
Eileen McIlvaine

This article follows the pattern set by the semiannual series initiated by the late Constance M. Winchell more than fifty years ago and continued by Eugene Sheehy. Because the purpose of the list is to present a selection of recent scholarly and general works, it does not pretend to be either well balanced or comprehensive. A brief roundup of new editions of standard works is provided at the end of the articles. Code numbers (such as AA604) have been used to refer to titles in the Guide to Reference Books, 11th ed. (Chicago: ALA, 1996).

Periodical Indexes


Poole’s Plus has a great collection of nineteenth-century periodical indexes with a sometimes-maddening search interface. Series I (Multi-Title Indexes) contains: Poole’s Index to Periodical Literature (1802–1907, Guide AD282), 497,000 citations; Stead’s Index to Periodicals, 1890–1902, ed. W.T. Stead, 265,000 citations; Cumulative Index to a Selected List of Periodicals (1896–1899), 150,000 citations; An Alphabetical Subject Index and Index Encyclopedia to Periodical Articles on Religion 1890–1899, ed. E.C. Richardson (1907, Guide BC47), 80,000 citations, many in German, French, and other languages. Although there is no subject indexing for Poole’s Index to Periodical Literature, entries for the other three include the original subject headings and cross-references. This is a wonderful collection of databases, indexing a rich variety of periodicals, from Architecture, the Catholic World, and the Girl’s Own Paper to The Saturday Review, Woman at Home, and Zeitschrift fur assyriologie und verwandte gebiete.

Series IV (Individual Periodical Indexes) includes the Index to Harper’s Magazine (1850–1892), 80,000 citations, and the Index to Library Journal (1876–1897), 40,000 citations. It is possible to search one or all of the databases in each series and across more than one series. Currently, it is not possible to search a combination of databases in a series.

There is an author browse feature, which could have been useful because many of the indexes treat authors’ names differently (e.g., Gaskell, E.C.), but it appears to browse on the first word of the author entry, which varies across indexes. In Stead’s Index to Periodicals, works by “Miss Margaret Bateson” must be browsed by author under Miss—nothing turns up under Bateson. There also are
entries under Rev., Mrs., and first names and first initials, none of which can be found by browsing the author’s last name. Fortunately, the other indexes browse on last name, but a large number of authors are not browsable. Browse also must be used to see a list of the periodicals indexed in the database.

Searching is by keyword, author keyword, and title keyword. Only one search box has instructions to choose among the following radial buttons: single and plural forms, word variants, exact phrase, exact words. A further set of radials allows for searching all of the words or any of the words. It is impossible to combine the results of an “or” search with additional terms or a keyword author with another keyword search. Further, there is no user-directed truncation; instead, Poole’s Plus offers a feature whereby a “word search can be made broader by including word variants generated by a word stemmer and a table of synonyms” (Help). The “word variants” feature is not the same as truncation; a search on rum retrieved rum, Rumi, rum’s, rum’s, rum-trade, rummage, and rummaging, but not the article “Rumselling at the World’s Fair.” Although this is greatly inferior to real truncation, it was able to handle the obvious variants: woman and women, labor, laboring, and labour, and foreign languages. In addition, it is possible to sort results chronologically, an especially useful feature (after all these years of using the print volumes, which do not cite year of publication). Other sort features are offered, including sorting by author and language, but these did not seem to work: the same browse problem caused the authors to be sorted alphabetically by first name, first initial, title, and last name, depending on the database, and the language search did not seem to sort the results at all.

In addition to the periodical indexes, Poole’s Plus includes newspaper indexing, with the New York Times Index (1851–1912. Guide AE110), 1.2 million citations, and the New York Daily Tribune Index (1875–1906. Guide AE109), 780,000 citations; and separate series devoted to books (Series II) and government documents (Series V). Subscription prices vary depending on size of the institution and number of series purchased. It is impossible to purchase single indexes in a series.

The great thing about online databases is that they can be improved. Poole’s Plus has a wonderful collection of data, but the search engine needs attention. Basic features such as the ability to truncate, combine author and title fields, use full Boolean commands including and/or/not, e-mail citations, and to limit by language need to be added to make this rich collection truly accessible.—S.S.W.

Literature, including Theater


The Oxford Dictionary of Phrase and Fable defines “words, names, and phrases with cultural resonance…Entries justify inclusion by having some figurative or allusive connotation…The present book draws strongly on the resources of the Oxford Dictionaries” (Intro). To identify some 20,000 words and phrases “likely to be encountered in the English language today.” These range from popular culture to science and technology, mythology to philosophy, etc. Thus, we have “It was a dark and stormy night” (under dark with no cross-reference), bad hair day, Obi-Wan Kenobe, Aaron, A 1, Acorns were good until bread was found, Southpaw, Job’s comforter. For some of the terms, a quotation is given to provide context. There are lists and charts (e.g., a list of famous horses and their riders [Silver, Pegasus, Copenhagen]), a chart for last words, a table of Henry VIII’s wives. Of course, the trick is to know to look for a table; to address that problem, the volume ends with an index of boxed entries (the lists, tables, and charts).
How does the Oxford volume compare with the Brewer’s Dictionary of Phrase and Fable (15th ed., 1995; 14th edition. 1989. Guide BE181)? Many of the same terms are given with the same information. Looking for differences, one finds that when they both have a term, the Brewer entry is longer (see Abdication Crisis, Abelard and Héloïse); more modern terms are in the Oxford than in Brewer (see the Archers, Archie Bunker). Brewer also has a list of Dying Sayings that is much longer, a list of dwarves that the Oxford does not have, nor does the Oxford have the long list of terms of heraldry with explanations (for example, Salient, Gardant); rather, a few are defined in the main alphabet. And not always do the two agree (see Sir Walter Raleigh’s and John Adams’ dying words). Neither has an index, but both have cross-references. So each volume supplements the other, offering cross-checks on much of the information.

