A list of last year's outstanding reference sources compiled for *LJ* by the Reference Sources Committee, Reference and Adult Services Division, American Library Association

**REFERENCE SOURCES OF 1981**

Edited by Deborah C. Masters
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THE 1981 LIST of outstanding reference sources of the year includes the first major new encyclopedia since the late 1960s, the first comprehensive dictionary of American Sign Language, the first national atlas of Ireland, the first true encyclopedia of North American birds, the first national directory of accountants and accounting firms, and the first volume in the State and Metropolitan Area Data Book series, a significant list of noteworthy firsts in reference publishing.


The list of "Reference Sources of 1981" which follows continues to be based on the criteria established for the committee. Titles chosen for the list comply with the conventional definition of a reference source as found in the *ALA Glossary*: a work "...designed by its arrangement and treatment to be consulted for definite items of information rather than to be read consecutively." Titles are selected with small and medium-sized public and college libraries in mind; many scholarly reference sources considered too specialized for this audience are not included on the list. Annuals, yearbooks, new editions, and new volumes of incomplete sets are generally omitted unless major changes have occurred in their content or arrangement. Pamphlets,
reference works of purely local or regional scope, highly specialized and foreign language materials, and "how to" manuals are generally excluded. Reference sources in non-print formats may be considered as long as they are generally available to small and medium-sized public and college libraries and provide either unique information or some kind of unique access unavailable in printed sources. A retrospective list of outstanding nonprint reference sources chosen by the 1979-80 Outstanding Reference Sources Committee appeared as a part of an article on the Committee and its work in the summer 1981 issue of RQ.

Members of this year's Reference Sources Committee, responsible for compiling the 1981 list, are: David T. Bosca, Literature & Language Division, Chicago Public Library; Suzanne Cable, Pennsylvania State University Libraries, University Park; LaVerne Z. Coan, Lawrence, Kansas; Suzanne Holler, Dacus Library, Winthrop College; Ellen Lodwick, Prince George's County Memorial Library-Laurie; Helen Moeller, Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services Library; Kevin M. Rosswurm, Akron-Summit County Public Library; Janet Sheets, Moody Library, Baylor University; and, serving as Chairperson, Deborah C. Masters, Reference and Collection Development Services, University Libraries, State University of New York at Albany.

A display of the "Reference Sources of 1981" will be exhibited at the Reference and Adult Services Division booth during the annual conference of the American Library Association in Philadelphia. After the conference, the books will be available for loan to any interested group for exhibits at regional, state, or local meetings for the cost of transportation. For further information, contact the Executive Director, Reference and Adult Services Division, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

GENERAL


The AAE is a superior, short-article encyclopedia. The AAE's strengths are its objective treatment of controversial subjects, its coverage of science, and its articles on contemporary people and events. The AAE's more than 16,000 photographs, maps, diagrams, and drawings, plus its general layout, make it the most visually pleasing general encyclopedia on the market. Three-quarters of the pictures are in color, and all of them carry informative captions. The AAE is a very concise, fact-filled encyclopedia that has specific, as opposed to general, entries. For this reason, librarians will find it useful for ready reference questions. Many of the articles are signed and have up-to-date bibliographies. The index volume is excellent. The AAE will be issued annually, with ten to 20 percent revision each year. Originally published by Arcté in 1980, the AAE was put 'used by Grolier in 1982 and will continue to be published and marketed by the latter company. The AAE is appropriate for high school and undergraduate students, as well as for interested adults.


A guide to easily overlooked federal government publications, this list is designed to be a comprehensive and current list of U.S. government directory sources that provide names of people, groups, or places and include some location identification or contact codes. Arranged by SuDocs number, entries provide title, personal author if appropriate, issuing agency, date of publication, edition or frequency, and series or report number. Availability and order information are also provided, along with an annotation indicating coverage, information given in the directory, and arrangement. The subject index provides three or more subject headings for most directories. An update to the Wynkoop and Parish title Directories of Government Agencies (Libraries Unlimited, 1969), this guide should complement the Directory of Directories from last year's list in identifying current sources of directory-type information.


