



FROM COMMITTEES OF RUSA

Best Bibliographies in History

RUSA Bibliography and Indexes Committee

With this list, the Bibliographies and Indexes Committee continues its project to honor outstanding English-language book-length bibliographies in the field of history. We hope to encourage both the work of historical scholars and the support of publishers for this important activity. This year's titles were published in 1998 or 1999. For 2001, the committee will review works published in 1999 or 2000. All members of the library profession are invited to submit titles to the 2000/2001 project editor for consideration. Nominated titles can be from any geographic area or period of history. The focus is on first editions, but a subsequent edition will be considered if there is substantial revision. Titles for consideration, with appropriate bibliographic information, can be sent to the 2000/2001 project editor: Phoebe Janes, History Librarian, 212 Doe Library, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720-6000; e-mail: pjanes@library.berkeley.edu. The deadline for submitting titles is October 30, 2000.

Contributing members: Shelley A. Arlen, Nancy M. Godleski, Phoebe Janes, Cynthia H. Krolikowski (Editor), Theresa A. Mudrock, James P. Niessen, Edward C. Oetting, Margaret Ann Reinert, Jennifer Schaffner, Joseph E. Straw.

Danky, James P., and Maureen E. Hady, eds. *African-American Newspapers and Periodicals: A National Bibliography*. Harvard University Press Reference Library. Cambridge: Harvard University Pr., 1999. 740p. \$125 (ISBN 0-674-00788-3).

This comprehensive bibliography is the result of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin's African-American Newspapers and Periodicals Bibliography Project (1989-98). The project identified African-American periodicals and newspapers that were published since 1827 and accessible to the public. Meticulous care has been taken to describe the 6,562 entries arranged in alphabetical order by title, including the use of serial cata-

loging elements such as frequency, variations of the title, and the copy availability in both microform and original format in more than one hundred North American libraries and archives. The bibliography also contains information on where a particular item is indexed, listing almost seventy other general bibliographies, indexes, guides, and abstracting services. Additionally, the volume contains an editors index, a publishers index, a geographic index, and a very valuable subject and features index with more than two thousand topics and organizations. The bibliography is a marvelous guide to the full richness of African-American literary and intellectual history, chronicling black life in America by those who lived it. As a unique finding aid, this work is recommended for academic and public libraries of all sizes.—*Margaret Ann Reinert, Mid-Continent Public Library, Independence, Missouri*

Edwards, Paul M. *The Korean War: An Annotated Bibliography*. Bibliographies and Indexes in Military Studies, 10. Westport Conn.: Greenwood Pr., 1998. 346p. \$79.50 (ISBN 0-313-30317-7).

For a "forgotten war," the Korean War is suddenly very popular with reference book publishers. The last five years have seen the issuance of at least three encyclopedic works and numerous bibliographies on the subject. One of the most useful and current bibliographies is this volume by Paul Edwards, director of the Center for the Study of the Korean War. The bibliography begins with a succinct history and chronology of the war. Edwards provides citations and brief annotations for more than twenty-two hundred English language monographs, documents, dissertations, and articles dealing with all aspects of the conflict. The work is organized by broad topics followed by author/subject indexes. Librarians will find that this volume supplements both Keith McFarland's *The Korean War: An Annotated Bibliography* (1986) and Lester Brune's *The Korean War: Handbook of the Literature and Research* (1996). It is recommended for academic libraries and large public libraries. —Theresa Mudrock, University of Washington, Seattle

Etter, Patricia A. *To California on the Southern Route, 1849: A History and Annotated Bibliography*. American Trails Series. Spokane, Wash.: Arthur H. Clark Company, 1998. 178p. \$37.50 (ISBN 0-870-62270-6).

The great 1849 overland trek to the California gold fields left a permanent imprint on the American folk imagination. A good deal of the popular imagery of this migration

centers on the northern Platte River route. History has largely neglected the settlers who traveled to California through the deserts of the Southwest. Patricia Etter has done a wonderful job of correcting this imbalance by gathering all of the known accounts of travelers who used these southern routes. Etter profiles each of the most important routes and lists more than 180 personal accounts by those who traveled them. Each account has an exceptionally well-written annotation with location information for the source documents. Aimed at scholars and the educated reader, this bibliography clearly belongs in all libraries that support strong American history collections. —Joseph Straw, University of Akron, Ohio

Forbes, David W. *Hawaiian National Bibliography, 1780-1900*. Vol. 1: 1780-1830. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Pr., 1999. 560p. \$100 (ISBN 0-824-82042-8).

