

Selected Reference Books of 1958-1959

INTRODUCTION

LIKE the preceding articles in this semi-annual series¹ this survey is based on notes written by members of the staff of the Columbia University Libraries. Notes written by assistants are signed with initials,² and for this issue were edited by Eugene Sheehy.

As the purpose of the list is to present a selection of recent scholarly and foreign works of interest to reference workers in university libraries, it does not pretend to be either well-balanced or comprehensive. Code numbers (such as All, 1A26, 2S22) have been used to refer to titles in the *Guide*³ and its Supplements.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bibliografia nazionale italiana; nuova serie del Bollettino delle pubblicazioni italiane . . . Anno I, fasc. 1. Firenze, Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, 1958. . L. 8500 per yr.

Although the *Bollettino* (*Guide* A394) has long served as the most useful current national bibliography available for Italy, it was not without its limitations, particularly in arrangement and in the promptness of its listings. The new work, sponsored by the Centro Nazionale per il Catalogo Unico delle Biblioteche Italiane e per le Informazioni Bibliografiche, is a much improved product. Arrangement is by Dewey classification, entries are standardized and biblio-

¹ *CRL*, January and July issues starting January 1952.

² Reference: Eleanor Buist, Ellin L. Resnick, Elizabeth J. Rumics, Eugene Sheehy, John Neal Waddell.

³ Constance M. Winchell, *Guide to Reference Books* (7th ed.; Chicago: ALA, 1951); *Supplement* (Chicago: ALA, 1954); *Second Supplement* (Chicago: ALA, 1956).

Miss Winchell is Reference Librarian, Columbia University Libraries.

graphically complete, and page appearance is good (although the height of 34 cm. may well present shelving problems). It is assumed that there will be annual indexes and that in due time the monthly issues will appear more promptly.—J.N.W.

The British National Bibliography. Cumulated Subject Catalogue. 1951/54. London, Council of the British National Bibliography, 1958. 2v. £16 16s.

Represents a cumulation of the material appearing in the classified sections of the 1951-1954 annual volumes. Individual entries from those volumes were cut and arranged in classified sequence, then pasted up for photo-offset printing. (Material from the 1950 volume was omitted owing to the different format.) The *Cumulated Index 1950-54* (*Supplement* 2A55) serves as the key to this work, providing a guide to the classification numbers, the necessary cross-references, etc. The *Cumulated Index* and these two volumes bring together in convenient form all the information contained in the 1951-54 annuals.—E.S.

Catálogo general de la librería española, 1931-1950. Madrid, Instituto Nacional de Libro Español, 1957. . v.1- . \$9 per vol.

Contents: v.1, A-Ch.

An author listing which continues the *Catálogo general de la librería española e hispanoamericana, 1901-30* (*Guide* A507), but includes only Spanish imprints. Bibliographical information is again gratifyingly complete, and a compilation spanning so long a period is most welcome. It is, however, to be regretted that Spanish American publications could not again be included.—E.S.

The Indian National Bibliography [no.1] October-December, 1957. . General

Editor, B. A. Kesavan. [Calcutta] Central Reference Library, 1958. . Rs. 15.50 or 24s per issue.

The culmination of several years of planning and preliminary work, this new national bibliography represents a tremendous achievement on the part of the compilers as well as a notable addition to the librarian's collection of national bibliographies. The first quarterly issue attempts to list all new publications appearing in the fourteen major languages of the country, including first issues of new periodicals, but excluding music, maps, and several categories of ephemera.

Fortunately for the foreigner, vernacular scripts have been transliterated into the Roman alphabet. The text is in English, and the general plan and appearance of the work are similar to those of the *B.N.B.* The actual bibliography is in two parts, the first for general materials, the second for government publications. Primary arrangement of each is by Dewey classification, and for each of the two parts there is a detailed index of authors, titles, and subjects. In the main listing bibliographic information is full, with additional notations of price, language and Colon Classification number. No mention is made of plans for cumulations or annual indexes, which, if possible, will of course increase the reference value of the work considerably.—J.N.W.

Shaw, Ralph Robert and Shoemaker, Richard H. *American Bibliography: a Preliminary Checklist*. N.Y., Scarecrow Press, 1958. v.1-5. (v.1-5, \$27) \$6 per vol.

Contents: v.1-5, 1801-1805.

A preliminary checklist "gathered entirely from secondary sources" designed as a first step in filling the gap in American national bibliography between 1800 and 1820. Each volume covers one year and the plan is to continue through 1819 with author and title indexes to be furnished when the work is completed. These five volumes include 9,785 entries arranged alphabetically by author or anonymous title under each year. Locations of copies are given when this information was included in the

original citations. The purpose and procedure as explained in the preface indicate the deficiencies which it is hoped may be overcome in a comprehensive national bibliography which may perhaps be compiled by a future generation.

