Selected Reference Books of 1969-70

INTRODUCTION

This article continues the semiannual series originally edited by Constance M. Winchell. Although it appears under a byline, the list is actually a project of the Reference Department of the Columbia University Libraries, and notes are signed with the initials of the individual staff members. Since the purpose of the list is to present a selection of recent scholarly and foreign works of interest to reference workers in university libraries, it does not pretend to be either well balanced or comprehensive. Code numbers (such as AA71, 2BD89) have been used to refer to titles in the Guide to Reference Books and its supplements.

BIBLIOGRAPHY


Publication of this bibliography represents Venezuela's first major effort to regain bibliographic control since the last issue of Anuario bibliográfico venezolano (Guide AA732) covering through 1954. Books, pamphlets, government publications, and periodical articles published in Venezuela, plus materials about Venezuela or by Venezuelan authors published abroad are arranged according to Dewey classification. Detailed citations are provided, generally including full name of author, complete title, place, publisher, date, pagination, and series.

To complete bibliographic coverage since 1954, the Biblioteca Nacional has proposed a series of retrospective bibliographies to be published according to the following schedule: 1967–68, 1969, 1955–60, 1961–66, and then, 1970. Presumably, quarterly issues of Bibliografía venezolana will be superseded by annual cumulations. If this goal is achieved, a valuable reference series will be available for librarians and scholars.—J.S.


Contents: Fasc.1, A–B. £5.

Although appearing in a different format, this work continues chronologically the Museum's Short-Title Catalogue of French Books 1470–1600 (Guide AA462). Basically an author catalog, the completed work will contain about 35,000 entries for seventeenth-century books "written wholly or partly in French, no matter where published" and those "in no matter what language, published or printed at any place which today forms a part of metropolitan France."—Foreword. It lists works appearing in the General Catalogue of the Museum (Guide AA67), works acquired since 1955, and some earlier accessions not found in the printed catalog. In addition, three extensive collections of "Mazarinades" are here fully listed for the first time. Nine more fascicles are planned for publication over the next two and a half years, the final part to include extensive indexes.—E.S.


As the author indicates in her introduction, this is the first comprehensive history of Russian bibliography of the beginning of the twentieth century. It is intended as
a continuation of Nikolai V. Zdobnov’s *Istoriia russkoi bibliografii do nachala XX veka* (3d ed., Moscow, 1955). The work covers in great detail such topics as contemporary and retrospective bibliographies of both books and periodicals; bibliographies of suppressed writings and of the output of the many political organizations of the period; the achievements of several important Russian bibliographers; and the development of bibliographic organizations. An index of names is provided. Impressive in the thoroughness of its scholarship, the volume is an important contribution to the study of Russian bibliography.

—N.S.


An American finding-tool for books from a historical period of great interest to scholars, this is a very welcome addition to Italian bibliography. Scope is defined in the title; format is that of the British Museum’s *Short-title Catalogue of Books Printed in Italy* (Guide AA561). Arrangement follows that of the British Museum work, listing entries primarily by author, and adding some items not in the earlier catalog. Forty-two American and Canadian libraries reported locations, but unfortunately Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Princeton, The University of California, and Huntington libraries are absent from the list. The index of printers and publishers is an indispensable adjunct to a work of this kind, with entries chronologically arranged under each name. On the whole, this is a scholarly work, carefully edited, and of great interest to academic libraries.—G.L.

**ENCYCLOPEDIAS**


With careful editing and the use of a smaller typeface, this third edition will be complete in 30 volumes—21 less than the previous edition (*Guide AD60*). A comparison of this first volume with that of the second edition indicates that only the size of the encyclopedia will have diminished, not its relative quality. Of course this is necessarily a subjective judgment, since any socialist—and especially a Soviet—encyclopedia is extremely biased in its presentation of material, and accuracy and balanced content cannot be used as standards. The preface states that special emphasis is placed on achievements in communist-dominated areas and on those subjects (i.e., philosophy, economics, political science, sociology) which support the spread of socialist ideology.

The encyclopedia is compiled by a large team of scholars. Articles are signed, alphabetically arranged, and wherever possible, the headings kept broad, with a generous use of subheadings for specificity. In the many cases where the headings are not proper names but nouns or adjectives, there is some ambiguity in form of entry. Bibliographic references, some of them dated as recently as 1969, appear at the end of many articles, and the additional heavy use of graphs, charts, drawings, photographs, maps, and plates will make this a handsome as well as useful reference set for the reader prepared for its limitations. No mention is made of an index, but since the previous edition has a two-volume index published after the appearance of the rest of the set, we can probably assume that this will be the case here also.—E.L.