The third volume in this trio of phrase and fable dictionaries is Brewer’s Dictionary of Modern Phrase and Fable, compiled by Adrian Room, the same editor responsible for the 15th and 16th editions of Brewer’s Dictionary of Phrase and Fable. This new dictionary concentrates on the twentieth century and fills in for the older Brewer’s with “etymological ‘stories’ behind thousands of words, names, titles and phrases” (Editor’s Introd.) with everything from advertising slogans (Snap! Crackle! And Pop!) to terms (skiffle, home and dry, HTML, POTUS), objects (Patience and Fortitude), songs (“Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds”), programs and titles (Archie Bunker; the Archers, Mission Impossible; Star Wars, with two definitions, first the missile defense system followed by the movie with a brief plot summary and a long paragraph explaining the meaning of the names used by the characters in the movie), and slang terms (bad hair day, Zut alors). Here, too, are lists such as Famous Last Words, Patron Saints of the 20th Century, Words of the 20th Century. There is very little overlap between the older Brewer’s and the younger Brewer’s, nor is there much overlap with the Oxford.

Of course, one wants more; slam poetry is not represented nor the naming of the hominid Lucy based on the song that is included in the dictionary. One could have wished for a little more editing (e.g., Harry Potter is under Harry with no cross-reference from Potter). But, all in all, this is the perfect candidate if one wants to wile away a few hours. If I could not have all three of the dictionaries, I would stay with the two Brewer’s.—E.M.


Since its appearance fifteen years ago, Literatura Polska: Przewodnik Encyklopedyczny (1984–1985. Guide BE1353) has been a mainstay of reference work in the field of Polish literature from the Middle Ages to the present. Its breadth of coverage, authoritative content, and attractive style have made it invaluable for both students and researchers. However, given the fact of its appearance under the Communist regime, many politically sensitive areas of importance, including émigré writing, opposition voices, or politically incorrect topics, could not be given the treatment they deserved. The disparity was particularly glaring in light of the enormous underground literary output of the preceding Solidarity and martial law periods. Thus, it is not too surprising that, since 1989, the publishers have been working toward the production of a new, fuller edition.

The current publication is a partial step toward that goal. On the assumption that the need for revision and expansion was greatest for the parts of the encyclopedia relating to the twentieth century, the editors have issued this compilation focused primarily on those years. The first 363 pages comprise a handbook to Polish literature in the past hundred years. The type of treatment parallels that found in the older work. In fact, in the interests of completeness, there is a good deal of repetition of that earlier material. A very impressionistic survey suggests that as many as a third of the articles in this sec-
tion are reprinted from the 1984–1985 edition, another third are updated versions of the same entries, and another third are entirely new. Together, they provide an impressively broad and informative guide to Polish writing in the period, both inside and outside Poland, in both officially sanctioned venues and the political underground.

Along with entries on individual authors, there are biographical sketches of critics and scholars; discussions of key novels, poetry collections, and critical works; profiles of major journals, organizations, and institutions; surveys of developments in particular genres and regions; discussions of libraries and research centers; accounts of literary movements and styles; and much more. An effort has also been made to do justice to young and new writers of recent years.

A 220-page appendix of completely new material providing some broader coverage of Polish writing follows the main section. The first section offers a chronological survey of Polish literary history, period by period, from the Middle Ages to 1939, concluding with a brief list of the key bibliographic tools for Polish literary research. This is then followed by surveys of Polish literary relations with other countries and literatures, including a discussion of contacts, influences, and translations.

The editors have sought, when possible, to have articles written by authors specializing in those fields. A brief list of references is included at the end of most essays. However, one misses an index at the back of the book (in contrast to the 1984–1985 edition).

This is an indispensable work for any library offering coverage of Polish literature or even one wishing to provide basic native-language coverage of the topic. It is something that individual scholars should consider acquiring for their own collections as well.—R.H.S.


Intended to “rescue the careers” (Foreword) of those lesser-known members of African American theater history, this volume includes mention of 760 African Americans involved in some aspect of the stage from 1816 to 1960. Of these, 340 are included in the main directory with the rest noted in shorter form in the two appendixes. This volume completes Peterson’s series of reference books “documenting various aspects of African American contributions to the American stage” (Pref.). (For others, see Guide BE531, BE521.) The inspiration for this volume came from a desire to create a directory of early black stage personalities after compiling the indexes for his previous books and realizing the number of individuals for whom little biographical information was known.

The year 1816 signifies the date that black performers began to appear in New York City, and 1960 marks “the dawn of the Black Theatre movement in the United States.” Included here are profiles of people from every aspect of the theater profession and from the entertainment genres of minstrelsy, vaudeville, variety, musical theater, and drama.

To organize such an impressive amount of information, Peterson has devised a somewhat complex system of abbreviations and symbols. In each concise entry of a paragraph or two, there is a sentence in boldface type summarizing the individual’s achievements. Bibliographic sources for further reference, often abbreviated, accompany each entry. Some of the entries are attributed to contributors and some are not. Cross-references within entries are noted with different symbols, among which are black dots, single daggers, double daggers, asterisks, degree signs, and double virgules. Also used are small caps, italics, and bold type to denote various categories of references within an entry. Needless to say, this becomes unwieldy and difficult to decipher without constant reference to the list of symbols.