Repertorio bibliografico 1958, parte I (1 gennaio-30 giugno 1958)- . [Issued by Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, Roma, Istituto Poligrafico dello Stato, 1958- . (Quaderni di libri e riviste d'Italia, 1). Semiannual (?).

Designed for a wide public generally interested in current Italian book trade production, this new selective bibliography is less comprehensive but for many readers potentially more useful than the standard, fuller lists. Only slightly more than 3,000 titles are included for the half-year covered, but since schoolbooks, many juvenile items, prayerbooks, and several other categories are excluded, coverage of general materials should be reasonably complete. Arrangement is by simplified U.D.C. listing, followed by an index of personal authors. There is no index of title or corporate entries, nor any publishers' directory. Typography and paper are excellent.—J.N.W.

Zischa, Gert A. *Index lexicorum; Bibliographie der lexikalischen Nachschlagwerke*. Wien, Brüder Hollinek [1959] 290p. DM 49.

Embracing a wealth of titles, this is a work of potentially great value, but there are a number of limitations which must be borne in mind. Contrary to the advance advertising of several dealers, it is *not* a bibliography of dictionaries, but, as noted in the sub-title, is a "bibliography of encyclopedia-like reference books." International in scope and particularly strong for German works, the 7,000 titles included are grouped in twenty-one sections, the first devoted to general encyclopedias, the following to reference works in subject fields. (Conspicuously absent is a section on language dictionaries, e.g., Grimm, Littré, Murray, etc., nor do these appear elsewhere under other headings.)

Types of material listed in the various subject sections include specialized encyclopedias and dictionaries, glossaries, handbooks, biographical dictionaries, yearbooks, chronologies, gazetteers, etc. There are, however, no subject bibliographies, so that one looks in vain for such landmarks as Goedeke, or Marouzeau, or Dutcher, or, more to the point, for unknown titles of a similar nature. Annotations are usually limited to the few most important titles in each category and are generally quite brief. Pagination is omitted, and bibliographic data for serials, continuations, and revised editions are often puzzling. The index includes personal authors and subject headings, but no title listings, even for anonymous or composite works.—J.N.W.

LIBRARIES

Ash, Lee. *Subject Collections; a Guide to Special Book Collections and Subject Emphases as Reported by University, College, Public and Special Libraries in the United States, the Territories, and Canada*. New York, R. R. Bowker, 1958. 476p. \$15.

"Planned on a triennial schedule as a companion volume to the *American Library Directory*," the work lists special collections under some 500 subjects, plus numerous place and name entries. Special collections in the Library of Congress are excluded, as are local history and local genealogy collections, and various types of professional libraries. Information was drawn from questionnaires, with resulting unevenness (e.g., the "Rare Books" entry) according to the reporting librarian's interpretation of "special collection." Usefulness should be greatly increased in future editions if libraries will strive for greater uniformity in reporting.—E.S.

ENCYCLOPEDIAS

Encyclopedia Canadiana. [Editor-in-chief: John E. Robbins,] Ottawa, Canadiana Co. [1957-58,] 10v. Set \$129.50.

This is a good, popularly written encyclopedia on all aspects of Canada and Canadian life, past and present, prepared by a distinguished group of scholars, and illus-

trated with photographs, drawings, and graphs. There are long, signed articles on broad subjects, many with bibliographies, and unsigned, short articles on specific names and places. Volume 10 includes an atlas of Canada with an alphabetical index.—E.L.R.

Malaia sovetskaia entsiklopediia. Glav. red. B. A. Vvedenskii. Izd. 3. [Moskva,] Gos. nauch. izd-vo "Bol'shaia sovetskaia entsiklopediia," [1958-] v.1- . 35r. per vol.

Contents: v.1-2, A-Gorniak.

A third edition of the shorter Soviet encyclopedia, planned in ten volumes, to contain 50,000 articles as compared with 31,000 in the second edition of eleven volumes. The second edition appeared between 1933 and 1947 in various printings, some of which were re-edited. Designed for the average Soviet reader, there is some emphasis on terms of non-Russian origin, and world biography. Illustrations and maps are more numerous than in previous editions, with improved color printing.—E.B.

PERIODICALS

Pan American Union. *Repertorio de publicaciones periódicas actuales latinoamericanas. Directory of Current Latin American Periodicals*. Paris, UNESCO, 1958. 266p. \$3.50.

Originally planned as a directory of internationally useful learned or scholarly publications, the scope was broadened to "a full selection covering all divisions dealt with by the Universal Decimal Classification." With this expansion, budgetary considerations made it necessary to eliminate an alphabetical title listing, and the directory information (complete title, beginning date, address, periodicity) appears in a classified section arranged by U.D.C. number. There is a geographical index and an alphabetical subject index. Elimination of the title listing has, unfortunately, reduced the volume's usefulness for rapid verification and bibliographic checking.—E.S.