**DICTIONARIES**


About 100,000 entries are to be included in the Italian-English part of this new dictionary which is being published by Har­rap in London as well as by Sansoni in Florence. Vocabulary is meant to embrace not only current, everyday usage (with careful attention to variant meanings), but terms from classical and modern literature,
regionalisms, neologisms, and a considerable number of technical terms. Personal and place names are included with the normal lexical entries. Despite a relatively small typeface on a large, two-column page, effective employment of boldface type makes for easy use. This promises to be a topflight bilingual dictionary.—E.S.

PERIODICAL INDEXES


Subtitle: An index to the publications which amplify the cry for social change and social justice.

The *Village Voice*, Ramparts, and the New York Review of Books, as well as many less familiar radical and underground press titles are indexed in this new subject guide to about 75 periodicals. Few of the publications are indexed elsewhere. Subject headings are detailed and up to date, and still further refinement is promised. The value of this unique and indispensable index will be enhanced if the publishers are able, as they hope, to provide a reprint service for all items listed, since few libraries have strong collections of underground press publications.—N.S.

DISSERTATIONS


Cumulated lists of dissertations in specific fields, providing information on completed research and implicit indications of undeveloped topics, are always welcome to the graduate student and the reference librarian. The three works noted here are compiled from standard dissertations lists and university records.

The Chatham and Ruiz-Fornells volume is a classified list of wide coverage of dissertations accepted not only in romance departments, but also in comparative literature and applied linguistics because of their “obvious interest to researchers in Hispanic languages and literatures.”—Pref. A general index of subjects, authors as subjects, and authors of dissertations adds reference value.

The Lunday work, computer-compiled and printed, is divided into 26 subject areas with listings for almost four thousand dissertations accepted in sociology departments of United States universities. An author index is provided.

Selim’s compilation is an author list of approximately one thousand dissertations of United States and selected Canadian universities. Geographic coverage includes Arabic-speaking countries of the Near East and North Africa, all communities where Arabic is spoken, and Islam as a religion regardless of location. Subjects included are science, technology, humanities, and social sciences. An index of major subjects and key words in titles provides subject approach.—R.K.

BIOGRAPHY


Contents: v.1–2, Abailard—Buys Ballot. Projected for twelve volumes, this new biographical set aims to present the history of science through scholarly articles describing the achievements of scientists from all periods and all countries. There are three limitations of inclusion: no living scientists are included; only the most important scientists of the twentieth century are chosen; and few of the scientists of early India, China, and Japan are treated.
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These last two limitations indicate gaps in scholarship; therefore, the last volume of the set will include a supplement with articles on the various schools and traditions of ancient Oriental and Near Eastern astronomy and natural science.

Each article stresses the scientific career and influence rather than the purely personal aspects of the man’s life. An excellent bibliography concludes each biography, pointing out important editions, locations of manuscripts, and noteworthy critical and descriptive works. A detailed index will round out the series—in order that the scholar can trace “the evolution of problems, concepts and subjects through articles about persons who contributed to their development.”—Pref.

The work achieves a high quality of scholarship and is very readable. One is surprised, however, at some of the inclusions: St. Augustine and Abelard, for example, who have evidently been added to explain the contribution of the humanistic attitude toward the freedom of scientific investigation.—E.M.


More than 4,000 biographies of insurgents in the Mexican War of Independence have been incorporated into this dictionary. The sketches, which vary in length from a few lines to eleven pages (for Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla), involved twenty years of exacting research, and the work is published posthumously. The term “insurgent” has been interpreted broadly to include previously unknown figures who were killed, imprisoned, or exiled during the years 1810–1822, as well as the recognized leaders and commanders of the fight for independence. Military and public officials who fought against independence and those who joined the struggle in its last few months have also been included. The thoroughness of the author’s research is complemented by his inclusion of bibliographies; the addition of plates provides the final touch.—J.S.


Subtitle: An alphabetical list, with addresses, of 320,000 faculty members at junior colleges, colleges, and universities in the United States.

The subtitle tells all. This is in effect a “who’s where” for the academic world, listing names of faculty members with department and institutional affiliation, but with no indication of faculty rank or other information. The directory was generated from a data bank which is being constantly updated from new college catalogs and bulletins.—E.S.


