



## 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 1999 or 2000. All members of the library profession are invited to submit titles to the project editor for consideration. For 2002 the committee will review works published in 2000 and 2001. Nominated titles can be from any 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, should be sent to the 2002 project editor: Ed Oetting, Box 871006, Arizona State University Libraries, Tempe, AZ 85287-1006; e-mail: edding@asu.edu. The next submission deadline is October 31, 2001.

Allen, James B., Ronald W. Walker, and David J. Whittaker. *Studies in Mormon History, 1830-1997: An Indexed Bibliography*. Urbana: Univ. of Illinois Pr., 2000.

1,168p. \$100 (ISBN: 0-252-02565-2).

Chad J. Flake's *A Mormon Bibliography, 1830-1930* was published more than twenty years ago. *Studies in Mormon History, 1830-1997* is a fitting sequel and complement to Flake's opus.

*Studies in Mormon History* is a massive tome citing more than twenty-six hundred books, ten thousand articles, and eighteen hundred theses and dissertations. The main listing is a simple alphabetical arrangement by author. The strength of the bibliography is its five-hundred-plus page subject index, which includes more than six thousand topical, geographical, and biographical subject terms. Partial citations are included with each subject term so that users can follow the historical development of that subject.

*Studies in Mormon History, 1830-1997* is an essential guide to research and scholarship on the history of the American West and Mormon history.—Theresa Mudrock, *University of Washington, Seattle*

Bahr, Howard M. *Dine Bibliography to the 1990s: A Companion to the Navajo Bibliography of 1969*. Native American Bibliography Series, 23. Lahnam, Md.: Scarecrow, 1999. 739p. \$95 (ISBN: 0-8108-3651-3).

This work adds sixty-three hundred entries to the fifty-five hundred in the two-volume *Navajo Bibliography* published by the Navajo Tribe in 1969. Bahr, a sociologist, collected materials of interest to many disciplines. Most citations are for books and articles published from 1969 through 1990; some works included in the earlier edition appear with revised annotations, and earlier manuscripts and publications are also added, such as sources on the Franciscan missions.

The entries are arranged by author. Annotations vary in length; the longest reserved for less accessible items. Inconsistencies in filing order and selection criteria are explained in the thoughtful introduction. Nearly comprehensive coverage and very detailed coauthor and subject indexes make this

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Contributing Members: Shelley Arlen, Nancy Godleski, Phoebe Janes (Editor), Joel Kitchens, Theresa Mudrock, James Niessen, Edward Oetting, Margaret Ann Reinert, Jennifer Schaffner, Joseph Straw, Agnes Haight Widder.

bibliography indispensable for libraries serving researchers on Native American and Southwestern history.—James P. Niessen, *Texas Tech University, Lubbock*

Barbuto, Domenica M. *The American Settlement, a Bibliography. Bibliographies and Indexes in American History*, 42. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1999. 123p. \$88.50 (ISBN 0-213-30756-3).

This bibliography may be used as a companion to the author's *American Settlement Houses and Progressive Social Reform, an Encyclopedia of the American Settlement Movement*, published also in 1999, by Oryx Press. Settlement houses came into being in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as a way of providing the urban poor with access to health care, education, and other means of improving their material lives, in ways similar to missions and other religious sponsored endeavors. The settlement houses served as schools, community centers, and health care clinics. This volume contains 185 extensively annotated entries for books on the topic. The work has author, title, and subject indexes. It will be useful in public or academic libraries with strong collections in late nineteenth and early twentieth century history and social sciences.—Agnes Haigh Widder, *Michigan State University, East Lansing*

Barrett, Buckley Barry. *Churchill: A Concise Bibliography*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2000. 215p. \$70 (ISBN: 0-313-31450-0).

Winston S. Churchill is largely synonymous with the British participation in two world wars; his life witnessed the British Empire at its height, and he lived to see it decline. Buckley Barrett provides an excellent introduction to the standard books by and about Winston S. Churchill, as well as a selected listing of mostly secondary historical works. He does not

include manuscripts, pamphlets, government documents, and other primary materials. Thorough and evaluative annotations provide substantive summaries of all entries. Aimed at the beginning Churchill reader, this bibliography clearly belongs in all libraries that support strong collections in European history.—Joseph Straw, *University of Akron, Ohio*

Beidler, Peter G., and Marion F. Egge. *Native Americans in the Saturday Evening Post*. Native American Bibliography Series, 24. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow, 2000. 388p. \$70 (ISBN 0-8108-3675-0).

Beidler and Egge combed through seventy years of one of the most popular and influential weekly magazines of the twentieth century, the *Saturday Evening Post*, to document all references to Native Americans. Their labor provides us with a brilliant example of how the mass media shaped public opinion on a single subject. The bibliography is divided into chapters that explore the depiction of Native Americans in all features of the magazine: articles, fiction, editorials, letters, cover art, and cartoons. Full annotations, extensive summaries, and many excerpts are included with each citation.

Although the introductory essay in each chapter provides background information, many of these representations introduce and reinforce stereotypes and misinformation to a gullible public. The Native American stereotype runs the gamut from ignorant savage to noble warrior. This volume illustrates the changing perceptions—and their source—of average citizens toward Native Americans throughout most of the past century until 1969, when the *Saturday Evening Post* ceased publication. This work is highly recommended for all collections.—Phoebe Janes, *University of California, Berkeley*

Cole, Garold L. *Civil War Eyewitnesses: An Annotated Bibliography of Books and Articles, 1986–1996*. Columbia: Univ. of South Carolina Pr., 2000. 271p. \$49.95 (ISBN: 1-57003-327-7).

