This year the Bibliography and Indexes Committee continues its project to honor outstanding English-language book-length bibliographies in the field of history. The committee hopes the compilers, publishers, librarians, and users of such works will benefit from the annotations presented here. This year’s titles were published in either 1995 or 1996. All members of the library profession are invited to submit titles to the project editor for consideration. The committee will consider all areas and periods of history.

BEST BIBLIOGRAPHIES IN HISTORY

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND INDEXES COMMITTEE, HISTORY SECTION, RUSA; DAVID L. LANGENBERG, EDITOR

Contributing members: Daniel Barthell, James Doyle, Claire Gabriel, E. Jens Holley, Betty L. Jenkins, Merlyn Kierstead, Cynthia Krolikowski, David L. Langenberg, Carla Rickerson, Lou Vyhnanek.


Nearly 2,200 annotated entries comprise the bulk of this excellent bibliography on a most interesting subject, the two-thousand-year history of alcohol in the British Isles. This is not a bibliography on alcoholism but on the beverages themselves and the surrounding paraphernalia of the drink industry. Care was taken to include not only accessible material from the usual general indexes, but Ph.D. dissertations, M.A. theses, essays, unpublished research, and other items. Those works available in only one or two places have the locations noted in the annotation. Most of the entries are secondary sources that must have two or more pages of historical content, contain a considerable amount of primary sources, and have a sufficient amount of commentary to provide a history and not just historical highlights. The bibliography is divided into twenty-one chapters with an informative introduction, a list of abbreviations, an author index, and a subject index. Academic libraries should consider this volume for their collection.—Cynthia Krolikowski, Wayne State University, Detroit.


The World’s Columbian Exposition, which took place in Chicago in 1893, has been the subject of considerable scholarly attention in the past decade. Future researchers will be immeasurably aided by this guide that celebrates the exposition’s centennial anniversary. The compilers have gathered more than six thousand references to primary and secondary sources relating to all aspects of the fair. These are arranged into twenty-two chapters ranging from “Women at the Fair” to “Literature Relating to the Fair”; in addition, subject access is eased by a massive sixty-seven-page index. Two features of this work are particularly outstanding: unique indexing of numerous late-nineteenth-century periodicals and newspapers and an extensive section on manuscript collections, photographs/illustrations, and exhibit materials, which are scattered throughout many repositories.—Claire Gabriel, New York University, New York City.


After a thumbnail sketch of World War II in the foreword, this first-rate work provides the user with short bibliographies on the war’s major players on both sides; even Finland is included. The compiler believes that “the events described in the forward were engineered by individuals.” There are sections on the political leaders, the military leaders, and other noteworthy figures. Each entry, after a brief narrative introduction, provides a short bibliography of relevant literature that, unfortunately, is not annotated. While not intended to be exhaustive, more than thirty-five hundred entries are provided that the compiler considers important to the field of World War I literature. The book is well bound and has an author index. Recommended for both college and research libraries.—James Doyle, Macomb Community College, Warren, Michigan.


Much has been written on the history of specific computer models and the companies that produced them. This bibliography goes beyond the mechanics of computers and focuses entirely on the history of how computers were used in the United States. Concentrating on the forty years between 1950 and 1990, it contains more than sixteen hundred annotated references to computer applications. The author divides the work into two sections—1950 to 1965 and 1966 to 1990. The decision to begin the second section in 1966 has to do with the large number of third-generation mainframe computers that were being installed at the time. Beyond 1990, the information on computer applications explodes exponentially, and the historical significance becomes less clear. Twenty-eight general application headings index the first section, and forty-eight (some duplicated) index the second. Citations are from articles, pamphlets, and books. With separate subject and author indexes, this bibliography is well suited for large public and academic libraries.—Cynthia Krolikowski, Wayne State University, Detroit.


This excellent bibliography of 2,960 entries is a unique resource. The compilers note that there are one thousand new titles included not found in the Eighteenth Century Short Title Catalogue (ESTC), thus adding to its value as an important refer-
ience tool for the study of the literature and culture in England and in colonial America during this period. The publications are arranged alphabetically, and for each title the following information is given: author; title; edition; number of volumes; place and year of publication; format; pagination; printer, publisher, or bookseller; ESTC number; and library location. A brief annotation further describes the publication. The useful "Background" section contains information on the types of materials published and the social and political issues that influenced Catholic publishing. Another section defines the subject and scope. Three indexes (author/title; printers, publishers, and booksellers; proper names in title and notes) facilitate access. This book is essential for all academic and large public libraries.—Betty L. Jenkins, City College of the City University of New York.