This compilation of “skeleton biographies” will be welcomed by the student of late eighteenth-century history and politics. The period covered, which begins with the accession of George III and ends after the Peace of Paris, was chosen because it is of “special interest to both British and American historians, because it has a remarkable . . . unity in its problems and its leading characters, and because its contemporary source materials are studded with the names of men seldom satisfactorily identified . . .”—Foreword. It is these lesser names which constitute the bulk of the three thousand, alphabetically arranged sketches of members of the court, government, army, navy, church, legal and financial professions, and society. Almost half of them do not appear in the DNB. Sketches usually give genealogy, education, and career; membership in Parliament is always noted. In the case of well-known persons, the reader is directed to standard sources for more complete information. Sources are not indicated in entries, but the leading British depositories of archival materials are mentioned in the foreword as having been important to the author’s research.—R.K.

RELIGION

Brandon, Samuel George Frederick, ed. A Dictionary of Comparative Religion.

Twenty-eight British scholars, under the general direction of S. G. F. Brandon, Professor of Comparative Religion at the University of Manchester, have contributed to this volume designed "to meet the increasing demand for information, reliable and current, about the religious beliefs and practices of mankind" and "to treat the various religions proportionately to their significance in the history of human culture."—Pref. It attempts to update the venerable Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics (Guide BB12) and to correct the Christian imbalance of Die Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart (Guide BB17).

The main body of the Dictionary is an alphabetical arrangement of articles covering subjects as diverse as: anthropology, butterfly, existentialism, the "Honest to God" debate, Karl Marx, and the Scandinavian School of the history of religion. Articles on specific terms are often only one or two sentences in length, while those on more general topics (e.g., creed, ethics, festivals) may be five or more pages, subdivided by appropriate religious groups. The "lesser" religions (e.g., North American Indian, Parthian) are described in single articles; the major faiths are included in the "Synoptic Index" where all articles relevant to each are listed alphabetically. All articles are signed, and most include a bibliography. This is a fascinating "browsing" book and should be valuable for the study of religion as a social phenomenon. Articles are clear and concise, with many cross-references. The bibliographies, both general and specific, seem particularly well chosen and up to date.—D.G.


"Churches that have developed throughout the history of Western Christianity" are the central concern of this new, ready reference work, with special attention being given to "North American Churches in the Western tradition that are of either historical or contemporary significance, particularly those reported in the National Council of Churches' Yearbook of American Churches."—Pref. Entries for subsidiary materials range from events and personalities in church history through documents, doctrines, practices, and theological themes. The approximately 2,300 concise, unsigned articles represent contributions of more than one hundred scholars and specialists of many faiths. Although edited under Roman Catholic auspices, the work is ecumenical in intent, offering the Christian reader "an understanding of Churches other than his own and of his own in relation to others." Bibliographical references are usually provided, and the work is generously cross-referenced.—E.S.

LITERATURE

Albrecht, Günter and Dahlke Günther. Internationale Bibliographie zur Geschichte der deutschen Literatur von den Anfängen bis zur Gegenwart. München, Verlag Dokumentation, 1969—. v.1—. (To be in 2v.) 76-430568.

Contents: v.1, Von den Anfängen bis 1789. 1045p.

This ambitious bibliographic undertaking is a product of "socialist cooperation" and is published under joint auspices of East German scholarship and the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. Other contributing countries are Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Poland, Rumania, and Hungary. The work is planned as a comprehensive, though selective bibliography for study and research. Publications in all forms and all languages are considered, and represent all aspects of German literature. A general section lists studies on literary history, theory and form; a chronological part lists editions and criticism of works in the field of German philology from all periods. Studies in other fields—history, political science, sociology, music, architecture, etc.—are considered for their influence on literature. The work is clearly based on an ideological plan stressing the progressive tradition in literature; nevertheless, it constitutes a valuable reference tool because of its inclusiveness.—H.P.

Cioranescu, Alexandre. Bibliographie de

Following remarkably closely on his volumes for the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries (Guide BD665 and Suppl. 1BD-71), this is the third and last of the author's series of bibliographies of French literature. As in the previous compilations, the general section is a selected list of sources for the study of the historical, social, and cultural background of the period. The individual author bibliographies list significant editions of a writer's works, and books and articles about him published before 1961. A sentence or two of biographical information is often provided. Indexing is thorough, if occasionally inaccurate. While this bibliography lacks annotations, its comprehensiveness assures it a place of first importance among bibliographies of eighteenth-century French literature.—N.S.