Appendix A gives short descriptions of personalities mentioned in the main
directory who do not have entries of their own; appendix B includes personalities not in the main directory, but who still deserve mention. A third appendix classifies individuals by profession. These are followed by an extensive bibliography that includes reference books and critical studies, dissertations and theses, and a list of journals and newspapers that featured articles on black activity in the theater from the 1800s to 1960. Individual articles in these periodicals are not listed. The bibliography is followed by an index and a list of contributors.

Although this is clearly a significant work for scholars in the field, it is not always easy to use. Peterson has included so much information in each condensed entry, with such an involved cross-reference system, that it becomes a complex task to interpret. Still, he has produced a rich, comprehensive work that is a valuable contribution to the history of African American theater. Highly recommended for academic research libraries.—A.M.

Religion


This interesting compendium might be better titled “Comparative Encyclopedia of Buddhist and Christian Monasticism.” For many, the simple word monasticism will suggest a work focusing exclusively on the Christian tradition, and perhaps only the Western Christian tradition, not alerting them to the comparative agenda at work here. For those seeking a comparative approach, the almost-exclusive focus on two religions may come as something of a disappointment. Although it is true that the phenomenon of monasticism is most fully developed in these traditions, comparable institutions and practices can be found in a variety of other religions as well, including Hinduism, Jainism, Daoism, Manicheanism, Islam, and even, in certain respects, Judaism. A reader looking in this work for anything other than a passing reference to the latter faiths finds virtually no coverage here.

For the material that is covered, however, there is much of value and interest. The range of Buddhist and Christian practice is covered. Particularly welcome on the Christian side is the extensive treatment of Eastern Church traditions, so frequently underrepresented in mainstream English-language reference tools. In nearly six hundred essays, an international team of approximately 250 scholars surveys major themes, history, and practice in particular countries; specific orders and schools; important persons; major monasteries; doctrines; literary genres; rules and institutions; meditative, ascetic, and liturgical practice; art and architecture; monastic library collections; and trends in scholarship on the subject. Most essays conclude with a list of key bibliographic citations. In a number of instances, though perhaps not as frequently as one might desire, the implicit comparative approach of this work is reinforced by explicit parallel treatments for the Buddhist and Christian practice, for example, in articles on anticlericalism, architecture, fasting, hermits, hygiene, initiation, and meditation. A glossary of specialized Buddhist and Christian monastic terms offers additional guidance addressing potential areas for comparison, and a detailed index enhances access to the contents.

The quality of the writing, credentials of the authors, and breadth of coverage within the selected traditions suggest that this work will be a standard reference for many years to come. It is something that almost any major research or teaching collection providing coverage of comparative religion, Christianity, or Buddhism will want to consider.—R.H.S.

Festivals

This guide describes Italian popular festivals under 478 headings arranged chronologically by historical or purported historical events from the founding of Rome to the 1900 Jubilee. Each entry describes the festival and the historical or legendary characters associated with it. It is accompanied by indexes for place, province and region, and personal name, as well as a calendar of events. Black-and-white drawings and engravings give the book a quaint charm.

The title is the fifteenth volume of the "Guide insolite" series which published similar guides on various regions and topics of Italy including Rome (#16), Naples (#5), and St. Peter’s Basilica (#10), in recent years. This volume on festivals would be of interest not only to travelers to Italy, but also to students of ethnography and popular culture.—J.S.


This bibliography of printed "festival books," official publications that describe festivals associated with a city, court, or religious organization in Europe from 1500 to 1800, is arranged by country (i.e., empire, duchy, city, etc.) and then chronologically by ruler or geographically by place names within a republic. Except for one page on the Ottoman Empire and five pages on the Russian Empire and Muscovy, the book is devoted to Western Europe from the Papal States to Sweden, including Great Britain. About one third of the volume (pp. 73–250) covers duchies, city-states, kingdoms, etc., that are now located in present-day Italy.

The bibliography is based on holdings in the British Library, Herzog August Bibliothek in Wolfenbüttel, the Rondel collection in the Bibliothèque de l’Arsenal, and the British National Art Library in the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. A shelf mark is given for each of the 2,857 items. Each entry gives author, title, place, publisher/printer, year, size, number of pages, and a brief note that describes the date and occasion. Many of the festival books in this bibliography were published on the occasions of visits (entries) by a prince and/or other dignitaries and weddings.

The bibliography is indexed by name of the ruler or other honored guest as well as any artist associated with the festival or publication: authors, editors, translators, composers, and publishers/ printers. The index by occasion is rather hard to use because general and rather large subjects such as entrances, weddings and betrothals, and religious festivities are typically subdivided by only one or two subheadings. The only subheading under Religious Festivals is the feast of Corpus Domini. It is also indexed by place of festival and by type of entertainment, from banquets and feasts to bullfights and mock naval battles.

The work is suitable for research libraries serving graduate students and specialists in early modern European history.—J.S.

Architecture


Despite its small size (23 cm. x 11 cm.), this book will have a large impact at the reference desks of architecture and design libraries as well as in academic and general collections. It is just the sort of compilation of facts and figures, lists and dates, awards, organizations, and architectural achievements that will give a student, a layperson, or a reference librarian a quick and easy first choice to answer many of the most frequently asked questions in this field: What are the 100 tallest buildings in the world? What are the largest U.S. architecture firms? What are the best architecture schools? Who won this year’s Pritzker Prize? Last year’s RIBA Gold Medal? Which historic buildings are
on the endangered list? Which ones are World Heritage sites?