Perhaps no other war has captured the American imagination like the Civil War. In this book, *Civil War Eyewitnesses: An Annotated Bibliography of Books and Articles, 1986–1996*, Garold Cole provides a bibliography of published diaries, letters, memoirs, and other personal narratives by people who witnessed the fratricidal tragedy. This book is actually a follow-up volume to a 1988 work covering the literature published during the years 1955–86. In the current volume, 596 entries are divided into three parts: Northern accounts, Southern narratives, and those sources that were published in general collections or penned by foreign observers. The first two parts are further subdivided into accounts written by soldiers and those written by civilians. Detailed annotations of most entries and good indexing make this a worthwhile addition to any collection.—Joel Kitchens, *Texas A&M University, College Station*

Dickinson, W. Calvin, and Eliese R. Hitchcock, eds. *A Bibliography of Tennessee History, 1973–1996*. Knoxville: Univ. of Tennessee Pr., 1999. 453p. \$40 (ISBN: 1-57233-032-5).

A supplement to Sam B. Smith's, *Tennessee History: A Bibliography* (1974), the present volume contains more than six thousand citations to published or readily available materials (e.g., dissertations). The editors have continued Smith's topical arrangement, giving greater emphasis to chronological sequence and to subdisciplines more prominent now (African American history, women's history). With roughly half of the entries arranged by county, this bibliography is especially useful for local history. Tennessee's place

in the world of literature and entertainment is underscored: two sections are devoted to these topics and a generous number of additional citations (accessible via the author and subject indexes) are listed by county. Succinct annotations augment information in the title. A directory of county historians is also provided. Academic and large public libraries will want this.—*Shelley Arlen, University of Florida, Gainesville*

Junne, George H. *Blacks in the American West and Beyond—America, Canada, and Mexico. Bibliographies and Indexes in Afro-American and African Studies*, 41. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2000. 686p. \$99.50 (ISBN: 0-313-31208-7).

Competing in an increasingly crowded field, Junne's *Blacks in the American West and Beyond* outdistances the others in providing a comprehensive bibliographic survey of the lives, legends, and legacies of African Americans in an expansive American West (rightfully including Canada and Mexico). Subject and geographic chapters contain brief annotated citations to articles, books, dissertations, and ancillary formats. Valuable listings of African American newspapers and periodicals end the geographic sections. As expected, this work concludes with an excellent author and subject index, as well as unexpectedly with a list of films and videos for, by and about African Americans. Comprehensive in scope, caliber, and content, *Blacks in the American West and Beyond* is essential for institutions supporting programs in African American Studies and the history of the American West.—*Edward Oetting, Arizona State University, Tempe*

Kanellos, Nicholas, and Helvetia Martell. *Hispanic Periodicals in the United States, Origins to 1960*. Houston, Tex.: Arte Publico, 2000. 359p. \$69.95 (ISBN:1-55885-253-0).

This exemplar volume is comprised of two complementary components. Approximately the first third of this work is a narrative history of Hispanic serials in the United States (beginning with *El Misisipi* in 1808) depicting Spanish language periodical publications as reflections of the nature of Hispanic culture within the United States: exile, immigration, and nativism. The bibliography that follows is a union list of all known U.S. Spanish language, English language, or bilingual serials that were produced by or that served U.S. Hispanic communities. Of the seventeen hundred painstakingly identified serials, nine hundred titles are accessible in one form or another today. Many entries also contain a brief history of the serial and source of this information. Three indexes—geographical, chronological, and general name and subject—contribute to the usefulness of this unique bibliography. Researchers and collections will benefit from this volume.—*Nancy M. Godleski, Yale University, New Haven*

Lincove, David A., comp. *Reconstruction in the United States: An Annotated Bibliography. Bibliographies and Indexes in American History*, 43. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2000. 633p. \$85 (ISBN: 0313-29199-3).

The focus of this comprehensive bibliography is post-Reconstruction historical writing as well as the first time publications of primary materials such as diaries, memoirs, and letters. Covering the publication dates 1878–1978, the 2,904 numbered references collected from essays in books and journal articles have very informative descriptive annotations. Reflecting the national, regional, and state differences of Reconstruction, the numbered references are arranged into three general categories. They are first organized by type of material: document collections, reference

sources, teaching aids, general surveys, historiographies; then geographically in general regional studies, with various subtopics and subjects; and finally, geographically by state with political, social, and economic subtopics. This scholarly compilation also includes a detailed index and a chronology. Researchers of the Reconstruction period of U.S. history will find this unique reference source invaluable. It is highly recommended for academic and large public libraries.—*M. Ann Reinert, Mid-Continent Public Library, Independence, Missouri*

Sterling, Christopher H., and George Shiers. *History of Telecommunications Technology*. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow, 2000. 333p. \$65 (ISBN: 0-8108-3781-1).

A lot has happened in this field since 1972, when George Shiers published his *Bibliography of the History of Electronics*. Sterling's revision of that bibliography is a model of selectivity, and serves as a refreshing example of restraint. Entries were selected based on their historical significance and value. Sterling explains clearly what items from Shier's original 1972 title he retained or discarded, and what subjects he has added. The book is arranged carefully by subject: telephone, telegraph, radio, television, biographies, and company histories, as well as a chapter to cover satellites, fiber optics, and the Internet. Both books and articles are included and the annotations are brief but pithy. Name and title indexes work nicely with the classified arrangement. A brief section on histories of telecommunications located at Internet sites is short and tidily organized. This bibliography is recommended for academic collections interested in the history of technology. Subsections on vintage collectibles make the title appropriate for public library collections as well.—*Jennifer Schaffner, University of California, Los Angeles* ■