The unique nature of this illustrated bibliography fills an information gap that has existed for some time. The author used libraries from around the world to search for any and all published information that mentioned Hawaii, including ephemera, newspaper accounts, broadsides, and handbills. Coverage ranges from the first mention of Hawaii in a German newspaper to an extensive bibliography of Cook's third voyage. The citations are arranged by date of publication and then by main entry. Extensive annotations discuss the history of each title, describe the contents or significance, and record locations of all known copies. The index provides author, title, and subject access. This lovely bibliogra-

phy is recommended for research collections, especially those with strengths in United States history or the history of the Pacific.—Jennifer Schaffner, University of California in Los Angeles

Henderson, George F. W. L. *Mackenzie King: A Bibliography and Research Guide*. Toronto: University of Toronto Pr., 1998. 367p. \$95 (ISBN 0-802-04157-4).

A recent contribution to the burgeoning field of Canadiana is *W. L. Mackenzie King: A Bibliography and Research Guide*. William Lyon Mackenzie King is synonymous with twentieth-century Canadian history; he was an elected leader of the Liberal Party from 1919 to 1948, and prime minister for almost twenty-two of those years. In addition to his well-documented political contributions, King wrote five monographs and served as editor of three periodicals.

The book is divided into two sections. Part one lists all materials written by King (in French and English) including public records, private diaries, letters, and unpublished speeches. Not all of the citations are annotated. Location symbols indicate holdings of King resources in fifty-two Canadian archives as well as in the National Archives of Canada. Part two is devoted to works about King. Included are books, articles, newsreels, dissertations, and fictional and artistic expressions such as plays, radio and television programs, poems, and book dedications. Six appendixes and a twenty-page index complete the volume. The sum total of these parts equals an exhaustive research guide, far exceeding the conventional definition of a bibliography. This work brings together all that has been known about King and

introduces new information. Fifty years after his death, King's previously anonymous writings have been authenticated and are made public here for the first time. Henderson has compiled a richly textured investigative tool useful for anyone interested in twentieth-century Canadian political and social history.—*Phoebe Janes, University of California, Berkeley*

Higham, Robin, and Donald J. Mrozek, eds. *A Guide to the Sources of United States Military History: Supplement IV*. North Haven, Conn.: Archon Books, 1998. 580p. \$69.50 (ISBN 0-208-02422-0).

This supplement, like the earlier volumes in the series, consists of signed, evaluative bibliographic essays that conclude with a list of bibliographic citations on aspects of American military history. Most of the subject headings are identical to those of the original (1975) volume, but their number has grown from nineteen to twenty-six. Each essay surveys books and articles that have appeared since the publication of *Supplement III* in 1988. Sections vary in length from forty pages to ten or less. This series constitutes the definitive bibliography in its field, integrating citations with the informative essays and suggesting archival resources and further lines of research. The only downside is the lack of a comprehensive index.—*James P. Niessen, Texas Tech University, Lubbock*

Paul, Barbara Dotts, and Justus F. Paul, comp. *Wisconsin History: An Annotated Bibliography*. Bibliographies of the States of the United States, 8. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Pr., 1999. 428p. \$79.50 (ISBN 0-313-28271-4)

Wisconsin History: An Anno-

tated Bibliography is an excellent addition to the growing number of publications in the bibliographical series Bibliographies of the States of the United States. From its very concise and informative preface to its listing of the serials consulted at the end, scholars and the general public alike will find this work easy to use and remarkably well organized. A five-page chronology lists important historical dates ranging from the first European visit to Wisconsin in 1634 to the sesquicentennial of Wisconsin statehood in 1998. The material cited in the bibliography is mostly scholarly, interdisciplinary research found in monographs, journal articles, theses, dissertations, reference sources, atlases, and guides to archives and libraries. By necessity, certain genres and formats of historical information have been omitted deliberately from the work due to space limitations, but the last chapter lists bibliographical and archival sources to consult. Twenty-one chapters contain 3,406 annotated citations that detail the full richness of Wisconsin history, including three chapters devoted to American Indian history and affairs. An author index is included, as well as a fairly complete subject index that lists eight citations on the cheese industry, three citations for the Green Bay Packers, and twenty citations about the Socialist Party (appropriate because the city of Milwaukee has had three Socialist mayors in the last hundred years!). This volume would be a useful and used resource for all types of academic and research libraries. Public libraries with a well-rounded collection in American history would find it beneficial as well.—*Cynthia H.*