Southern Regional Education Board. *A Southeastern Supplement to the Un-*

ion List of Serials; a Regional Union List of Serials Commencing Publication Before January 1, 1950, Supplementing the Union List of Serials of the H. W. Wilson Co. Edited by Edward Graham Roberts. Atlanta, Southern Regional Education Board, 1959. 447p. \$20.

Some 36 college and university libraries in ten states have contributed to this regional supplement compiled under the sponsorship of the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries, the Southeastern Interlibrary Research Facility, and the Southern Regional Education Board. Although about 25 per cent of the titles are not found in ULS, "serial" has been given a much broader interpretation than the ULS definition, and the listing includes many U.N., federal, state, and municipal serial documents. The work will quite naturally be of most value to libraries in the Southeast, but it should also prove generally useful for locating regional materials and for additional serial locations.—E.S.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

Karachi. University. Institute of Public and Business Administration. *Publications of the Government of Pakistan, 1947-1957* [comp. by] George B. Moreland and Akhtar H. Siddiqui. Karachi, 1958. 187p.

Lists and indexes the official publications of the Government of Pakistan from August 14, 1947 through December 31, 1957.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Fürer-Haimendorf, Elizabeth von. *An Anthropological Bibliography of South Asia; Together with a Directory of Recent Anthropological Field Work.* Paris, Mouton, 1958. 748p. \$16.85.

The geographic area here dealt with comprises India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sikkim, Bhutan, and Ceylon, rather than the whole of South Asia as indicated in the title. For

purposes of arrangement the region has been divided into nineteen sections, each subdivided into three parts. Part A includes selected works published prior to 1940; Part B aims at complete coverage of publications issued between 1940-1954; and Part C consists of data on field research carried out during 1940-1954. The third section was compiled on the basis of questionnaires and does not include the work of some prominent Indian anthropologists. Entries in Parts A and B are arranged under six broad subject headings covering the major branches of anthropology; Part C includes field work in social and cultural anthropology only. The 5,316 items are, with a few exceptions, in western languages and include unpublished dissertations. There is an author index. It is hoped that a supplementary bibliography for the years 1955-1957 will be issued and that thereafter bibliographies on the anthropology of "South Asia" will be published biennially. In spite of the misleading title and the inconsistent inclusion of material, this is an ambitious work and a valuable bibliography.—E.L.R.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

London Bibliography of the Social Sciences. London, British Library of Political and Economic Science, 1958. . v.10- . (London School of Economics and Political Science Studies: Bibliographies No. 8.)

Contents: v.10, 1950-1955. A-K. 1958. 1099p.

For earlier volumes see *Guide L7, Supplements 1L4 and 2L1.*

This new five-year supplement lists "additions from 1950 to 1955 in all languages, and also from 1936 to 1950 in Russian," to the British Library of Political and Economic Science and to the Edward Fry Library of International Law. Russian titles were omitted from the volumes covering 1936-1950, and are now included in the new supplement. Subject headings have in some cases been modernized—the relationship of the new to the old will be found in the tables of headings which will appear in volume XI. Otherwise, the scope and form remain much the same as in previous volumes.

Quezon, Philippines. University of the Philippines. Social Science Research Center. *An Annotated Bibliography of Philippine Social Sciences*. Compiled under the supervision of Cecilio Lopez . . . by Alejandrino G. Hufana and Rony V. Diaz. Quezon City, Philippines, 1956.

Contents: v.1, Economics.

The first of a series of annotated bibliographies, this volume is a classified listing of economics materials in the Filipiniana section of the University of the Philippines Library. Approximately 3,000 English language books, pamphlets, periodical articles, and government documents (and a few theses) are grouped under thirty-one headings such as Agriculture, Capital, Currency, Labor, Statistics, etc. Each item is annotated; at the least the content is indicated, while many have lengthy descriptive (not critical) notes. There is an index of authors, titles, and subjects. The bibliography's usefulness is considerably limited by the fact that it lists only holdings of this one library. For example, a quick check shows the absence of a number of book titles included in the economics section of the HRAF Behavior Science Bibliography, *Selected Bibliography on the Philippines* (c. 1956). Periodical articles come mainly from Philippine magazines. This indeed indicates the chief value of this work for United States libraries: that of a supplemental listing of local materials not easily found listed elsewhere.—E.J.R.

DICTIONARIES

Funk and Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of the English Language. International edition. New York, Funk and Wagnalls Co., 1958. 1506p. il. \$24.50.

A new "between-size" dictionary, larger than a desk dictionary and smaller than an unabridged, which includes in one alphabet, words; personal, proper, and geographical names; foreign phrases, etc. Spelling, syllabication, pronunciation have been given the usual full treatment, as well as etymologies, synonyms and antonyms, and combining forms. Special attention has been paid to grammatical usage and the inclu-

sion of homophones (words pronounced alike but differing in spelling and meaning) is an innovation. Alphabetization is letter by letter. Usually the current meaning is given first, i.e., "the most relevant or the most general meaning," but the order depends somewhat on the particular situation. Derivations follow the definitions.

