REFERENCE BOOKS OF 1966

Compiled by the Library Journal List Committee of ALA's Reference Service Division. Members: Julia Bartling, head of Reference Service at the University of Iowa Libraries; Ruth Cawein, head of the Education and Religion Department at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County; James K. Dickson, head of the Fine Arts Department at the Enoch Pratt Free Library; Thelma Freides, documents librarian at Emory University; Margaret E. Miller, chief of the Philosophy, Psychology, and Religion Division, Public Library of the District of Columbia; Gary R. Purcell, instructor at the School of Library Science, Western Reserve University; L. Dolores Ryan, undergraduate librarian, Library Reserve Book Center, Cleveland State University Libraries; and Margaret Smart, head of the Documents Division at Colorado School of Mines, chairman.
Reprinted from

LIBRARY JOURNAL's

Reference Issue

April 15, 1967

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Reference Books of 1966

By MARGARET SMART

A list of last year's outstanding reference books, prepared specially for LJ and recommended by a committee of the Reference Services Division of ALA.

THIS YEAR'S LIST of reference books has been selected with the needs on the small and medium-sized library in mind. The committee's aim is to choose titles which can be useful in public and college libraries. There has been no effort to have a balanced list since some subject areas had more material published than did others during the period covered.

Consideration is given to cost, but some expensive items are mentioned because of the need they can fill. Many of the valuable tools which are automatically eliminated by the limitations of this list are reviewed, listed, or mentioned in other issues of Library Journal as well as in special publications for subject libraries.

Many of the items appearing on this list will be useful in circulating collections. They were included here because their content or arrangement allows them to fulfill a reference function.

Each committee member has primary responsibility for identifying potential candidates in certain subject areas and for making recommendations to include or exclude titles. These views are studied by the other committee members before a final decision is made. Much correspondence was exchanged during the year. A day of the ALA Conference in New York was devoted to discussing titles that were seen too late for last year's list as well as those published early this year. The Midwinter meeting of ALA gave an opportunity for two full days of work to make final selections.

The members of the committee are: Julia Bartling, head of Reference Service at the University of Iowa Libraries; Ruth Cawein, head of the Education and Religion Department at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County; James K. Dickson, head of the Fine Arts Department at the Enoch Pratt Free Library; Thelma Freides, documents librarian at Emory University; Margaret E. Miller, chief of the Philosophy, Psychology, and Religion Division, Public Library of the District of Columbia; Gary R. Purcell, instructor at the School of Library Science, Western Reserve University; L. Dolores Ryan, undergraduate librarian, Library Reserve Book Center, Cleveland State University Libraries; and Margaret Smart, head of the Documents Division at Colorado School of Mines, chairman.

Committee members wish to thank the personnel of their own libraries as well as the staff members of neighboring libraries visited in order to see the materials. Without their help, compilation of such a list would be impossible. At least one member has examined each listed publication besides studying reviews and descriptions. Consideration was given to 822 titles.

The works included in this list will again be displayed in the Reference Services Division's booth at the San Francisco convention of the American Library Association, June 25-July 1. After that, they will be available for loan to interested groups for display at regional and local meetings. The only cost will be the payment of transportation charges. For further information write to: Edward G. Strable, Executive Secretary, Reference Services Division, American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

Through the generosity of Library Journal and the R. R. Bowker Company, reprints of the list will be available at the RSD exhibit in San Francisco and with the traveling exhibit. Inquiries concerning reprints should also be directed to Mr. Strable.

Biography

The BOOK of Saints. 5th rev. ed. comp. by the Benedictine Monks of St. Augustin's Abbey, Ramsgate. Crowell. 740p. $8.95

Substantially the same as the fourth edition. Changed by some corrections and the addition of persons beatified or canonized by the Catholic Church in the last 25 years. Brief biographies are especially useful for identification purposes.

CUMMINGS, PAUL. A Dictionary of Contemporary American Artists. St. Martin's. 331p. $17.50


A monumental work, comparable in content, style, and quality to DBF and DAB. To be completed in approximately 20 volumes. Authoritative biographical essays and bibliographies on notable figures in Canadian history. The chronological arrangement permits self-contained portions of the Dictionary to be completed during the years the work is in progress, and to facilitate interpretation of the subject's lives against the background of the development of the Canadian nation. The first volume extends from 1600 to 1700, as determined by death dates of the biographies. The second is to cover 1701-1740, and the remainder are as yet unspecified. Volume one contains several introductory essays on early Canada and a bibliography of manuscript and printed source materials.