This is the place to start when you are looking for the name of that "whatchamacallit" or "thingamabob." What's What has pictures of hundreds of objects found in daily living, each with its individual parts labeled. The automobile engine, for example, has 27 of its external parts labeled, and the dollar bill has all of the design elements, numbers, and symbols identified. The book has 12 chapters: Earth; Living Things; Shelters and Structures; Transportation; Communications; Personal Items; Home: Sports and Recreation; Arts and Crafts; Machinery, Tools and Weapons; Uniforms; Costumes and Ceremonial Attire; and Signs and Symbols. Because of the excellent table of contents and comprehensive index, it is possible to find pictures of things for which you have names and to find names of things for which you have pictures. A painstaking work that has many uses.

BIOGRAPHY


The first of a projected series, this volume contains 450 biographical sketches of the world's notable people who died during the year 1980. They were chosen as being of major historical importance or nationally or internationally prominent in their field. Full biographical data and career details follow a well written sketch of each person's life and achievements. Sources for further reading are often included.


From Adam and Eve to Ronald Reagan and Brooke Shields, Biography Almanac provides both quick identification and guidance to further information on more than 20,000 people in 325 widely held biographical dictionaries. Each individual is entered under the name by which he or she is most popularly known, with "see" references from
variant names. Information provided for most subjects includes nationality; occupation; month, day, year, and city of birth and death, where applicable; death, where sources of other biographical information. There is some overlap with the volumes indexed in Gale's Biography and Genealogy Master Index, but about 35 are new to this volume.

PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

ABINGDON Dictionary of Living Reli-
gions, Keith Crim & others, eds. 830p.
The dictionary of religions presently practiced in this world will be a valuable addition to any collection. Over 150 scholars contributed more than 1600 signed articles that give clear, brief descriptions of beliefs, practices, historical developments, major figures, and sacred literature. There are cross-references, pronouncement guides, bibliographies, maps, and illustrations. While most of the articles are short, there are longer treatments of major religions (Buddhism, Chris-
tianity, etc.), regional traditions (e.g., Afri-
can Traditional Religion, Japanese Relig-
ion), and general religious concepts and beliefs (e.g., Evil, Immortality, Ritual). There is a good deal of information on non-
Christian religions. This work is both au-
thoritative and concise and will be of use to anyone interested in religion.

This is an indispensable tool for any student of the Torah, as well as for many students of Christian Scripture. Each of the five books of the Torah has its own introduction and an analysis in ancient Near Eastern literature, the latter written by Prof. William W. Hallo. The bulk of the book is the Torah in Hebrew at the top of the page, with the English translation in the middle, and notes explaining the meaning of the passages at the bottom of the page. The interpretive commentary, gleanings from world litera-
ture that have a bearing on the text, and the halflnotes (readings from the prophets) follow each book by book of the Torah. A glossary and a bibliography. Although it is written from a Reform Jewish perspective, this monumental work will be of use to any student of sacred literature.

SOCIAL SCIENCES & BUSINESS

THE COMPLETE Catalogue of Mail-Order
Sequoia offers an abundance of information that will be of use to do-it-yourselfers and thrifty shoppers. She describes the products of over 500 companies that sell self-con-
tained kits, most of which can be assembled without special equipment or expertise. Included are informally written, evaluative descriptions of kits for furnishing, musical instruments, sporting goods and clothing, electronic equipment, homes, toys, needle-
work, and transportation items. The appen-
dix lists all of the companies described in the text, and more, giving their addresses, tele-
phone numbers, the cost (if any) of their catalogs, and listing the types of kits they offer.