This first edition of the Almanac can answer these and a great many more questions in addition to providing a calendar of architectural events—competitions, exhibitions, trade shows, furniture fairs, conferences, and award presentations—that define the life cycle of the design professions, which here encompass not only architecture, but to varying degrees also historic preservation, interior design, landscape architecture, real estate, and the construction industry.

The book is organized into fourteen categories, beginning with a monthly calendar with a list of events and deadlines, facing a daily calendar page with architects’ names in the date boxes, curiously and unfortunately without years of birth or death, so this is not much help. The following sections list Awards & Honors (58 from the U.S. and abroad); Organizations (also international); Museums (strictly devoted to architecture and design); Noted Individuals (fellows of the major professional organizations); Records, Rankings, & Achievements; Design & Historic Preservation; Design Econometrics (statistical tables of construction costs, housing characteristics, demographics, vacancy rates, etc.); Registration Laws (U.S. by state and 55 countries); Leading Firms; Bookstores (U.S.); Journals & Magazines; Colleges & Universities (directory of U.S. schools); and Obituaries (from the previous year). The volume concludes with a 70-page index of primarily personal and corporate names.

Peppered throughout the Almanac are bits of architectural trivia, such as the number of rivets in the Eiffel Tower, quotations from architects and nonarchitects such as Lewis Mumford, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, and Albert Einstein. In his foreword, architectural critic Paul Goldberger reminds the reader that architecture is not only form and space and proportion, “it is also information.” A well-selected sampling of it is conveniently packaged in this volume.—B. S.-A.

Music


An important and significant music reference publication, this dictionary contains more than 29,000 articles on music in all its aspects. With 25 million words, it aims at wide, deep coverage of music of every time, place, and type. An expansion by 50 percent over the previous edition (1980. 20v. Guide BJ141), this is in effect the 7th edition of the Dictionary edited by Sir George Grove that first appeared in 1879. To prepare it, more than 5,000 contributors worked under teams of prominent scholars and editors, a much larger and more specialized group than for the previous edition. Material from the 1980 edition, as well as material from the Grove “family” of dictionaries published in the last decade (Jazz. Guide BJ306; Instruments. Guide BJ371; Opera. Guide BJ251; American Music. Guide BJ140, etc.) provided the starting point; some articles were carried over, but all were reviewed and most were updated.

With its aim to present the cutting edge of research, the dictionary seeks to absorb the huge bulk of scholarly musicological and the ethnomusicological work of the past twenty years. The largest expansion encompasses coverage of twentieth-century composers (there are 5,000 here, as opposed to 3,000 in the earlier edition), with more countries represented and more composers from countries previously included. Many new subjects reflecting the latest research have been added, including articles on archaeomusicology, nationalism, and one on music itself (redressing criticism of the previous edition!). As in the earlier edition, bibliographies and work lists following each article remain selective.

Volumes 1–27 contain the alphabetical listing of entries. Appendixes are contained in volume 28, with volume 29 the Index volume. The Appendix volume includes bibliographical articles (Collec-
New to this edition is the Index volume containing several lists. Indexing is not exhaustive but consists of headings chosen primarily from the following categories (or “nodes” in Grove parlance) reflecting broad themes of musical research: composers, instruments, performers, cities and countries, styles and genres, peoples and religion, and writers. These include every article title with subheadings, alternative terms, and cross-references printed in full, significant terms relating to topics anywhere in the dictionary where they provide information of substance; and terms relating to groups of articles. Following this Index is a section with separate lists of composers, performers, and writers associated with Western art music extracted from the Index, arranged chronologically for the most part and subarranged systematically.

A Web version is available to subscribers at http://www.grovemusic.com/grovemusic/home/index.html, with links to sound sources, images, and other sites (N.Y.: Grove, 2001). It also features quarterly bibliographic and factual updates and annual reviews of designated themes.—E.D.

**Social Sciences**


It has been almost thirty years since the last *Reader’s Guide to the Social Sciences*, Bert F. Hoselitz’s revised version (1972) first published by him in 1959. It is time, and the wait has been well worth it! Jonathan Michie’s *Reader’s Guide to the Social Sciences* is destined to become a classic in its field. It is not that it attempts to do something out of the ordinary, but that it does the expected with breadth of vision, enormous thoroughness, and attention to reader needs.

Its aim, Michie tells us, is “to do exactly what its title promises—to guide the reader towards the key texts on specific topics” (Editor’s Note). The topics, more than 1,200 of them, are arranged alphabetically from ability testing to x-efficiency and include social science terms and concepts, as well as the names of persons and organizations. Each entry begins by directing the reader to a list of works, including books and journal articles, where the topic in question is discussed. This brief bibliography is followed by the entry proper, in which the compiler places the topic within the broader social science context and briefly states the contribution each work in the bibliography makes to the understanding of the topic at hand. The entries are signed, and many point the reader to other relevant entries.

Should alphabetical access by topic not serve a user, the compiler has provided a list of all the topics arranged under broad categories, such as Economics, for example, and then subcategories, such as Macroeconomic Theory and Policy. Topical entries are listed under each subcategory. In the case of Macroeconomic Theory and Policy, there are nine topical entries: Convergence; Deindustrialization; Demand and Supply; Distribution of Income; Growth; Macroeconomics; Microeconomic Foundations; Profits; and Rent Seeking. These can then be looked up alphabetically in the main part of the *Reader’s Guide*. In addition, there is an extensive back-of-the-book General Index and a bibliography of all the cited works arranged alphabetically by author.