EWEN, David, ed. Great Composers, 1300-1900. Wilson, 429p. $10

A two- or three-page biography, with portrait, list of principal works, and a bibliography for each of 198 names most often inquired after.


Introduction by Lyndon B. Johnson. On the presidency and the presidents from Washington to LBJ. Many of the photographs and prints are in color. Convenient compendium of facts.
GUY, Harold Alfred. Who's Who in the Gospels. St. Martin's, 1965. $2.95
This comprehensive dictionary is more than biographical; it has information about places, institutions, practices, and some of the ideas found in the four Gospels.

Admired by millions but usually ignored in dictionaries of artists, some 700 words and brief biographies with characteristic book or magazine work named and one to four reproductions. No inclusive index.

Education

Special feature is the ranking of leading departments by the quality of the faculty and effectiveness of the program. No index, but a detailed contents listing.

Fifty-three points were raised to aid in comparing more than 2,300 undergraduate colleges. A new chapter on over 370 schools offering only graduate study shows an additional ten. Not every question was answered by all institutions. The useful “College Discovery Index” was retained. Index.

Part I is an alphabetical listing by countries, states, and territories outside the U.S. Especially useful is the information concerning each country’s educational system, location and history of each university, size of the student body, admission requirements, language of instruction, accommodations, costs, degrees offered, and details on how to enroll. The short account of student life and extra-curricular activities is good, and local attractions added interest. Part II was first published in 1963 as a pamphlet entitled A Guide to Boarding Schools Abroad. It lists elementary and secondary boarding schools and indicates which day schools will enroll American students.

Basic information on 30 federal programs. Detailed explanations of the types of assistance, eligibility, and methods of application. Many useful tables.

Expanded edition of a nationwide directory first published in 1963. Can be used with students, counselors, and persons designing technical education programs.

Fine Arts

Essentially a reprint of a 70-year-old standard tool. Twenty-six pages of 20th Century terms have been added. Libraries owning the basic work may want to consider the extent of the revision.

Inexpensive but now doubled in size, this is a convenient tool with extended articles on styles and basic forms of furniture. Illustrations are coordinated with the text. Bibliography. Glossary of designers and craftsmen.

CARRICK, Neville. How to Find Out About the Arts. Permagan, 1965. 164p. $2.95
Bibliographical guide arranged in 21 chapters, each by type of source or subject. Illustrated with sample pages. A selective tool for students or librarians. Some British emphasis.

Up-to-date ready reference tool. Representative styles identified and factors which have influenced style are brought out. Biographies of architects.

Short definitions of words in the furnishing, decorating, and building trades with many minute illustrations.

RAINWATER, Dorothy T. American Silver Manufacturers. Hanover, Pa.: Everybody Press, 1965. $7.50
A helpful addition to the standard identification books, this is devoted to machine-made silver and plated ware from 1842 to 1920. The list by companies gives place, dates, history, reproduces marks, and refers to associated firms. Retailers who used marks are included. Bibliography.

General Reference

The fifth of the H.W. Wilson Company’s useful standard catalog series, a book selection, catalog, and reader’s advisor’s aid for those working with children at the junior high level. Amended list, arranged Dewey Decimal Classification, with a dictionary author, title, subject, and analytical index, and a directory of publishers.

The bowdoin edition (and much more than likely, the last) edition is not just a merging of the entries and cross-references in the second edition and its supplements. It adds 11,892 titles and 17,465 cross-references, plus additional locations for titles not commonly held from a total of 950 cooperating libraries, as opposed to 712 libraries in the second edition.

History & Geography

Covers 1763 to 1783 in the same format and general style as its Civil War Dictionary published in 1959. Includes participation of foreign countries. Detailed cross-references. Numerous maps, use of which is aided by an index of place names. Bibliography and index.