ENCYCLOPEDIA of Economics. Douglas
Greenwald, ed. 1070p. McGraw. $49.95.
In the time of persistent inflation, high
employment and interest rates, and eco-
nomics, the economy is an issue of in-
creasing concern to the average reader. This timely and readable work provides more

than 300 signed articles written by promi-

nent economists on such topics as supply-侧

economics and the balance of interna-
tional payments, including definitions of the topic, an explanation of the subject, and opposing viewpoints. Cross-references
assist access, and there is a chronological
listing of economic events, technological
developments, financial changes, and eco-
nomic thought. A very relevant purchase for
most libraries.

NATIONAL Directory of Certified Public
Accountants, and Accounting Firms, Keyo Ross. exec. ed. 1002p. Petert Nor-
This first professional directory of CPA's was compiled based on the responses to
a questionnaire requesting information similar to that found in the Martin-dale-Hubbell Law Directory for lawyers. It lists over 4700 CPA firms and contains, in both the Biographical and CPA Firm Sections, over 20,000 names. An expanded second publication is planned. The
Biographical Section lists CPA's alphabetic-
ally and provides accounting firm affiliation with location and phone number, education, certification and state(s) in which licensed to practice, and organizations of which the CPA is a member. The Firm Section is arranged alphabetically by state and then by city and provides under the listing for the main office, principal partner in the Execu-
tive Office, Partners and Principals practic-
ing at the office shown, and a list of U.S. and foreign offices indicating Partner-in-charge for each if available. Separate sections list executive officers alphabetically by firm, ac-
counting associations, and accounting schools. An excellent first volume in a series that should fill a long-standing need in busi-

ness reference sources.

POLITICAL Parties and Civic Action
Groups. Edward L. Schapsmeier & Fre-
$49.50. ISBN 0-313-21442-5. (Greenwood
Encyclopedia of American Institutions)
Need background information on the Trilat-
eral Commission, Weatherman, Black Pan-
ther Party, Moral Majority, Nader's Raid-
ers, or Common Cause? Similar to the other excellent volumes in this series, this new
title covers nearly 300 historical and con-
temporary political parties or civic action
groups, with an emphasis on the kind of formal existence and organizational structure, involved in ac-
tivities with political implications such as lobbying or influencing public opinion, and
having some historical significance or rele-
vance to the national political scene. Ar-
ranged alphabetically, the encyclopedia pro-
vides cross-references within the texts of
entries as well as a general index. Appendix-
exists for organization by function and chronologically, and there is a glossary of technical terms and political terminology. Many entries suggest additional sources as well as citing publications produced by the group. An excellent source for both public and college libraries.

STATE and Metropolitan Area Data Book,
by the U.S. Supt. of Docs. 1980. $12.
#5.314/5:979. Stock #003-024-01639-9.)
The first in the State and Metropolitan Area Dada Book series, this new statistical refer-
ence tool presents 2,088 statistical items for each state and 440 for metropolitan areas. Comparable totals to the state items are shown for census divisions and regions and for the United States as a whole. Most of the statistics are derived from the latest avail-
able censuses with additional data from govern-
mental and private agencies. There are separate sections for states, arranged by
census geographic division and region, for the
U.S. as a whole, and for metropolitan areas alphabetically and ranked by populati-

on-size categories. Source references are given for each item of data. Statistics cover the standard areas of population, education, employment, income, crime, housing, manufac-
turers, etc. This new title should stand

beside the other statistical abstract publica-
tions (Statistical Abstract of the United
States, County and City Data Book, Con-
gressional District Data Book, etc.) as a
standard source on the reference shelf of
any library.

Boris Karloff played the monster, Mae Clarke the bride in James Whale's 1931 classic horror film Frankenstein. From The Academic American Encyclopedia (Arcte 1980, Grolter 1982)
Whether searching for the creator of a handmade dulcimer or the manufacturer of band instruments, the reader will welcome the 2500 entries in this directory. They are arranged alphabetically by instrument maker; indexes by type of instrument and by state facilitate access. For each individual or firm the compiler provides size, production numbers, and specific products, among other facts. Appendices list schools of instrument making, professional societies and groups, and books for further reading. With plentiful cross-references from name changes and information updated in 1980, this source offers heretofore elusive information in a systematic manner.


