by specific problem areas: the readers who request interlibrary loans; staffing or interlibrary loan services; photocopies in lieu of loans; restrictive lending policies; language, country, and publication dates of requests; bibliographic citations, their accuracy and verification; locating of items wanted; success of interlibrary loan requests; and the increasing volume of interlibrary loans. The fifteen appendices include several tables as well as copies of the questionnaires and listings of the cooperating libraries. It closes with a three-page selective bibliography.

Any library that borrows via interlibrary loan from academic libraries will find Chapter 14 extremely useful, "Increasing the Proportion of Interlibrary Loan Requests Filled." It also has excellent recommendations of procedure for the academic lending libraries. The other chapter of particular usefulness to the practicing interlibrary loan librarian is Chapter 5 on photocopy substitution.

This publication in no way replaces Dr. Thomson's Interlibrary Loan Procedure Manual, which should be owned and annotated by every interlibrary loan unit in the country, but it gives forceful data for the necessity of some of the recommended procedures in that Manual. To read this ACRL Monograph takes concentration and study, but it is well worth the time spent.

—Mrs. Margaret D. Uridge, University of California, Berkeley.


In compiling this bibliography, Peter A. Crowther has performed a valuable service for historians and for librarians wishing to build basic collections on Russian history. His work and David M. Shapiro's, A Select Bibliography of Works in English on Russian History, 1801-1917 (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1962) now provide a survey of English-language materials on Russian history from the beginnings to the Soviet Revolution. Crowther gives 2,081 entries in the body of his book along with an appendix of 83 items which appeared during the time the book was at press.

The conception and execution of this work are generally excellent, but a few problems crop up. One wonders, for example, why the compiler chose a modified form of the Library of Congress system of transliteration rather than using that system without modification. Perhaps only a pedant would insist on this point, but on the other hand a bibliography should have almost pedantic accuracy. The thoroughness with which Mr. Crowther has done his work is also commendable; this reviewer was able to find virtually no significant omissions. Two borderline cases are articles by Soviet scholars on historiography: Alexandr E. Presniakov, "Historical Research in Russia during the Revolutionary Crisis," American Historical Review, for which (January 1923); and Boris D. Grekov and Evgenii V. Tarle, "Soviet Historical Research," Science and Society 7:217–32 (Summer 1943). There is one less accountable omission: the regular bibliographical section, "Other Recent Publications" in the American Historical Review, for which Robert V. Allen of the Library of Congress edits the section on the Soviet Union. On the other hand, Basic Russian Publications, edited by Paul L. Horecky (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1962) is mentioned in the introduction although not listed in the body of the book. A few entries appear unnecessarily exotic, e.g., no. 1969, John Frampton, A Discovery of the Countries of Tataria, Scithia and Cataya (London: 1580) of which Crowther says, "The only known copy extant is kept in the Lambeth Palace Library."

The compilation of bibliographies is a tedious, thankless business in which perfection is always to be sought and virtually never to be achieved. Mr. Crowther has done praiseworthy service by producing a comprehensive work which has surprisingly few omissions or typographical errors. However, the next logical step would be a combination of Crowther's and Shapiro's bibliographies, updated, and made perhaps a little more selective, covering the entire
span of Russian history.—James Cobb Mills, Jr., Utica College of Syracuse University.


What’s in a name? Would a rose by any nickname really smell as sweet? Apparently Americans think so because you name it and we have a nickname for it. If there is a city without a nickname, the public relations agent will quickly devise one for it.

When Joseph Nathan Kane in 1938 published the first edition of his now famous fact book, he included in it a few nicknames of cities. In 1951 the Special Libraries Association published Nicknames of American Cities, Towns, and Villages (Past and Present), compiled by Gerald L. Alexander. The friendship of these two men resulted in a joint effort published in 1965. Five years of additional research has produced an expanded second edition including many additions and corrections.

The book is arranged alphabetically by states and subdivided by cities; under the name of each city are listed all known nicknames, sobriquets, and even publicity slogans which have been applied to that city. Following this is an alphabetical nickname index. There is a similar arrangement for the fifty states. Separating the city and state listings and given in alphabetical sequence are the All-American Cities so designated since 1949 by the National Municipal League and Look magazine. It is explained that the use of this sobriquet is authorized only for use one year following the presentation of the award.

The compilation should prove useful as a ready reference tool. Unfortunately, it is not a scholarly work such as Shankle’s American Nicknames (H. W. Wilson, 1955). No sources are given. It would be interesting to learn the source of “The Friendly City” and “The City of Friendly People” as sobriquets for New York. Occasional parenthetical explanations of the nicknames are included, such as “Elkhart (Ind.) The Band City (produces over 60 percent of band instruments).” Others are too brief to be meaningful as “Pullman (Ill.) The City of Brick (part of Chicago).” On the other hand about five times as many cities are included as in Shankle, and many more nicknames are given for most cities and states. However, many of the nicknames included seem more like contrived publicity slogans than familiar epithets naturally ascribed.

The book is printed by offset press in a clear, legible, although unattractive, type. A few typographical errors and omissions escaped the proofreaders, but in general, editing seems to have been carefully done.

It is to be hoped that the authors have preserved their sources and their notes on the origins and the use of the nicknames included so that a future edition can be a full, scholarly contribution to work on American names.—Paul H. Spence, College of General Studies Library, University of Alabama, Birmingham.


If we accept the maxim that half a loaf is better than none, it follows, perhaps, that a partial index such as Stephen Goode’s Index to American Little Magazines 1920–1939 is better than no index at all. This is, as Mr. Goode indicates, an index of a “selected list” of thirty-three little magazines. What Mr. Goode fails to indicate, and it is a significant failing, is the basis for his selection. One is always grateful for an index to any previously unindexed material however meager it may be; yet that gratitude cannot help but be tempered by a disappointment that a less arbitrary selection of magazines to be indexed would have been enormously more interesting and valuable.

The period 1920–1939 was unquestionably, in Mr. Goode’s words, part of “the golden age of little magazines.” It is the age of The Little Review at its height, This Quarter, Laughing Horse, Dynamo, The Measure, Chicago Literary Times, The Transatlantic Review, American Spectator, Direction, The Booster, S 4 N, the beginning of Furioso, and many more. Yet of