The coverage attempts to include "the established word stock of English and of the rapidly expanding vocabularies of the arts, sciences, trades, and professions," and also includes slang, colloquialisms, regional and local dialects, etc.

A list of some 5,000 commonly used abbreviations follows the main text.

This dictionary should be welcome in the home which has neither need nor space for an unabridged dictionary, in the small library, and as an additional volume in large libraries.

Partridge, Eric. *Origins; a Short Etymological Dictionary of Modern English*. London, Routledge and Paul [1958], 970p. 90s.

In this concise etymological dictionary the author has "concentrated upon civilization rather than upon science and technology; dialect and cant have been ignored; slang is represented only by a very few outstanding examples" (Foreword). Through liberal use of cross-references and abbreviations, a very substantial number of words has been treated. Three useful appendices provide separate etymological lists of prefixes, suffixes, and compound-forming elements.—E.S.

Zaunmüller, Wolfram. *Bibliographisches Handbuch der Sprachwörterbücher; ein internationales Verzeichnis von 4,600 Wörterbüchern der Jahre 1460-1958 für mehr als 500 Sprachen und Dialekte. An Annotated Bibliography of Language Dictionaries. Bibliographie critique des dictionnaires linguistiques*. Stuttgart, Anton Hiersemann, 1958. 496 cols. DM 50.

This bibliography of dictionaries published during 500 years in languages ranging from "Abasinisch" to "Zutuhil" in-

cludes a far greater number of items than either Collison (*Supplement 2M17*) or the Library of Congress *Foreign Language-English Dictionaries (Supplement 2M18)*, as its aim is to list all dictionaries published during the past century and a selection of those published between 1460-1850. It should be noted, however, that scientific and technical dictionaries are not included. In addition to standard language dictionaries the compiler includes dictionaries of pronunciation, abbreviations, place names, style and grammar, etc. Titles are arranged within the alphabetical language group in reverse chronology, most recent first; occasionally an older but more important work is listed at the head of the section. Those judged particularly significant, whether for usefulness or historical importance, are starred. Annotations are concise and pertinent. An index of languages by continent and one of authors, compilers, translators, and editors are included. Although the title-page is tri-lingual, the body of the work and its orientation are German. Nevertheless, its inclusiveness even without scientific titles should make it valuable for verification and identification and as a handy over-view of what has been published for a given language.—E.J.R.

SCIENCE

Hawkins, Reginald Robert, ed. *Scientific, Medical and Technical Books Published in the United States of America; a Selected List of Titles in Print, with Annotations*. 2d ed., Books published to December 1956. Washington [National Academy of Sciences—National Research Council] 1958. 1491p. \$20.

Distributed in the United States by the R. R. Bowker Company, New York.

Representing a second edition of the original main volume (1944) and supplements (1948, 1952) (*Guide N10, Supplement 2N3*), this volume contains approximately 8,000 titles. Of these, 3,500, or nearly half, represent either new editions of titles previously listed or new titles. General standards of inclusion and arrangement (i.e., classification under broad sub-

jects) remain much the same, as does the information given for each title. Layout and typography are again clear and attractive. As the main volume plus supplements listed nearly 11,000 titles, at least one-fourth of those have been dropped in this edition. Contrary to advertisements, then, most libraries will hesitate to discard the original set, which is still useful for identification, verification, or information about titles now out of print or superseded.—E.J.R.

LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

Bell, Inglis F. and Baird, Donald. *The English Novel, 1578-1956; a Checklist of Twentieth-Century Criticisms*. Denver, Alan Swallow [c1959]. 169p. \$3.

Limited to twentieth-century criticism of English novels from Lyly's *Euphues* to works of established contemporary novelists, this checklist is frankly selective. The editors state that "approximately 2,000 monographs and the files of over 100 periodicals were searched," though the list of sources from which citations were drawn includes only 66 periodical titles and slightly more than 300 books. Arrangement is alphabetical by novelist's name, then by title of the novel. Citations are clear and complete. Though planned as a companion to George W. Arms and Joseph M. Kuntz's *Poetry Explication* (N. Y., Swallow, 1950), one suspects that the present volume may prove somewhat less useful, criticism of specific novels being generally more easily accessible than explication of individual poems.—E.S.

Byrd, Milton Bruce and Goldsmith, Arnold L. *Publication Guide for Literary and Linguistic Scholars*. Detroit, Wayne State University Press, 1958. 146p. \$1.95.

Sets forth editorial "policies and preferences of some one hundred eighty American and Canadian journals which publish literary and linguistic scholarship and literary criticism." Arrangement is by journal title, with a subject index. This should prove a useful guide to how and where to submit scholarly manuscripts in the fields indicated.—E.S.