This is a simple-to-use, yet very rich and versatile reference book; it should be part of every academic library collection.—O.d.C.

This is a handy reference source for anyone interested in the U.S. population census. Medium-length articles cover a wide range of topics, from historical overviews of decennial censuses since 1790 to policy issues such as confidentiality and grassroots groups. The work also includes population-related topics, for example, immigration and population characteristics of various ethnic groups.

Each article is signed and accompanied by a short bibliography. A dozen items in the Appendix cover Methods of Congressional Apportionment, Cost of Taking the Census, 1790–2000, and samples of Census 2000 questionnaires, to name a few. A photo insert section presents a number of historical pictures such as early manuscript records, Einstein chatting with a census taker, Census Bureau employees punching cards, and a view of a computerized 2000 census office.

On the whole, this publication offers a comprehensive coverage of the topic and will help readers and librarians find answers to many reference questions. It is a useful addition for all types of libraries.—J.S.

**Women’s Studies**


This encyclopedia aims to “address the concerns of women and the theory and practice of feminism around the world … and be an accessible, trustworthy resource not only for scholars, professionals, and activists but for the general reader everywhere” (*Intro*). It fills a reference void; a number of encyclopedias address narrower topics (e.g., Suffrage, African American women, and women from individual countries), but this is unique in its international, interdisciplinary focus. In addition to the two general editors, there are thirteen topic editors responsible for some 900 entries by 675 contributors in thirteen main areas: arts and literature, culture and communication, ecology and the environment, economy and development, education, health, reproduction and sexuality, history and philosophy, households and families, politics and the state, religion and spirituality, science and technology, violence and peace, women’s studies.

The entries, which are arranged alphabetically from ability to Zionism, are very well written with excellent up-to-date bibliographies and cross-references to related topics. However, there are no entries for individual countries, individuals, or organizations, though these are treated in the topical entries and are all found in the index. The shortest entries, which address topics such as the feminist response to the built environment or the digital divide, are about a thousand words and offer substantial bibliographies. The longest sections address major subjects (e.g., women’s studies, literature, development, or households and families) and treat them first regionally and then by country, devoting several thousand words and separate bibliographies to each area or country. There is a good mix between the major sections and the shorter entries. Although the encyclopedia is not illustrated, many entries do include charts.

Although the index is good, browsing (as always) is rewarded. The section on Women’s Studies: South Africa begins:

Various postcolonial theorists argue that the institutional and political developments in feminism and the third world contexts are very different from those in the West. In her article, “Can the Subaltern Speak,” Gayatri Spivak (1990) examines the ways that western theories extinguish the inventiveness of third world women. Focusing on the practice of widow sacrifice in India, Spivak shows how the perceptions of many third world women may be silenced both by male-centered perspectives and by feminist discourses that address gender relations in a western context” (p. 2,113).
Neither the encyclopedia entry for suttee nor the ten suttee listings in the index make any reference to this entry or to Spivak’s essay, though this page is listed in the index under Spivak. But one can understand the difficulty in maintaining consistency given the scale of the Encyclopedia. The topics addressed are very useful and provide an excellent starting place for undergraduate and graduate research. Recommended for academic libraries supporting research in women’s studies.—S.S.W.


This one-volume biographical dictionary highlights some of the noteworthy women in Latin America who have “challenged the status quo” (Pref.) and made a mark in their respective fields. From the well known, such as Eva Peron, to the not so well known, such as the Mirabel sisters, noteworthy women in a range of fields such as politics, visual arts, religion, government, education, literature, popular culture, and the sciences are profiled here.

Arranged alphabetically, each entry is well written and several pages long. Each one includes a description of the subject’s personal life and career, a lengthy discussion of the subject’s contributions, and often a photo. All the entries include a short bibliography for further reading and are signed by one of the many contributors, mostly scholars in the field.

The Table of Contents lists the names of each woman individually, and two appendixes arrange the notables by field of endeavor and by country. A bibliography divided by topic (e.g., Women and Economic Change) includes current titles published in the past ten years. The index of names and subjects is well done but omits the names of the notable women because they are listed in the Table of Contents.

Selected Reference Books, 2000–2001 475

An informative introduction by Jane Jaquette puts Latin American women’s roles in the twentieth century in context with respect to education, politics, and culture, and provides a good basis from which to read about these maverick individuals.

The seventy-two entries in this interdisciplinary biographical dictionary offer impressive testimony to the achievements of some of the outstanding Latin American women born after 1900 who are “worthy of global recognition” (Introcl). It will be a valuable addition to any academic library.—A.M.

History


This is an alphabetically arranged encyclopedia of signed articles discussing various aspects of nineteenth-century America. Though political and economic developments are not slighted, the opening contents page (listing of the titles of the articles) shows a distinct fondness for the current interest in popular culture: Balloons, Beauty Contests, Bicycling, and Blue Laws are listed beside Banking and Bill of Rights.

The introductory material also includes a list of maps that appear near the relevant text, though, oddly, the map called “Extent of American Indian Societies” has no date (the societies were certainly not stable throughout the century) and also includes only a very brief yearly chronology.

The articles themselves, many with illustrations and some with statistical charts, provide useful introductions to the various topics, are written without any scholarly pretensions or excessive academic jargon, and include selected bibliographies. This title will be a very useful introduction to the area for beginning history students.—M.C.

Europe since 1945, ed. Bernard A. Cook.