Collection of documents significant in American history. Historical and contemporary significance of each is marked for authors in the subject. Economic, cultural, and political aspects receive comment. Besides a detailed index by subject there is an index of words and phrases and of authors, titles, and editors.

CHANDLER, David G. ed. A Guide to the Battlefields of Europe. Chilton, 1965. 2 vols. $5.95 each; $10.95 set
Accounts of 245 famous battles, 1200-1945, with notes on accessibility of the battlefields and preservation of the site. First volume covers areas west of the Rhine; second deals with territory east of the Rhine. Signed accounts. Lists of suggested readings. Map of each country shows location of battlefields. Some maps of individual battles, showing course of campaign. Brief military glossary, chronological and alphabetical indexes in each volume.

Full texts of the 178State of the Union messages. Convenient and useful, although contents are certainly available elsewhere. Introductory essay by Arthur M. Schlesinger. Detailed index.
JOHNSON, Thomas Herbert & Harvey W., The Oxford Companion to American History, N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 906p., $12.50. A readable one-volume source of information. Supplements the Oxford Companion to American Literature. The articles are alphabetically arranged with summaries of significant times, events, and places. Thousands of cross-references. Tables show names and dates of persons who have held high office, such as Cabinet Members and Supreme Court Justices. Text of the Constitution and its amendments are given at the end of the book. Recent bibliographic information for longer articles.

Listed more than 2000 books (in print as of the Winter of 1964-65) pertinent to a full range of American history—from pre-Columbian explorers to present day advances of science and technology. Subdivisions with chronological sections are by form (fiction, biography, and other nonfiction) and then according to Grand categories of reading levels in elementary and junior high schools. Full bibliographic information is given, with occasional brief annotations by the author, bibliographic subject, and title indexes.

MIRKIN, Stanford M., What Happened When: a Noted Researcher's Account of Yesterdays, Washburn (dist., McKay), 442p., $7.95. Revised edition of author's When Did It Happen, 1937. Describes notable events which have occurred on each day of the year, with emphasis on events of the 19th and 20th Centuries. Arranged by date, with detailed index permitting alternate approaches.

Hobbies & Recreation


Many of the early 20th-Century objects sought by less affluent collectors are being recognized in print. These experienced journalists suggest values, name collectors and helpful books, and give information previously ungathered.

Guide to more than 200 caves open to the public. Approved by the National Speleological Society. Arranged by region. Alaska and Hawaii are not included. Information for each gives such details as hours of exact location, nearby accommodations, and telephone numbers. Maps. Index.

Literature & Language

AMERICANISM: A Dictionary of Selected Americanisms on Historical Principles, by Mitford M. Mathews. University of Chicago Press, 304p., $5.95; pb, $1.95. An abridgment of Mathews' work: A Dictionary of Americanisms on Historical Principles (University of Chicago Press, 2 vols., 1951). This work consists of a selection of approximately a thousand entries from the earlier work. Useful for smaller college or public libraries which do not have the original edition.

This compilation is original and is not based on other books of its type. Entries, which number more than 900, are clearly defined, giving the language of origin. The century when a word or phrase first came into use is indicated, and when a quotation illustrating use is presented, reference to source is specific. This work is up-to-date, with entries for words and phrases which have only recently become part of our vocabulary.

Indispensable one-volume work. Contains references to persons, places, dramatic works, and subjects associated with Shakespeare, all significant characters in the plays, as well as actors, editors, and critics of his works. It brings together in one alphabet book by scholars, biographers, historians, and critics. Bibliographic listings for most entries. Appendices with chronologies, genealogies, and a selected bibliography. Summary of plot, characters, sources, stage histories, and criticism for each of the 37 major plays.

The EXPLICATOR, The Explicator Cyclopedia, ed. by Charles Child Walcott and J. Edwin Whitesell. Vol. 1. Chicago: Quadrangle Books, 366p., $10 from first years of success. The Explicator have been selected over 200 of the best analyses of outstanding modern American and American literature. Written by some of the most respected critical scholars. An indispensable guide to the most important works.


This up-to-date work presents, in a dictionary arrangement, troublesome words and phrases, with recommended forms of usage. Articles, varying in length, are highly informative, and at times entertaining. Usage of shall, will, should, and would is treated in a separate appendix, as is punctuation.