This is an outstanding comprehensive bibliography of the venerable eighteenth-century Pennsylvania physician and statesman. Rush is renowned for early exploration of American psychiatry and is revered as a writer, lecturer, surgeon, Continental army officer, and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. This annotated bibliography is arranged chronologically with alphabetical main entries and divided into two parts. Part one comprises references to Rush’s published works covering his medical observations, social and political views, books, and periodical articles. A sample entry key facilitates finding references to editions of documents, reprints, and reviews and referring to them in microformat collections, i.e., Sabin, Evans, and Shaw/Shoemaker. The second part emulates the first, enumerating publication titles relating to Rush. Consider this an essential guide for academic libraries.—Diane R. Parkinson, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.


As the only available bibliography on women in the United States military, this volume is unique. The increasing number of women in military schools and the issues surrounding their integration into the armed forces also makes it timely. The author’s purpose is to provide “in a one volume reference, quick access to important research on military women.” The volume begins with a chapter on conducting research on military women, continues with chapters on women’s roles in the military, the different branches of service, and the service academies, and ends with general topics like family and pregnancy issues, women in combat, sex issues (Tailhook is a subchapter), and veterans. The time covered is 1901 to 1995. The bibliography contains 857 entries, including books, research reports, student papers from senior service schools, technical reports, dissertations, archival materials, sections of government documents, and articles from scholarly journals, but no popular or service magazine articles. Coverage of personal narratives is comprehensive. Useful appendices include “Archival Resources,” “Chronology of Women’s Service,” and “Military World Wide Web Pages.” A groundbreaking work, this book will remain in the public and academic libraries.—David L. Langenberg, University of Delaware Library, Newark.


This volume is another in the excellent Greenwood series Bibliographies of the Presidents of the United States. Following the well-organized, standard format of the other volumes in the series, the author first notes manuscript and archival sources, including the papers of presidential associates, then lists oral histories, personal writings, and biographical publications, and, last, cites scholarly works and other secondary sources (more than four thousand citations in all). Although Giglio has previously published a book on John F. Kennedy, he was surprised by the enormous amount of material covering various aspects of Kennedy’s life and career, such as his Catholicism. The especially voluminous literature on the assassination had to be pared down considerably, leaving only the more significant works. Annotations are generally brief but useful. Author and subject indexes offer easy access to the citations. This comprehensive bibliography of a president who continues to inspire the popular imagination is recommended for all libraries with an interest in American history.—Marilyn Kiernstead, Reed College, Portland, Oregon.


This is a compilation of biographical references to individuals serving in Congress from 1774 through 1995. Sources include autobiographies, books, chapters in books, periodical articles (excluding popular magazines), and dissertations. Publications about the members cover their public and private lives; writings by members concern only their public careers. Materials about the members’ public service outside of Congress are listed. There are 9,742 entries with no annotations. Citations contain birth and death dates, dates of service in Congress, and perspectives. This book is organized alphabetically by member name and has an author index. A drawback is the failure to list a name if no biographical information was found. This book complements CQ’s Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774–1996 (1997). Recommended for all academic and large public libraries.—David L. Langenberg, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.


The 243 entries in this volume offer a detailed overview of the scholarly literature on the demographic history of the Audíencia de Guatemala, the Spanish colonial unit comprising the present-day Mexican state of Chiapas and the countries of Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica. The entries represent books, articles, dissertations, and
licenciatura, primarily in Spanish and English, published from the 1930s through the 1990s. Entries are arranged alphabetically by author, with lengthy and highly informative annotations. Noteworthy features in this fascinating volume are an informative introduction, including maps and tables; a glossary; and an essay analyzing the subject matter, publication date, and author background of the entries. Recommended for academic libraries supporting research in Latin American studies or demography.—Claire Gabriel, New York University, New York City.


This bibliography continues the long-standing tradition of excellent bibliographies in Native American history published by the Center for the History of the American Indian at the Newberry Library. Containing nearly three thousand entries, this volume updates the pioneering work of Francis Paul Prucha’s two bibliographies on Indian-white relations, which cover material published through 1980. It also reflects the growing interdisciplinary nature of recent scholarship in Indian history, including coverage of books and articles written in English in a wide range of subject areas such as history, anthropology, sociology, literature, economics, religious studies, and linguistics.

The work is organized into thirteen broad chapters, beginning with general studies and focusing on major chapters on Indian-white relations and ethnohistory. Entries are arranged alphabetically under subheadings within each chapter; there is a detailed name and subject index. This volume is an essential purchase for all academic and large public libraries, particularly those with a strong program in Native American history.—Lou Vylemane, Washington State University, Pullman.


Signals intelligence, a British term for intelligence gathered from intercepted radio messages or signals, played a significant role in many important battles and controversial issues of World War II. This was particularly evident in ULTRA and MAGIC intercepts and decryptions of the German Enigma and Japanese Purple codes. In this unique work the author covers these and related topics as well as provides excellent context in concise and informative abstracts to nearly all of the more than eight hundred citations. Coverage of materials (books, articles, dissertations, and more) is extensive and includes publications from the 1930s to 1995. Most citations are to English-language materials, and foreign-language titles are translated into English. There are author and subject indexes. The book is worth its high price.—Daniel W. Barthell, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.