The commercial side of the popular music industry is the major emphasis of this book. Detailed entries on copyright, performing rights organizations, piracy of recordings and tapes, how to sell a song, and many other practical aspects of the music business highlight the book. There are shorter entries for such insider terms as 'sideman,' "demo," and "fakebook." An explanation of more general topics is also quite useful with such entries as cassette tape, charts (best-selling records), satellite communications, printing of sheet music, etc. In all, there are over 450 entries on most of the legal and historical issues of concern to the professional musician who is working in the field today.


A heavily illustrated chronological description of 1,344 films from The Jazz Singer of 1927 to the 1980 remake of the same film. For each film there is a critical synopsis, photograph, and listing of the songs and musical numbers; some credits are given, but not full production information. There are separate indexes for film titles, songs, performers, composers and other personnel, and three appendices that provide access to a wealth of information about this very popular film genre.

334 FILMS DESCRIBED AND ILLUSTRATED

THE HOLLYWOOD MUSICAL

EVERY HOLLYWOOD MUSICAL FROM 1927 TO THE PRESENT DAY

CROWN


A valuable addition to previous indexes, this one is especially useful in its coverage of so many areas in the Western tradition of art. It is a key to 35,000 illustrations of paintings, drawings, tapestries, frescoes, murals, stained glass, mosaic, and other flat artwork which have appeared in 250 fairly standard books published between 1960 and 1977. The first volume is arranged by artist, and for each of the works indicates the date and location of the original. An index of the book in which it is reproduced, the size of the illustration and whether it is in black-and-white or color. The second volume is a combined title-subject index with reference to the artist entry.


These two guides extend the coverage of the piano literature along with previous volumes primarily by Hinson. The sourcebook on music for piano and orchestra lists over 2800 works, most of which are concertos dating from 1700 to the present. The piano duet book lists 3200 pieces composed from 1760 to the present. The exact information provided about each composition varies between the two books. However, both indicate title, date of composition, publisher, level of difficulty and evaluative comments on the unique features of the work, technical problems of a piece, and stylistic characteristics. Both books are arranged alphabetically by composer.


One of the first solid reference sources of the standard type in the area of rock, this work is a goldmine of data about record albums and musicians. A comprehensive discography of rock music, it lists information on 4500 recording artists, 30,000 record albums, and 22,000 individual musicians from the beginnings of rock in the early 1950s to the early 1980s. Arranged by artist or group, it provides for each album the release date, record label, country of origin, the musicians who played on the album, and the instrument each played. There is an index to all groups and musicians.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY


Written to inform and fascinate readers from the curious nonspecialist to the professional ornithologist, Terres' massive work provides painstakingly detailed descriptions of birds that live in list or habitat in North America, along with articles about bird life and bird biology, definitions of ornithological terms, biographies of important American ornithologists, and references to a bibliography of over 4000 items. The alphabetic arrangement and extensive cross-references make it easy to use: numerous black-and-white drawings and magnificent color plates enhance the clearly written text. An essential purchase.


The first half of this book serves as a handbook for the amateur birder. Sections include field trip techniques, choice of binoculars, record-keeping, and photography. The second half is an excellent reference tool. Sections arranged by state list educational programs such as correspondence courses and museum programs, bird tours, research programs that welcome amateurs, and ornithological societies and their publications. An annotated bibliography offers basic material for the lay person and appendices list sources of birdwatching supplies and publications. Topics are easily accessible through the index.


For consultation in sickness and in health, this guide selectively provides lists of appropriate books, pamphlets, audiovisual distributors, and resource organizations. Concise evaluative book annotations, subordinated to helpful categories, are given for over 700 titles published between 1975 and 1980. An introduction to the consumer health information movement, reference and research aids, lists of addresses, and author, title, and subject indexes make this work useful to consumers and professionals.