Intended as a supplement to Moulton's Library of Literary Criticism (Guide BD-339), this work is arranged chronologically by period, then alphabetically by author. For most authors there is a biographical headnote, mention of the standard biography, then excerpts of criticism culled from critics of "commonly acknowledged reputation."—Foreword. Criticism under each author is arranged by individual work and then chronologically to enable the reader to ascertain the changing currents of opinion. Critical excerpts for the eight periods covered were assembled by eight individual scholars. The amount of space given to an author is based essentially on how many critical approaches are made to his work; thus, the quantity of work on John Donne based on one critical premise has resulted in a shorter section than the one for Lord Byron whose works have been approached from many critical viewpoints. The various schools of criticism of this century are reflected: the "new school" of the early 30s that discussed authors within the framework of their lives and times; the "structural" school that analyzed each work line by line; the "archetypal" school that saw recurring and eternal patterns in dissimilar works. A major drawback is that no mention is made of controversial critics or, as the editor says, critics about whom there are "differences of opinion among experts"; this eliminates many new and valuable insights. There is an index of critics in the last volume. Bibliographies would be useful, but this would add an entirely new dimension to the work's scope. The compilation is valuable for acquainting new readers with the tenor of modern criticism.—G.L.


Here is an attempt to compile for the student of Argentine literature a working bibliography of book and journal titles which will serve as a guide to a growing body of literary criticism. Part I lists important bibliographic sources; Part II, journals publishing research in the field; Part III is an extensive topical listing of general works of criticism. A final section deals with individual literary figures, presenting lists of critical works on 43 authors; the criteria for selection were qualitative. There is an index to critics.—M.M.


More a bibliography than a dictionary, this work offers biographical and bibliographical information on about 3500 authors writing in English, whose first work was published before 1940. There are a few brief entries for literary magazines and for literary clubs and groups; some nonliterary writers of merit are included. Biographical information is sketchy, and the bulk of the work is devoted to lists of individual writers' works with publication dates. Author entries include "a list of bib-
liographical sources used in compilation or suggested for further study” (Pref.), but unfortunately standard sources such as “CBEL” and “Spiller” predominate here, with relatively little attention given to single-author bibliographies. A second volume is to provide a title-author index of the approximately 60,000 works cited, and this promises to be the most useful feature of an otherwise fairly undistinguished work. —E.S.

MOTION PICTURES


Although the material indexed here will be of undoubted interest to researchers in the growing field of film studies, there are some serious drawbacks in the compilation. The work attempts to provide information about authorship of screen plays and source material from which screen plays were drawn. Information is arranged by writer and by film, with an additional index by awards. Except in the Awards Index, the scope of the movies included is nowhere indicated. Are all American films indexed? There is a scattering of foreign films, but one can only surmise that the presence or absence of a title is due to its distribution (or lack of it) by an American distributor. Under an individual writer’s name one finds all movies with which he was associated, but no attempt is made there to distinguish precisely what his connection was. One must turn to the Film Title Index for an indication of the type of screen credit. In a tool with such varied and complex symbols it is regretted that the type of credit was not included in the Writers Index as well.

The beginning date of the index was evidently chosen for the convenience of the compilers (since 1936 was the beginning of the Academy’s Writer-Producer Basic Code of Agreement which codified writer-collaborator contributions), but unfortunately, movies made before 1936 are currently under serious study also. The work falls far short of the scholarly tool it might have been, but because of the varieties of approach it will be useful nonetheless.—G.L.

SOCIOLOGY


Concerned with a specialty that has attracted growing attention among sociologists and anthropologists in recent years, this long bibliography is addressed to students and scholars in the social sciences and practitioners in many applied fields. Listing books, parts of books, and journal articles in English, it covers (widely, but selectively) publications chiefly from 1940 to early 1968. Part I is entitled “Social stratification” and Part II, “Social mobility and the correlates of stratification.” Each is subdivided into some thirty specific topics under which entries are arranged alphabetically by author. Entries do not carry annotations or other indications of importance or quality. There is an author index; the table of contents serves in lieu of one by subject. Although journals outside sociology were not searched so intensively as those in the field, spot-checking shows some citations to the leading journals in anthropology, demography, and political science. —R.K.


Most college and university libraries will probably acquire both of these items, but if a choice must be made, opt for the Library of Congress publication. Not only is it a bargain at the low price, but, while it includes fewer entries (1781 as opposed to 1996, each work listing some items not
found in the other), it has the advantage of a detailed subject approach through the author-subject index whereas the Working Bibliography has only an author index. Both bibliographies employ a classed arrangement with similar subject categories. The stated purpose of the two works is fairly similar: the Working Bibliography is intended to facilitate book selection “for public, private and university collections of Afro-Americana” (Intro.), while the other is “designed to meet the current needs of students, teachers, librarians, researchers, and the general public for introductory guidance to the study of the Negro in the United States” (Pref.). Miss Porter is Librarian of the Negro Collection at Howard University.—E.S.

FOLKLORE


Contents: Pt.A: Folk narratives, v.1, Fables and exempla; Fairy tales; v.2, Jucular tales; Novelle; Nursery tales. £10,10s; $28.