Over 300 frequently used literary references to words, phrases, and people, and names have been arranged alphabetically with many cross-references. Biblical location, relevant quotations from the Bible, and examples of their use in English and American literature are given. Pronunciation is shown when necessary. Most quotations are from the King James version; the authors quoted range from all periods—Shakespeare and Chaucer to Joyce and Dylan Thomas. Although selection is limited in number, the explorations are excellent.


KELEN'S work, the first volume of which is noted above, is particularly valuable for the large number of scientific and technical words offered, plus the treatment of many proper names. The Oxford Dictionary of English Etymology presents, in convenient form, a selective selection of the etymologies in the Oxford English Dictionary, with
some updating, but largely omitting works originating in the 20th Century. Not all usage by century is a helpful feature. These two works overlap to some extent, but libraries able to afford both will find them supplement each other. Either title will be a worthy addition to a reference collection in a general public or college library.


Influential nonotechnical language British theologians have contributed articles on Bible words of contemporary importance in the supplying and study, for ministers, and students of varying education and experience.


Intended primarily as a tool for the learning of Norwegian by American students, this dictionary will also be of help to others interested in studying the language. A thorough approach provides detailed instructions to the user. Contains approximately 60,000 main entries, with identification by symbol of Dano-Norwegian and Norwegian words. Both meanings are marked by clarity and precision. Norwegian-English only; no section for English-Norwegian.

The RANDOM House Dictionary of the English Language. Jess Stein, ed.-in-chief, Random, 2059p. $25

Recency of compilation makes this dictionary of 260,000 words (Webster's third edition has 450,000 words) useful to the average library. Special features, such as a political atlas, four concise foreign language dictionaries, a chronology of world history, a directory of colleges and universities, etc., plus a reasonable price, enhance its appeal as a title for a home or public collection as well. Has clear, readable type.

SCOTT, Arthur F. Current Literary Terms; a Concise Dictionary of English Language and Usage. St. Martin's, 1965, 324p. $4.95

"...A complete reference-book, alphabetically arranged, carefully cross-referenced, giving the etymology and concise but comprehensive definition of the principal terms used in the various branches of literature."—Preface. Quotations are used to illustrate many of the definitions.


"An index to 259 collections of world famous orations and speeches for various occasions."—Subtitle. This volume, which extends coverage through 1946, replaces the third edition of the Speech Index, published in 1935, 1936, and 1942. Format and arrangement of the 1966 publication follow the general pattern of its predecessors.

TEMPLE, Ruth (Zabriskis) & Martin Tucker, eds. A Library of Literary Criticism; Modern British Literature. Unipub, 3 vols. $35

Planned as a sequel to Moulton's famous 19th-Century work, these volumes follow a similar plan for over 400 British and Commonwealth authors who wrote in or made their reputations in the present century. From British and American periodicals, newspapers, book reviews, and books, criticism is quoted for each author to describe his qualities, define his status, and show something of his life and personality."—Preface. Bibliography of each author's work (except only selected listings for voluminous writers), index to critics, and cross-references of authors.

WOODS, Ralph L., ed. The World's Treasury of Religious Quotations. Hawthorn, 960p. $15

Uses a great variety of religious and secular sources from magazines as well as books for a compilation of 10,000 quotations of religious thought in all centuries. Subject arrangement. Author, title, and date of publication identify each quotation. Author index.

Music & Theater


An index to almost 9500 songs, in all common languages, appearing in singles between 1940 and 1957. Arranged by composer or, if anonymous, by country of origin; indexed to title, author, and arranger. There is a section of Christmas carols and one of sea chanties.

FEATHER, Leonard. The Encyclopedia of Jazz in the Sixties. Horizon, 312p. $15

Hand-in-hand information in a field of renewed interest. Names of persons inactive since the author's 1960 work have been deleted as new ones have been added. Lists recordings which are generally available, Bibliography.


A bibliographical report arranged by title and indexed by personal names and inclusive tables. The primary aim is to date each first appearance; some identification of people involved is added and occasionally tunes are traced.