In a simple A to Z format, this source describes ingredients from dates to quassia and numerous processes by which the foods of the world are prepared. The nature of each entry item is explained (e.g., process, spice), as are cooking methods for specific foods, seasonings, cultural uses of food, and components of noted dishes. Foreign language names are also provided. A short bibliography lists further reading. Numerous cross-references and an enjoyable style combine to produce an informative, readable work.

LANGUAGE & LITERATURE


An excellent guide to American Sign Language, this dictionary contains some 5000 entries, each providing a pronunciation guide, grammatical notes, and a description and illustration of the appropriate sign and its formation. The extensive bibliography is arranged alphabetically with a subject index. Seven foreign language indexes provide the word in the original language (French, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish), its English equivalent, and the code number of the entry in the dictionary.


From "Aerobuff Stuff" to "Zenith Aviation Books," this compendium provides addresses, statistical data, bibliographies, unbiased advice and comment, directories, prices, and other relevant material on flying, aircraft, and aircraft operation, equipment and services, as well as miscellaneous items of interest to aficionados. The index and table of contents allow excellent access to specific material in the text and tables of this source book that will serve new and experienced pilots along with armchair flying buffs.


An excellent introduction to the study of the short story, this seven-volume set is divided into six parts. Each volume contains one and two consist of essays on the history, characteristics and structure of the short story authors, information given about the authors includes their principal short fiction and other literary forms, their influence, characteristics of their stories, a listing of their major publications other than short fiction, a short bibliography of books about the author and in the longest section, an analysis and summary of their stories. The final volume has 390 one-page sketches of contemporary short story writers written by the authors themselves along with an index to the complete set.


Artful dodgers, beware. This doubletalk dictionary defines hundreds of side-stepping words and phrases, briefly outlines their histories, supplies cross-references to related euphemisms, cites the earliest use where it can be determined and pinpoints who is he who uses this jargon. An up-to-date guide to descriptive but uncritical annotated listings of pamphlets and brochures on the topic. This excellent index, addresses section, and cross-references tie the two other topical arranged divisions, Services and Organizations, in with the Publications section for easy access.


Horror Literature is horror as Anatomy of Wonder (an Outstanding Reference Book of 1976, LJ, April 15, 1977, p.875) is to science fiction. Essays, supplemented by bibliographies, trace the development of horror fiction and poetry. A further section of reference sources guides the horror enthusiast to relevant research collections, awards, societies and organizations, periodicals, criticism and indexes, and the biography, autobiography and bibliography of horror. Readers and librarians alike will appreciate the core collection checklist, which briefly summarizes over 1300 titles in the horror genre. An author profile section in the compiler checklist for "core" items still in print complete this useful guide to the world of horror.


This fifth volume of a series devoted to 19th Century literary criticism draws together "significant passages from published criticism by authors who discussed the period before 1869," plus synopses, birth and death dates, biographies, lists of principal works, annotated bibliographies of criticism, and a portrait of each author. Plans call for coverage of approximately 400 additional authors, making this work similar in scope to Gale's Contemporary Literary Criticism.


This reference presents medical information for 1700 prescription and nonprescription drugs through drug charts and narrative designed for the lay reader. All chapters are arranged by disease, with each section providing an introduction to the disease, a listing of the drugs and their uses, a list of possible side effects, and general care, as well as a chart. The volumes include a directory of drugs and a bibliography of general drug references add to the work's usefulness. Medical accuracy combined with accessibility will make this work a useful tool in drug manuals.


Arranged chronologically by the birth date of the speaker, Quotations in Black provides an international selection of more than 1100 quotations from over 200 quoteable blacks, plus a brief biographical sketch of each. The additional section includes proverbs, with access to all quotations by both author and subject, and an index word by word. A unique work, which should find a place in any collection of quotations.