“Dictionary” seems almost a misnomer for this work which is actually a collection of transcriptions and summaries of folk tales in English. To be sure, the main sections are alphabetically arranged, and within sections the tales are arranged alphabetically by title. However, since many of the tales have no real titles, since some titles vary in different collections, and since different tales sometimes have the same title, access is most likely to be through the “Index of Tale-types” according to numbers of the Aarne-Thompson tale-type index, or by scanning the index of titles. Tales were drawn from a wide range of sources as indicated by the impressive list of books quoted, cited and consulted. Part B is to deal with “Folk legends” (tales once believed to be true) as opposed to “Folk narratives” (tales told for edification or amusement).—E.S.

HISTORY


After fifteen years of research, a father and son team noted for their treatises on American military history have produced a work long desired by historians. Whether or not this single volume fulfills the need depends on what the reader is looking for; written for the layman, the work is not intended as a military history of the world, but as a quick reference source it may be invaluable to the general researcher and, in particular, to the student of war. Organized into twenty-one chapters arranged chronologically into arbitrarily chosen time periods, the volume is easy to use and has copious cross-references. Each chapter is divided into three sections offering 1) a very basic introduction to the military trends of the period (leadership, weapon-
Emphasis is clearly upon western military affairs, especially those areas of the authors' specialization: the American Revolution and Civil War, and the two world wars. Land warfare is heavily favored over naval, as are American conflicts over those of Europe, not to mention the lack of material on the East and even imperial Russia. Also, nearly 45 percent of the text is devoted to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Any work of this magnitude has its strengths and weaknesses, and this is no exception. While the table of contents needs greater subdivision (as in Langer's Encyclopedia of World History), the three indices (general, battles and sieges, and wars) are superb—by far the best feature of the volume. Unfortunately, the weakest point of the compendium is its maps and diagrams—things so necessary to the comprehension of military affairs.

Factually the work is extremely accurate, but this advantage is diluted by a naive view of diplomacy, politics, and other war-related fields, and by concluding commentaries that are often simplistic or laden with unnecessary moral judgments. A complete bibliography for such an immense field could scarcely be expected, but the one provided is indeed a paradox. The general background works cited offer a good survey of the art of war, and the selective bibliographies are adequate for the non-specialist. On the other hand, only one foreign source is cited, and the inclusion of some works and the omission of others is altogether mystifying.—M.S.


Subtitle: A catalogue of some of the books in the Polynesiana collection formed by the late Bjarne Kroepelien and now in the Oslo University Library.

The aim of the Kroepelien collection was "to bring together as many editions, impressions, issues and states as possible of each book or pamphlet in any way relating to, or printed in, French Polynesia." Despite acknowledged gaps, it is a most impressive collection. About a third of the total collection is listed and described in some detail in this author catalog of more than 1350 items. The editor admits to somewhat arbitrary selection, with relative completeness in only limited areas. Nevertheless, this is sure to become an important reference source for Pacific scholars.—E.S.

Henige, David P. Colonial Governors from the Fifteenth Century to the Present; a Comprehensive List. Madison, Univ. of Wisconsin Pr., 1970. 461p. $12.50. 73-81320.

Professor Henige prefaches his volume with thanks to a large number of archivists and librarians from all over the world. The cooperation of these men, plus Henige's unravelling of various government documents and his searching of reference works have provided scholars and librarians with a very valuable reference tool. The aim is to "present lists of the governors of the European colonies from 1415 to the present time."—Pref. Although the United States doesn't think of its territories as colonies, enough features exist "to make the United States along with Japan, a non-European example of imperial expansion" (p.354), and both nations are included. The author has arranged the book's contents under thirteen imperial systems, listing the colonies alphabetically under each. Within each colony section he lists the governors chronologically. Each list begins with a short description of the history of the imperial system or the position of the colony in the system. Concluding each list is the major source of information used. The general index is very detailed and, when one becomes accustomed to the author's system of referring to colony numbers, quite easy to use. There is also an index of governors' names.—E.M.

The compiler of this bibliography has attempted to provide a "comprehensive guide to reference materials that deal with Southeast Asia."—Pref. The first criterion for inclusion was that each title be available in the library at Yale or Cornell (or in both). Since these libraries have significant holdings in the field, Mr. Johnson has been able to produce an extensive list of separately published works, including government publications, which deal exclusively or primarily with Southeast Asia. The work is divided according to form, such as bibliographies, published catalogs, and general statistics, and by subject; it is then subdivided into general works and works pertaining to a particular country. Because the index is of authors only, a more detailed table of contents would have made this timely bibliography more useful.—J.S.

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