French VII Bibliography. No. 10 and General Index to Volumes I and II. New York, Stechert-Hafner, 1958.

Regrettably for both scholar and librarian, this is the last fascicle of a very useful bibliography. Duplication of effort in the MLA annual bibliography, coupled with the problem of finance, forced the decision to cease publication. The long-awaited index proves somewhat disappointing, since Part One (Index to author-subjects) refers only to fascicle number. Fortunately for the user, Part Two (Index to authors of books and articles) makes reference to item numbers.—E.S.

Golden, Herbert Hershel and Simches, Seymour O. *Modern Iberian Language and Literature; a Bibliography of Homage Studies*. Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1958. 184p. \$4.

Concerned primarily with Catalan, Portuguese, and Spanish language and literature since 1500, this work joins the same authors' *Modern French Literature and Language* (Guide 2R89) as "the second volume of a series which will ultimately comprise bibliographies of homage studies in the major languages and literatures of the Romance field." (Pref.) Part I lists 424 volumes of *Festschriften* published through 1956, including homage numbers of scholarly journals. Parts II-IV list over 2,000 articles under subdivisions of three main headings: Language; Literature and folklore; Literary and intellectual relations. There is an author index.—E.S.

Harvey, Paul and Heseltine, Janet E. *The Oxford Companion to French Literature*. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1959. 771p. \$12.50.

As with previous volumes in the useful series of "Oxford Companions," authors and publisher have again succeeded in producing a first-rate, compact dictionary encyclopedia of a national literature. Coverage of authors, titles, characters, allusions, movements, forms, etc., is excellent; in addition, there are helpful entries for hundreds of topics not strictly literary, but of potential interest to students in the field,

e.g., people, places, institutions, historical events, etc. In relative length, general form and bibliographic content, articles follow the pattern set in the earlier volumes. A brief bibliography of background materials in French literature is appended.—J.N.W.

Lindsay, Maurice. *The Burns Encyclopaedia*. London, Hutchinson [1959] 287p. 25s.

Mitchell Library, Glasgow. *Catalogue of Robert Burns Collection in the Mitchell Library, Glasgow*. [Glasgow] Glasgow Corporation Public Libraries, 1959. 217p. 21s.

Commemorating the bicentennial of the poet's birth, these two works will be welcomed by the Burns specialist. A handsomely printed volume, the *Encyclopaedia* intends "to provide articles in alphabetical order about people whom Burns met or referred to in his letters and in his poems," together with information on places which figured in his life. There are few cross references, but a detailed index more than compensates.

Based on the work of James C. Ewing, the *Catalogue* provides a key to what is believed to be the world's largest Burns collection (more than 3,500 volumes). With in two principal sections, "Works of Robert Burns" and "Burnsiana," there are numerous subdivisions contributing to efficient use of the volume. Pagination is not indicated for editions of Burns' works, but bibliographical information is otherwise complete; there are a few brief annotations and an index.—E.S.

QUOTATIONS

Taylor, Archer and Whiting, Bartlett Jere. *A Dictionary of American Proverbs and Proverbial Phrases 1820-1880*. Cambridge, Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1958. 418p. \$9.50.

This collection "contains the proverbs and proverbial phrases found in a variety of American authors whose works were published between 1820 and 1880." The au-

thors were chosen mainly as "representative of various regions and for their popularity." Characteristic American proverbs are included, not merely those having their origin in America. The main body of the work is preceded by a bibliography of the texts cited and of reference works used. The proverbs are arranged alphabetically by what is considered the significant word, and the sources follow. Examples of usage by American authors are arranged in chronological sequence, followed by parallels or variations in the cited reference works and in modern literature, arranged according to author.—E.L.R.

BIOGRAPHY

Institut zur Erforschung der UdSSr. *Biographic Directory of the USSR*. Compiled by the Institute for the Study of the USSR, Munich, Germany. New York, Scarecrow Press, 1958. 782p. \$17.

Munich. Osteuropa Institut. *5,000 Sowjetköpfe; Gliederung und Gesicht eines Führungskollektivs*. Hrsg. von Hans Koch. Köln, Deutsche Industrie-Verlag [c.1959] 862p. (Bücher des deutschen Industrie-Instituts.) DM 25.50.

In an attempt to provide the equivalent of a "who's who" for the USSR, two groups have recently published biographical reference works. The first, in English, presents short biographies for about 2,000 living persons active in "political, educational, religious, scientific and cultural life." Some 75 persons contributed information, derived from Soviet encyclopedias, magazines, newspapers and other printed sources. The second work, in German, has brief articles on a larger number of people and contains a directory of organizations with the names of leading personnel. Sources mentioned in the introduction are German-language publications. It should be noted that the two directories use different systems of transliteration, both of which differ from that used by the Library of Congress.—E.B.