New York: Garland, 2001. 2v. (xliii,
Europe since 1945 is an alphabetically arranged encyclopedia with signed essays by European and American academics, with a broad subject guide at the beginning of volume 1 and a detailed subject index ending volume 2, with brief articles on events and individuals of significance in European politics and, less thoroughly, culture from 1945 to the end of the twentieth century. The introductory guide gives a general overview of the contents. Oddly, there are entries for Extremists of the Right and Right-Wing Conspiracies, but, other than Dissidents, nothing equivalent on the Left. A student looking for a précis of the Baader-Meinhof gang will have to work hard, there is nothing in the beginning guide to help. The subject index says simply, see Red Army Faction (West German), which seems to imply that this entry is in the text. However, it is a reference to another listing in the index that refers the reader to (1) a brief mention of the group in the general article on the Federal Republic of Germany and (2) finally to an article on the Red Army Faction in a subgroup of articles on the FDR. Surely, a simple page reference under Baader-Meinhof would be much easier. But the article itself gives a dispassionate, factual summary of the group’s activities and ultimate failure. The intended audience is difficult to determine. The articles are rather short and stick to the facts; there is not much in the way of interpretation making the encyclopedia more useful for term paper writers than researchers. But the brief bibliographies at the end of many of the articles often include non-English language materials. (The bibliography for the German radical Rudi Dutsche consists of a German biography and an article in the New York Times Magazine.) Some of the editing seems a bit rushed. The guide refers to Dany Cohn-Bendit, but the encyclopedia proper lists him as Marc Daniel Cohn-Bendit with the nicknames Dany-le-rouge and Danny the Red. And the article on Fernand Braudel refers to “his second major work, the ??? volume Capitalism and Material Life.”

Most of this information will be available in other sources, but libraries with large undergraduate history departments may find the work useful.—M.C.


These single-volume works are to some extent summaries of the multivolume Encyclopedia of the Holocaust (Macmillan, 1990). Many of the contributors overlap, and Yad Vashem, The Holocaust Martyrs’ and Heroes’ Remembrance Authority, is listed as a sponsor or advisor for all three titles.

Unlike the Macmillan, neither of the two newer volumes has bibliographies for the individual articles. The Yale volume has a bibliographic essay discussing books on the topic, primarily in English. The essay format, although it contains useful evaluations and comments, makes it somewhat difficult to quickly locate works on a narrow topic. The Facts on File volume has an unannotated bibliography, again of English books, divided into thirty-five topics that are listed somewhat randomly; section 26 is Churches and the Holocaust and section 32 is Philosophy and Theology.

The Holocaust Encyclopedia, edited by a noted historian, provides more detail than the Facts on File volume, and the more substantial articles are signed. Its remarkably reasonable price seems to imply that it is intended for individuals as well as for libraries, though libraries without the earlier Macmillan set will certainly need this one. The Facts on File volume seems to have been designed more for beginning students, its articles are shorter and more general. It has, for instance, two columns for Gypsies as opposed to the Holocaust
Encyclopedia’s nine. The Facts on File offers eight introductory, signed essays, although the articles in the body of the work are unsigned. The Columbia Guide to the Holocaust by Donald Niewyk and Francis Nicosia (N.Y.: Columbia Univ. Pr., 2000. 473p. $45) offers an excellent bibliography of books, articles, video, electronic resources, films and CD-ROMs, Web sites, manuscript material along with essays, a chronology, and maps. Only libraries dedicated to collecting material on the twentieth century will need all of the volumes.—M.C.


This bibliography covers French-language printed works on the French navy and colonies during the Revolution and the Napoleonic era. The 5,638 entries cover diverse types of sources from archival materials to poems. The main sources of the cited items are the Archives nationales of France, the Bibliothèque nationale and the Service historique de la marine in Vincennes. Some also come from the Bibliothèque de Toulon and the British Library. A detailed location is given in each entry.

The main section of the bibliography is arranged by author. Anonymous works are in a separate section listed by title. The anonymous section contains a large number of laws and statutes, but they are difficult to find by subject. There is a forty-page subject index (pp. 457–97), but it is not easy to use. Some subject headings are too broad to be of any use. Take, for example, Saint-Domingue: under the single heading one finds four columns of item numbers that total well over one thousand items. This is precisely the type of work that could have been more appropriately handled by an electronic format. A CD-ROM database with a good search engine would have made it a very useful tool for researchers. As it is, the author only halfway attained his aim to fill the gap in research aids for the subject area.—J.S.


Smith and Davis, authors of the Scarecrow Press dictionary, both trained in British universities, have provided an alphabetically arranged encyclopedia of people and events related to the period of the Cold War, supplemented by a long, historical introduction, a detailed chronology, and a bibliography of English-language books arranged by country and period. The individual articles do not list additional sources. The publisher did not provide any maps, which is a major omission for a topic in which geography is so important.

The work is not indexed, another omission, though cross-references are imbedded in the text. However, the references can be a bit confusing; for example, the article on Containment refers the reader to George Kennan’s long telegram (q.v.) and to his subsequent X article (q.v.). The reader must look not under Kennan but, instead, under “long telegram:” and under “X-article.” Once there, the reader is neither told how to find the complete text of the long telegram nor given a complete citation to Kennan’s famous article in Foreign Affairs. The analysis is a bit skimpy as well; the entries merely say that containment, as proposed by George Kennan, was adopted without any reference to the subtleties of his recommendations versus the hard-line policies put into place.

The work seems intended for the lower-level undergraduate, but the writing at times is a bit cumbersome for that audience. What will an undergraduate
make of the final sentence in the entry on Khomeini: “Both superpowers attempted consensually to minimize the political challenge of a new elementally militant indigenous ideology to the febrile regional status quo”?