Krolkowski, Wayne State University, Detroit

Smith, Harold F. *American Travellers Abroad: A Bibliography of Accounts Published Before 1900*. 2d ed. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Pr., 1999. 383p. \$60 (ISBN 0-810-83554-1).

Popular in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, these accounts of travel outside the continental United States were written by nearly four hundred U.S. citizens of diverse backgrounds: physicians, freethinkers, even a librarian on a cycling tour! Some of the authors are famous (Emerson, Longfellow, Twain); many are ordinary citizens who were participating in the Grand Tour, doing missionary work, or finding themselves in the middle of war and political upheaval. The annotations are brief and informative. The bibliography is especially useful to track down elusive compilations of letters written by persons without thought of publication, or to find accounts sent to hometown newspapers that were subsequently published by a local printer. First issued in 1969 by the Library at Southern Illinois University, this edition adds 106 items and an occupation index. Also included are a bibliography of sources and an index to places. Academic libraries will want this work for their collections.—*Shelley Arlen, University of Florida, Gainesville*

Struve, Lynn A. *The Ming-Qing Conflict, 1619-1683: A Historiography and Source Guide*. Monograph and Occasional Paper Series, 56. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Association for Asian Studies, 1998. 423p. \$40. (ISBN 0-924-30437-5).

Struve not only tackles the difficult task of bringing source materials about the

seventeenth-century Ming-Qing dynastic changeover to the researcher's attention, she also provides useful and hopeful commentary on the strengths and possibilities of the materials. The volume is divided into two parts. In the first part, entitled "A Sino-Cultural History," she explores the social, cultural, actuarial, and political factors in historiographies of China. The second part, "The Best Early Sources," is comprised of three sections: "Major Primary Sources" by region, "Important Contemporary Secondary Sources," and "Governmental and Quasi-Governmental Compilations." Each citation listed includes the various editions and locations of the material and the author's very helpful descriptions of the item. At the end of each part are notes

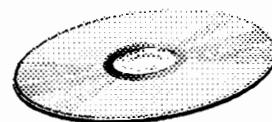
and references that could stand on their own as valuable bibliographies. The work also contains a comprehensive author and title index. Any research or academic library with collection strength in East Asian studies should consider acquiring this volume.—*Nancy M. Godleski, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut*

White, Phillip M., comp. *The Kickapoo Indians, Their History and Culture: An Annotated Bibliography*. *Bibliographies and Indexes in American History*, 41. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Pr., 1999. 118p. \$55 (ISBN 0-313-30927-2).

It's hard to reflect all the diverse facets of the history and culture of a North American Indian group in a succinct bibliography. *The Kickapoo Indians, Their History*

and Culture: An Annotated Bibliography has come very close to doing just that. The excellent introduction is well-worded, complementing the detailed index at the end of the work. There are appropriate subject categories in the organizational structure of the book and substantial annotations for each of the citations listed. The author also includes a useful directory and governance/historical information about the several recognized tribes that make up the Kickapoo Nation. Authoritative in scope and content, *The Kickapoo Indians, Their History and Culture: An Annotated Bibliography* is essential for any academic library supporting programs in the history and culture of native North American nations.—*Edward Oetting, Arizona State University, Tempe* ■

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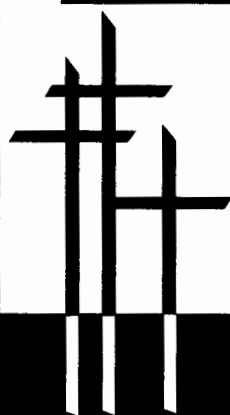
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