Continuation of important earlier works by Ruth Thomson—Index to Full Length Plays, 1895-1925 and 1926-1944— the most important feature of this volume is its subject approach to plays found in collections. Broadway plays, and many pamphlet plays. Many new subject headings have been added, with cross-references. Single-alphabet index of authors, subjects, and titles; the main entry is by play title and for each is given the author, number of acts, and whether it is an adaptation.


This authoritative handbook on the U.S. theatre contains biographies of over 550 Americans and many Europeans connected with all phases of theatre in this country—actors, directors, producers, dancers, designers, and playwrights with a necrology of those who died before 1965. Among several valuable features are an alphabetical listing of New York productions, 1900-1965; complete theatrical playbills for New York and other leading groups in the country from 1959; foreign premiers of American plays since the 19th-Century, and accounts of American theatre groups; awards; history of New York theatre buildings; discography; and a biographical bibliography.


Projected four-volume guide to reviews of modern British, American, and European plays, musicals, and screenplays. This first part (American Drama from O'Neill to Albee) provides a bibliography of critical reviews of 32 well-known and many American writers. It indexes the more popular American and Canadian periodicals and the New York Times, but makes no attempt to cover more scholarly sources. Arranged alphabetically by author, it cites the date of the New York Production and source of the review. Title index.

SPRINGCHORN, Evert, ed. 20th-Century Plays in Synopsis. Crownell, 1965, 490p. $6.95

Over 130 representative dramas by more than 60 modern playwrights are summarized, act by act, in synopses of which range in length from a page to five or six pages. Separate sections providing brief biographical notes on the playwrights and an alphabetical list of the plays follow the digests.


Excluding jazz, folk, and classical music, this volume covers the past two decades with definitions, biographies of composers and performers, and has entries under titles of dances, songs, and stage shows. Valuable appendices of award winners, discography, and bibliography.

Political & Social Science


Current conditions and historical background of Negro life in America. Bibliographies and extensive bibliographic footnotes. Comprehensive review of research as well as the author's own analyses. List of honors and awards won by Negroes appears in index.


A handy tool of facts and figures. Much useful, valuable information, such as "ten best cities


LEGUM, coll. ed. Africa: a Handbook to the Continent. rev., enl. ed. Praeger, 1965. 574p. $15.00 Updates, without major change in general content and style, the first edition, 1962. Funds together in a well-arranged format, political development, and current political and economic situation in 55 African countries and territories are presented in a series of country articles, part of which is updated in a bibliographical supplement. Index and notes on contributors.

MILLER, Elizabeth W. comp. The Negro in America: a Bibliography. Harvard University Press, 1965. $6.95 Compiled for the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, this selective, scholarly bibliography is a welcome addition to the reference collections of public and college libraries. Some older works are noted, but the emphasis is on books appearing in the years 1954 to 1965. Topically arranged; many references are accompanied by brief, descriptive annotations. Author index.

PORTER, Kirk Harold & Donald Bruce Johnson, comps. National Pony Platform, 1840-1964. 3d ed. University of Illinois Press, 698p. $10.75 Brilliantly arranged format, national political platforms spanning the Presidential campaigns of the last century and a quarter. Platforms of many of the minor parties are included. Their existence would be virtually unobtainable in the resources of many libraries, except for this volume. Useful for both public and college libraries.

STROUGAR, A. I. Pleneur, Pleneur's Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure. 2d ed. McGraw-Hill, 283p. $4.95 Combines a comprehensive statement of parliamentary principles preceding the exposition of the concents and purposes underlying the rules which are updated to conform to current practice. Rearranges some material from the 1950 edition to give greater emphasis to explanation of fundamentals. An advisory board composed of outstanding legal scholars, parliamentarians, and organization officials participated in this revision. Definitions of parliamentary terms. Index.


Science & Technology

BESANCON, Robert Martin, ed. The Encyclopedia of Physics. Reinhold, 832p. $25 For users ranging from the advanced high school student to the scientist seeking information outside his area of specialization. In this respect, similar to the Encyclopaedia of Chemistry, also included in this list. Entries vary from general introductory articles about physics to extended technical presentations of physical phenomena. Good cross-referencing and a detailed index.