Ko je ko u Jugoslaviji; biografski podaci o Jugoslovenskim savremenima.

Prvo izdanje. Beograd [izd. "Sedme sile"] 1957. 810p. \$6.25.

A "Ko je ko u Jugoslaviji" was published in 1928 (*Guide* S221). The present volume, the first postwar "who's who" for Yugoslavia, includes living persons in a wide variety of occupations. The Latin alphabet is used.—E.B.

Minchero Vilasaró, Angel. *Diccionario universal de escritores*. San Sebastián, EdIdHe, 1957- . v.1-2 (In progress). v.1, \$10.75; v.2, \$14.75.

Contents: v.1, Estados Unidos; v.2, Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Chile, Dominicana.

Since the usefulness of volume 1 in a United States library seems dubious, only volume 2 has been examined for this note. The work is essentially a bio-bibliography, with concise, factual listings and no critical evaluation. Bibliographic citations are brief, generally indicating only title and date. "Escritores" is broadly interpreted to mean authors in virtually all fields except the exact sciences and technology. For each country there are, unfortunately, two lists, "Biografías in extenso" and "Biografías rapidas"; the former average around twelve lines each, the latter only three or four. Writers of all times are included, although those of the past hundred years naturally dominate. To check for comprehensiveness of coverage, the two lists for Argentina were examined with the Udaondo *Diccionario biografico . . .* (*Guide* S58) and the *Diccionario histórico argentino (Supplement 2V33)*. There are some 1,500 entries in the two lists of the new work, a large proportion of which do not appear in either of the earlier dictionaries. However, for those subjects who are included in one of the older sets as well as the new, treatment is almost invariably fuller in the former. A good deal of supplementary information for each country is included, the most helpful being lists of the writers treated, classified by literary form or subject. Publication of four more volumes is planned, to cover other parts of the Americas, Asia and Africa.—J.N.W.

Munich. Universität. Slavisches Seminar. *Kleine slavische Biographie*. Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz, 1958. 832p. DM 34.

Some members of the University of Munich's Slavic Seminar have contributed to a small but comprehensive volume giving biographical sketches, in German, of dead and living persons from the various Slavic cultures. Selection has been made among writers, artists, musicians, natural and social scientists and related professions, apparently omitting persons of primarily political importance. Aside from the problem of transliteration—there are only a few cross references and a "pronunciation guide" in the introduction—this is a volume which would be useful in most general reference collections.—E.B.

Who's Who in Italy. v.1, 1957/58. Edited by Igino Giordani and Stephen S. Taylor. Milano, Intercontinental Book and Publishing S.r.l., 1958. 1151p. \$20.

A biographical dictionary, in English, containing about 7,000 biographical entries for prominent people "in and of Italy." It also contains a directory of 1,400 political, cultural, religious, economic, trade, sports and touring organizations and institutions, and includes a listing of decorations, of Italian diplomatic missions abroad and of foreign ones in Italy. The volume differs in no essential way from others in this publisher's series of European who's whos.—E.L.R.

Who's Who of American Women; a Biographical Dictionary of Notable American Women. v.1, 1958-1959. Chicago, Marquis, 1958. Biennial. \$23.

Approximately 19,000 biographical sketches are included in this welcome addition to the Marquis series. The editorial policy has been to include "women outstanding as women, without regard to their achievement or positions in relation to men," so that the word "notable" in the sub-title bears a somewhat different meaning from that in *Who's Who in America*.

In compiling lists of candidates for inclusion, considerable use was made of the Women's Archives at Radcliffe College, as well as of files and lists submitted by numerous women's organizations. Although there are inevitably some surprising omissions, coverage generally seems good, with individual entries in the familiar abbreviated form characteristic of Marquis publications. A full vocational-geographical index is announced for early publication; in the meantime, a preliminary tabulation shows the largest professional group to be "Club/Civic/Religious Leaders" (15.7 per cent), followed by writers (8.3 per cent), and then various groups of educators and teachers. Librarians constitute 4.5 per cent of the total.—J.N.W.

NAMES

Reaney, Percy Hide. *A Dictionary of British Surnames*. London, Routledge and Paul [1958], 366p. £3 10s.

This is a book for the etymologist and specialist; the more casual user is advised that its purpose "is to explain the meaning of names, not to treat of genealogy and family history." Although today "surname means an inherited family name; originally it meant simply an additional name and it is used in this sense in this book." (Introduction)

The earliest known form of each name is given; definitions are briefly stated and carefully documented. The work is selective: only names still in use are included; local names are largely excluded. Origin and development of various types of surnames are treated at length in the introductory essay.—E.S.

HISTORY

Africa Bibliography Series. Compiled by Ruth Jones. London, International African Institute, 1958.

Contents: West Africa. General, Ethnography/Sociology, Linguistics. 116l. £3 15s; Northeast Africa. General, Ethnography/Sociology, Linguistics. 51l. £1 15s.