Also aimed primarily to the undergraduate, the Columbia Guide to the Cold War offers essays on the debate and discussion of the causes, progression, and conclusion of the Cold War as well as the controversy over who is to blame. The chronology covers the period 1945 and Yalta Conference to 1991 when the Soviet Union broke up. But it is the guide to resources that is most useful for both the graduate and undergraduate student introducing them to relevant books, journals, and articles, primary source collections, novels, films, electronic resources including Web sites and CD-ROMs. The bibliography is annotated with some indication of the author or producer’s point of view. The volume ends with an appendix on the costs of the Cold War.

Libraries with the recently published Columbia Guide will probably find the Smith title redundant. An earlier dictionary by Thomas S. Arms, the Encyclopedia of the Cold War (N.Y.: Facts on File, 1994. 628p.) has a carefully selected bibliography at the ends of the articles and a general bibliography, with a good index. The articles themselves are well written. The Henry Holt Cold War Encyclopedia by Thomas Parrish (N.Y.: 1996. 490p.) is illustrated, has an index, but no bibliography and short articles. For example, for the Gaither report, a report on U.S. military defense capabilities, the Parrish and Smith volumes each offer about half a column, whereas the Arms devotes almost a whole page with the findings listed and four citations. Though librarians may find the bibliography at the end of the Historical Dictionary useful, they will want to show students the Kort and the Arms historical dictionaries, too.—M.C.

St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture, ed. Tom and Sara Pendergast. Detroit: St. James Pr., 2000. 5v. Illus. $675 (ISBN 1-558-62400-7). LCCN 99-46540. This five-volume encyclopedia strives to cover “all elements of popular culture in the United States in the twentieth century” (Editor’s note) with some 2,700 essays that range from under 150 words to 3,000 words. The editors define popular cultures as “all the experiences in life shared by people in common, generally though not necessarily disseminated by the mass media.” The emphasis is on the second half of the twentieth century.

The encyclopedia covers the major areas of popular culture: film, music, print, social life, sports, television and radio, art, and the performing arts (live performance). About a quarter of the space is devoted to social life and 14 to 16 percent each for music, film, TV and radio broadcasting, and print. Sports get 10 percent and art and performance, 6 percent.

The articles are arranged alphabetically by topic, signed, and accompanied by a list for further reading. There are no cross-references among the articles, but the final volume includes an extensive index. In addition to the main index, two lists of topics by time period and category are included; and there is a list of entries at the beginning of each volume. The category index is a bit peculiar. For example, the heading “youth culture” includes Rolling Stones, Paul Anka, and the Spice Girls, but neither Frank Sinatra nor the Beatles is listed.

The encyclopedia covers a tremendous range of materials from AIDS to Zorro, Blondie to Wuthering Heights (mainly as a source of film versions). Of course, one can question some of the omissions: why not an article on food or cooking or the culinary arts or M.F.K Fisher when there are entries for Julia Child, Velveeta Cheese, and ice cream cone? After browsing through this encyclopedia, it is difficult to get a general view of popular culture or accomplish any systematic study of the varied phenomena loosely termed American popular culture since World War II. Its still very useful predecessor, M. Thomas Inge’s Handbook of American

Popular Culture (1980, 1989. Guide CF78), successfully approached the relatively new area of study from a historical perspective, and its well-focused essays helped to establish the field as a subject worthy of serious study. This encyclopedia does not, however, offer new pieces of information not already covered by general encyclopedias, film reference books, biographical dictionaries, and so on. There is the value of cumulation, but the very breadth of the coverage, in the end, works against the cohesive purpose that a reference work such as this ought to have.

Libraries need to consider carefully whether a sizable expense could be justified in view of the duplication of information and the lack of sound theoretical underpinnings.—J.S.

New Editions and Supplements

Since January 2001, the Schweitzer Buch (Guide AA839) is multilingual in five languages and the subject groupings are more refined with more see references in the index. Issue #16 will cover music publications and issue #25 will summarize serial publications announced in other issues during the year. Subscribers have access to the online version through the Swiss National Library Web site. Two national bibliographies have ceased in a print format. The Boletim de bibliographia portuguesa (Guide AA778) ceased in a paper form in 1987 and is now available on CD-ROM from Chadwyck Healey. Dania Polyglotta: Literature on Denmark in Languages Other Than Danish ceased with volume 29, published in 1998 (Guide AA604). The Royal Library will continue to acquire works by Danes published abroad and foreign publications about Denmark; it will make the records available via the online catalog REX (www.kb.dk).

The eighth edition of the Otto Leistner’s ITA: internationale Titelabkurzungen von Zeitschriften, Zeitungen, wichtigen Handbüchern, Wörterbüchern, Gesetzen, Institutionen, usw.: International Title Abbreviations of Periodicals, Newspapers, Important Handbooks, Dictionaries, Laws, Institutions, etc. (Osnabruck: F. Dietrich, 2000. 3v. (2,665p) 887.75 DM; 4th ed. 1990, Guide AD22) calls itself an enlarged edition, which is certainly true as it has grown to 93,000 entries of which about 10,000 are new. There are three special lists at the end of volume 3: Abbreviations used in the Biblical books of the Old and New Testament; Abbreviations used for Roman Catholic orders; Abbreviations used for the states of the United States.

ries throughout the world. Of the 3,085 entries, 1,945 were repeats from the 4th edition. There is an attempt to explain the significance of the event. Special features include a calendar of fixed days for the celebration of holiday and feast days; civic holidays; anniversaries and special events days; a list of moveable feasts by month; essays on calendar systems; and an annotated bibliography. To give a flavor: the volume begins with January 1 and the opening of Ellis Island and the Orthodox feast of St. Basil the Greek and ends with December 31 and the Tinkunako Festival in La Rioja, Argentina. The index covers names and events.