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY


This scholarly work, written by the director of the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum at Fort Wayne, Indiana, provides interesting, thorough, and clearly written articles about Abraham Lincoln's ideas, times, and contemporaries. Current research and re-
search is also covered. There are over 300 illustrations consisting of photographs, sketches, and political cartoons which add an important visual dimension. The encyclopedia is easy to use with a good index and excellent cross-references.

AFRICAN COUNTRIES and Cultures: a Concise Illustrated Dictionary. Jane M. Hornburger & Alex Whitney. 215p. McKay. 1980. $12.95. ISBN 0-679-20507-1. This juvenile reference work will be useful for anyone wishing brief authoritative descriptions of the peoples of Africa as well as their languages and elements of their culture and traditions. Its format is attractive, and its illustrations are not merely decorative but illustrate with brief captions. The authors are included in writing on ethnicity and are concerned with the image of minorities in children's books.

ATLAS of Ireland. 164p. Royal Irish Academy. dist. by St. Martin's. $99.50. ISBN 0-312-05988-4. An excellent national thematic atlas produced under the direction of the Royal Irish Academy, this volume includes maps showing such areas as geography and geophysics, climate, flora and fauna, population, production, manufacturing, and society and culture. It is attractive and clear and was the result of years of compilation by acknowledged experts.


ENCYCLOPEDIA of North American Railroading. Freeman Hubbard. 372p. McGraw. $39.95. ISBN 0-07-030828-4. As the first comprehensive reference work on railroads in the United States and Canada, this volume is long overdue. The author is well qualified, having been editor of Railroad Magazine for 36 years. This is an attractive volume, well laid out and with numerous photographs. Entries range from the technical to the fascinating. They cover the history, lore, railroad lines, and equipment of North American railroads as well as inventors, union leaders, and business men in railroad history.

THE ILLUSTRATED Encyclopedia of Medieval Civilization. Arch Grants 751p. Octopus (dist. by Mayflower). 1980. $25. ISBN 0-7086-0356-X. This attractive, comprehensive dictionary of the Middle Ages was designed for the general reader. Among the topics covered in the 4000-plus entries are political history, religion, social and economic factors, literature and artistic creativity, and intellectual life. Both full color and black-and-white illustrations together with maps add to the value of this volume. Most entries include a source for further information and a five-page chronological table is appended.

WHO Was Who in the Roman World. 753 B.C. to A.D. 476. Daina R. Bouwer, ed. 256p. Cornell. 1980. $25. ISBN 0-8014-1389-7. In 900-plus sketches and 250-plus photographs, the inhabitants of the Roman world from 753 B.C. to A.D. 476 are presented in this biographical dictionary. The subjects are not limited to just Romans but include anyone prominent in the Roman world such as important foreigners from neighboring states (e.g., Cleopatra) and early Christians (e.g., St. Paul). The sketches are readable and scholarly and include a source for additional information. Maps and family trees of several dynasties conclude the volume.

Worldmark Encyclopedia of the States. Moshe Y. Sachs & others, eds. 600p. Harper. $54.95. ISBN 0-06-014733-4. This convenient source for accurate and reliable information on each of the 50 United States and on U.S. dependencies is similar in format to the Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations. Each state is presented in 30 subheadings beginning with "Location, Size, and Extent" and ending with "Bibliography." The sections on state and local government, environmental protection, ethnic groups, and languages will be especially useful.

World War II Almanac: 1931-1945: a Political and Military Record. Robert Goralski. 488p. Putnam. $17.95. ISBN 0-399-12548-5. This extremely useful day-by-day chronology of the events of World War II from the Japanese invasion of Manchuria and Hitler's reception by German President von Hindenburg in 1931 to the signing of the formal instrument of surrender by Japan in 1945 is augmented by an excellent index. Detailed facts and figures are included in many entries. Other statistical charts, illustrations, and maps have been integrated into the text. A variety of tables and a well-selected bibliography for further reading conclude the volume.