For over ten years the Library of the International African Institute, London, has been compiling a card index to all signifi-

cant works relating to the Institute's fields of study. A Ford Foundation grant has made possible the editing of the cards and the publication of these first volumes culled from the card index. Publication of volumes on other regions of Africa, other subject sections, and supplements is anticipated.

In each volume material (books and periodical articles) is grouped by geographical heading (Gambia, Nigeria, Senegal, Ethiopia, Eritrea, etc.) which is then subdivided into General, Ethnology/Sociology, Linguistics. References are printed very legibly on one side only of the double-column over-size pages. Complete imprint and inclusive pagination are given, and there are some concise annotations. A list of abbreviations, an index of ethnic and linguistic names, and an author index are included. Judging from these samples, the completed *Africa Bibliography Series* will be an extremely comprehensive and useful reference work.—E.J.R.

The American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies. 1956- . Bloomington, Ind., 1957- . Annual. (Indiana. University. Publications. Slavic and East European series, v.9 [etc.].)

Having commenced with language, literature, folklore, and pedagogy in the first issue, for 1956, the *Bibliography* for 1957 has dropped those words from its title and expanded to include the social sciences. Books and articles published in America, or by Americans anywhere, are classified under eleven major headings, such as history, political science, and linguistics. There is an index of authors. A committee of eighteen collaborators reports articles to the editor, J. T. Shaw, who is responsible for the books listed. Thus Russian and East European area studies are embarked on an interdisciplinary annual bibliography, limited to American contributions. It should be noted that the Modern Language Association's *Annual Bibliography* (formerly *American Bibliography*) became international in 1956. Its section on East European languages and literatures will be larger, presumably, than the corresponding part of the new annual because publications of

Europeans and others are included. Scholars in other disciplines will need to make similar comparisons with the existing surveys, abstracts, or annual bibliographies.—E.B.

Borba de Moraes, Rubens. *Bibliographia Brasiliana; a Bibliographical Essay on Rare Books about Brazil Published from 1504 to 1900 and Works of Brazilian Authors Published Abroad Before the Independence of Brazil in 1822.* Amsterdam, Rio de Janeiro, Colibris Editora, Ltda., 1958- . v.1- . il. \$30.

Contents: v.1, A-L. 427p.

A bibliography, giving detailed descriptions with annotations in English, of rare books about Brazil or by Brazilian authors printed outside of Brazil. Brazilian imprints are included only in exceptional cases. As much coverage as possible is given for works published from the sixteenth through the eighteenth centuries with less for the nineteenth, particularly the late nineteenth century. There are many facsimiles of title-pages which enhance the value of the bibliographical descriptions. *Bibliographia Brasiliana* is especially rich in descriptions of works of early voyages, and should be of interest to the scholar, the collector, and the dealer in rare books.

Commission internationale d'histoire ecclésiastique comparée. *Bibliographie de la réforme, 1450-1648: ouvrages parus de 1940 à 1955.* Leiden, Brill, 1958- . fasc.1- .

Contents: Fasc.1, Allemagne; Pays-Bas.

Issued under the sponsorship of the International Committee of Historical Sciences, this new bibliography on the period of the Reformation is designed to list books, dissertations, and periodical articles published from 1940 through 1955. The first fascicle contains 1,745 items published in East and West Germany and 1,031 published in the Netherlands. Future fascicles are planned for Belgium, Denmark, Spain, the United States, Ireland, Italy, and Norway, with others to follow.

Edwards, E. I. *Desert Voices; a Descriptive Bibliography, with Photographs and Foreword by Harold O. Weight.* Los Angeles, Westernlore Press, 1958. 215p. \$12.50.

This is a most colorful annotated bibliography of California deserts. Mr. Edwards, a booklover and an authority on this area, prefaces the bibliography with an interpretive essay on desert literature. He then attempts to list and comment on all known books, including novels, and a few representative magazine articles essentially related to the subject. Newspaper items are excluded. Three appendices make the work more comprehensive: a checklist of books containing only casual or non-essential reference to California desert regions; a partial record of journals, diaries, etc., of pioneers crossing the deserts; and a checklist of scientific and technical items relating to the area.—E.L.R.

Humphreys, Robin Arthur. *Latin American History; a Guide to the Literature in English.* New York, Oxford University Press, 1958. 197p. \$4.

"Issued under the auspices of the Royal Institute for International Affairs."

An expansion of the author's earlier (1949) *Latin America; a Selective Guide to Publications* (Guide V368), this concise handbook lists some 2,000 books and periodical articles of interest or value to the university student or general reader. Arrangement is by large topics such as Bibliographies and Guides, General Histories, Spanish Empire in America, South American Republics since 1830, etc.: material for each section is further subdivided by more specific aspects. A running commentary links the text and supplies annotations. Full imprint, but not pagination, is given for books; inclusive pagination is supplied for all magazine articles. The material listed is up-to-date (1957 imprints are included) and avoids a British bias. A biographical index and an index of authors, editors, and translators enhance the value of this useful little book.—E.J.R.