COMPTON'S Dictionary of the Natural Sciences. Compton, 2 vols., $34.95 to $39.95 The twenty editions of this dictionary have been characterized by beautiful color illustrations supporting the concise and well-written definitions. Although definitions are written at a level of comprehension suitable for junior high and senior high school students, this does not detract from the work's potential use by the adult layman. Main section devoted to definitions. Index serves as an expanded glossary of terms. Several tables.

ENCYCLOPEDIA of Chemistry. 2d ed. Ed-in-chief: George L. Clark. Reinhold, 1,144p., $25 Updates and expands a good one-volume subject encyclopedia first published in 1957. Provides a "cross sectional view" of the field of chemistry. Meets the needs of the high school and college student as well as the specialist. Entries are characterized by well-written articles, most of which begin with a concise definition. The text is often supplemented with high quality photographs and diagrams. One important departure from the previous edition is the elimination of biographical articles. If these are needed, the earlier edition should be retained.

GOODALL, Daphne Machin. Horses of the World. Macmillan, 1965, 272p., $10 An illustrated survey giving basic information on each of nearly 200 species and strains of horses. In addition to the more widely known breeds, there are many which are remote and little known. Each is represented by one or more photographs and a short informative article describing the history of the breed, its typical physical characteristics, and the ways in which it has been utilized by man. The geographical arrangement of the whole makes a good index increase the reference value.

GUTHRIE, Esther L. & Robert C. Miller. Home Book of Animal Care. Harper & Row, 302p., $5.95 Practical information about both wild and domestic animals. Range, habitat, reproduction cycle, and typical life span of each animal as well as the dietary requirements and type of living conditions required to keep the animal alive in captivity. Section on construction and maintenance of several kinds of vivarium.

McGRAW-HILL Encyclopedia of Science and Technology, Rev. ed. McGraw-Hill, 15 vols., $29.50 McGRAW-HILL Basic Bibliography of Science and Technology. McGraw-Hill, 738p., $19.50 A welcome second edition of a major encyclopedia reflects the changes which have occurred since its predecessor was published in 1960. Several hundred articles have been revised or rewritten, and about 150 entirely new articles added. There are also a number of changes in the illustrations, charts, and diagrams. A new feature is the publication of two supplementary volumes which may be purchased separately. The bibliographical supplement is a good selection of about 8000 current, important science books, chosen on the basis of quality and availability. The books are found under subjects corresponding to those in the parent encyclopedia. The bibliographical supplement contains informative articles on the professional careers of 426 noteworthy contemporary scientists, in various parts of the world. Many of these are autobiographical and provide a clear, direct explanation of their work or contribution to the advancement of science.

MORRIS, Desmon. The Mammals. Harper & Row, 1965, 480p., $15.00. The central feature of this handbook is a classified enumeration of the 4237 species of living mammals of the world. Each is shown in its proper place in the taxonomic scheme and is identified by both scientific and popular name. A representative cross-section of 300 types is given fully, with photographs and descriptions of physical characteristics and habitats. Index of popular and scientific names.

SCIENCE Books: a Quarterly Review. Vol. 1-, April 1965-. Washington: American Association for the Advancement of Science, $4.50 per year. Edited by Hilary J. Deason, "It reviews books, textbooks, and reference works in the pure and applied sciences for students in the elementary grades, in secondary schools, and in the college. Books for adults, including selected advanced and professional books useful for reference by students and teachers." In addition to informative descriptive annotations, a positive or negative recommendation is given as well as an indication of the appropriate age levels for which each book is suitable. Especially worthwhile choices are starred. An important and highly recommended selection and reference tool.

SCIENCE Year: The World Book Sci- ence Annual. 1965-. Field Enterprises, 394p., $5.95 ENCYCLOPEDIA Science Supplement, 1965, Grosset, 1965-, Annual. 440p., $6.95 Each of these provides more comprehensive coverage of science topics than does its companion general supplement. Both utilize review articles of varying length to summarize the developments of the year in a number of major areas of science and in selected areas of special significance. Scope extends from a pictorial description of the saving of the ancient archæological treasures of Egypt to the latest developments in space science. Science Year is more colorfully illustrated and features transparent plastic overlays. Smaller libraries will probably wish to select one or the other.