The New Historical Atlas of Religion in America is now a very handsome volume with beautifully drawn maps on heavy paper (rev. ed. N.Y.: Oxford Univ. Pr., 2001. 435p. illus. 34cm. $125; 1st ed. 1976. Guide BC85n). Reedited by Edwin Scott Gaustad and Philip L. Barlow, parts 1 and 2 covering the sixteenth through the twentieth centuries are very similar to the earlier edition. Parts 3 and 4 are new and feature three denominational case studies, the Lutherans, Mormons, and Roman Catholics, and sections on Canada, camp meetings, place names, religion, and politics, among others. The maps and tables cover to around 1990, but for some there are later figures. The bibliographies at the ends of the chapters and the general bibliography are updated and include only books.

J. Gordon Melton has given the 5th edition of the Encyclopedia of Occultism and Parapsychology: A Compendium of Information on the Occult Sciences, Magic, Demonology, Superstition, Spiritism, Mysticism, Metaphysics, Psychological Science, and Parapsychology (Detroit: Gale, 2001. 2v. $350; 3ed. 1984. Guide CD134) a thorough revision, rewriting and updating entries and adding some 450 entries, mostly events and personalities. A bibliography of further sources has been added as well as a list of home pages of all relevant living people and contemporary movements. The section on Internet resources offers Web sites for organizations, societies, and so on.

Continuing the series of American Novel Explication begun by Donna Gerstenberger (Guide BE473), Catherine Glitsch has used the MLA Bibliography (Guide BE39), the Annual Bibliography of English Language and Literature (Guide BE588), and WorldCat to cover criticism for the period 1969–1980 (North Haven, Conn.: Archon, 2000. 575p. $59.50). The arrangement is the same, alphabetical by name of the novelist followed by the title of the work. (American includes Canadian novels.) A quick check of the MLA Bibliography online shows a few titles missed, but most are there. Will readers turn to print compilations now that citations are online, even though the book has cumulated references from several electronic bibliographies?

The final volume (volume 6) of the World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre (N.Y.: Routledge, 2000. 544p. $160), edited by Don Rubin, is an extensive bibliography as well as an index to volumes 1 through 5. The Bibliography (pp. 5–264) is an updated, further reading list of books that were not listed in the regional volumes due to lack of space. Only books published through 1998 and “deemed most useful” (Intro.) are listed. Though mostly in English, works in other languages are included, especially French, Italian, German, and Spanish, and a translation of the title into English is given. Not included are collections of plays. The cumulative index is mainly author/title with some topic entries (e.g., Theatre of the Absurd, Young audiences).

a representative selection of Off-Off Broadway offerings” (Pref.). Like the Bordman volume, the compilation includes for each play: plot summaries, critical reaction, number of performances, biographies of notable individuals, a “feel of each show: the kind of play it was, the mood and tenor of the piece and some indication of what it was like visually” (Pref.). The title and people indexes are very useful.

Bernth Lindfors began compiling Black African Literature in English in 1979, with the volume covering to the end of 1976 (Guide BE1506) and continued to update the bibliography with supplements. Now he has added Supplement 4 for 1992–1996 (Oxford: Hans Zell, 2000. xliii, 654p. $125). Like others in the series, the volume includes citations to bibliographies of creative works, but not the creative works themselves (novels, stories, plays, poems, anthologies) unless prefaced by a substantial critical introduction. Also omitted are stage reviews and political biographies of statesmen. This volume has 13,500 entries and is continuously numbered following the preceding volumes, although the Author, Title, Subject, and Geographic Place indexes only refer to this volume.

Two popular dictionaries of crime have been revised, both Facts on File titles. Cops, Crooks, and Criminologists: An International Biographical Dictionary of Law Enforcement by Charles Phillips (updated rev. ed. N.Y.: 2000. 322p. illus. $18.95; 1st ed., 1996 by Alan Axelrod) is updated to include such figures as Timothy McVeigh and Janet Reno among its 600 crime fighters and most notorious criminals. A few of the entries have one citation for further reading. The Encyclopedia of American Crime, compiled by Carl Sifakis (2nd ed. N.Y.: 2001. 2v. [966p.]; illus. $165; 1st ed. 1985. Guide CK254n) offers 2,000 entries and includes figures such as Meyer Kahane, techniques such as DNA testing, defense attorneys such as Clarence Darrow, and crime fighters such as William J. Fallon. One must use the index because the cross-referencing structure is shaky; for example, to find Timothy McVeigh, one must look under Oklahoma with no cross-reference in the text. Both volumes have useful indexes.

In response to a query to Peter Salt, the Project Editor at the Royal Historical Society, we learn that the Annual Bibliography of British and Irish History (Guide DC282), available on CD-ROM, should appear online during 2002, including all the data from the CD-ROM and annual publications 1993–2000.

Rather than compile an entirely new edition, Donald F. Glut plans to issue, irregularly, supplementary volumes to deal with additions, corrections, revisions, and other changes. This is the first of this series of supplements and covers new specimens of known dinosaurs and new kinds discovered or reported on since 1995, up to August 25, 1998, Dinosaurs, the Encyclopedia: Supplement 1 (Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2000. 442 p. $60). The appendices contain a list of museums exhibiting dinosaurs, a glossary, a list of corrected derivations of dinosaur names, and an updated bibliography for works mostly in the 1990s. An index concludes the volume.