Mason, John Brown and Parish, H. Carroll. *Thailand Bibliography.* Gaines-

ville, Department of Reference and Bibliography, University of Florida Libraries, 1958, 247p. (Florida. University, Gainesville. Libraries. Bibliographic series 4.)

In this, "the first comprehensive bibliography devoted solely to the Kingdom of Thailand," the authors have gathered some 2,300 references to varied aspects of Thai life. The listing of material in nine western languages ranges from very popular to scholarly, from exotic accounts of early travelers to present-day studies on flood control and public health.

The first group of references to books and dissertations is followed by a brief section on Thai language studies and dictionaries and then by a section of periodical articles. A list of English-language papers published in Thailand is appended. Full imprint and inclusive pagination are given, and very brief non-critical annotations are supplied for perhaps half the items. The section on dictionaries in particular would have benefited greatly by fuller critical notes. Unfortunately the usefulness of the bibliography is considerably reduced by the total lack of a subject approach; arrangement within each section is strictly alphabetical by author.—E.J.R.

Mullins, Edward Lindsay Carson. *Texts and Calendars; an Analytical Guide to Serial Publications.* London, Offices of the Royal Historical Society, 1958. 674p. (Royal Historical Society Guides and Handbooks, no.7.) 50s.

This useful bibliography lists several thousand items "relating to English and Welsh history issued in general collections or in series by a public body or private society." Publications in eighty-seven such collections are included, and as is to be expected most of the material is of medieval or very early modern content. Arrangement is by issuing body, individual items under each being listed numerically in order of publication. Many items are briefly annotated. The value of the lists themselves is enhanced by a lengthy and fully analytic index, which includes not only personal and place names,

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list of the organizations with which his committee has established relations.

Mr. Ellsworth reviewed the problem of the relationship of the law library of a university with its general library and gave an encouraging report on the work of his committee.

Mrs. Toth was the only one of the three ACRL editors who was able to be at this meeting, but a report was available from each of them. A gratifying item in the report of the ACRL Microcard Series is the fact that No. 100 in this series is now avail-

able. This publication includes a complete recapitulation of the abstracts for Nos. 1 through 99 as they have appeared in *CRL* and an author and subject index. Mr. Tauber's report noted that he had reached the end of a term as editor of *CRL* and offered his resignation to the Board. This proffer was vehemently rejected and Mr. Tauber was reappointed to the editorship.

President Branscomb brought the meeting to a close with his thanks to his fellow officers for their work during a successful year.

Selected Reference Books of 1958-1959

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but subject and form headings as well.—
J.N.W.

Newberry Library, Chicago. *A Catalogue of Printed Materials Relating to the Philippine Islands 1519-1900 in the Newberry Library*. Compiled by Doris Varner Welsh. Chicago, The Newberry Library, 1959. 179p. \$6.

Appendix: "Supplement to the checklist of Philippine linguistics in the Newberry Library," pp. 153-158.

Herewith is completed the published description of the holdings of the Newberry Library in Philippine history and ethnology; earlier publications comprise Doris V. Welsh, *Checklist of Philippine Linguistics* (Chicago, 1950) and Paul S. Lietz, *Calendar of Philippine Documents in the Ayer Collection* (Chicago, 1956). The present volume is a classified checklist of about 1,900 additional titles on the history of the Philippine Islands in the pre-Spanish and Spanish periods. A general reference section (i.e., bibliographies, encyclopedias, periodicals) is followed by sections on political, ecclesiastical, economic, social and cultural, and local history. Brief explanatory annotations are given for most items. A detailed index to the main listing and appendix includes

authors, editors, translators, compilers, and many cross-references, but not titles.—E.J.R.

Pearson, J. D., comp. *Index Islamicus 1906-1955. A Catalogue of Articles on Islamic Subjects in Periodicals and Other Collective Publications*. Compiled by J. D. Pearson with the assistance of Julia F. Ashton. Cambridge, W. Heffer and Sons Ltd. [c1958] 897p. £5 5s.

Seventy-seven closely printed double-column pages of author index are required for the more than 26,000 references presented in this book—a vivid indication of its comprehensiveness. Compiled at the Library of the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London, this catalog of articles and *Festschriften* in Western languages, including Russian, defines the Islamic world as "the whole terrain conquered, penetrated and permeated by Islam," and includes material on India, Pakistan and North Africa as well as Turkey, Persia, etc. Articles are arranged under broad subject, i.e., Bibliographies, Religion, Law, Ethnology, Art, Language, Education. Inclusive pagination is given. Pure science and technology alone are excluded. Printed supplements every five years are planned for this tremendously inclusive yet admirably compact volume.—E.J.R.