

By CONSTANCE M. WINCHELL

Reference Books of 1950-1951*

Miss Winchell is reference librarian, Columbia University.

Introduction

This record is not a comprehensive listing of reference works published during 1950-1951 but rather a selection of a few of those which seem to have special importance for reference workers in university libraries. Titles in the sciences and technologies are omitted as these are included in other lists.¹ The seventh edition of the *Guide to Reference Books* includes books published through 1949 with occasional listings for works published in 1950. This article supplements the *Guide* in that it does not duplicate titles listed there and does list works which would probably have been included had they been received in time.

Bibliography*

Guides

A new French bibliographical manual and textbook by L. N. Malclès is a welcome addition to this field. The first volume of *Les sources du travail bibliographique* covers *Bibliographies générales* and includes a general bibliographical survey, and chapters dealing with bibliography, universal bibliography, the book of the 15th and 16th centuries, printed catalogs of libraries, union catalogs, national bibliography, encyclopedias, biography, periodicals, society publications, and periodical indexes. These are followed by a section covering "Les pays

* A select List for research libraries based on notes written by members of the Reference Staff of the Columbia University Libraries.

¹ See Hawkins, R. R. "Technical books, 1950-1951: 100 Essential Titles," *Library Journal*, 76:809-816, May 15, 1951.

slaves et balkaniques" which lists for each country not only the national bibliographies but other bibliographical aids including encyclopedias, periodicals, lists of anonymous and pseudonymous works, etc. The countries covered are Bulgaria, Greece, Poland, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Turkey, Yugoslavia, and Russia-U.S.S.R. Two more volumes dealing with bibliographies of special subjects are to follow.

National Bibliography

Olga Pinto has issued in a second revised edition her useful *Le bibliografie nazionali*, which was first published in *Le Bibliofilia* in 1930-31 with the title *Repertori bibliografici nazionale* and then in a separately published booklet in 1935. Covering more than seventy countries, the arrangement is by country and then chronological. Titles are annotated.

Canadiana, published twice a month, succeeds the *Canadian catalogue* which was published annually covering 1921/22 to 1949. The index to the new list appears with the mid-monthly issue and is cumulative, the lists themselves will be cumulated annually. Entry is alphabetical by author regardless of language, except that in Part 2, which comprises official publications of the Government of Canada, lists are divided into English and French.

Deutsche wissenschaftliche Bücher, 1945-1949, published by the Niedersächische Staats- und Universitäts Bibliothek in Göttingen lists about 6,000 titles of German scholarly publications from all four zones. Dictionaries, grammars and translations from modern foreign languages are ex-

cluded. Arrangement is by class with author indexes. Reviews in leading German periodicals are indicated by symbols referring to the general classed list of serials at the end of the volume.

The first four volumes of Hans Fromm's *Bibliographie deutscher Übersetzungen aus dem Französischen, 1700-1948* cover A-M of the list of translations of works in French (including Old French and Provençal) by non-German authors. Inclusion has been determined by the use of French in the original, not by the author's nationality. Subsequent series will cover French works by German writers and collections and anthologies of translations, and there are to be indexes by translator and by German titles of the works entered under their French titles in this first list.

A new *Dictionnaire de bibliographie haitienne* by Max Bissainthe lists works published in Haiti or elsewhere by Haitians, January 1, 1804 to December 31, 1949; works published in Hispaniola and Santo Domingo or elsewhere concerning Hispaniola, Santo Domingo or Haiti from the origin to December 31, 1949; and newspapers and periodicals of Santo Domingo and Haiti, 1764 to 1949. These are followed by an alphabetical list of journalists, a catalog of titles and a subject index. Many entries have brief annotations and location in libraries is indicated. It serves as a complement to rather than superseding Duvivier's *Bibliographie générale et méthodique d'Haiti* (1941).

The fifth volume covering R-Z of the *Catálogo general de la librería española e hispanoamericana, 1901-1930*, completes the alphabet of this comprehensive catalog, volumes one to four of which were published from 1932-44. It furnishes a comprehensive list by authors giving author, title, edition, place, publisher, date, paging, size, and price. It is encouraging to note that it is

now planned to publish a continuation covering 1931-1950.

Microfilms

The *Union List of Microfilms* has been issued in a revised, enlarged and cumulative edition by the Philadelphia Bibliographical Center and Union Library Catalog. A note on this volume appears in "News from the Field" in this issue of C.&R.L.

Anonyma and Pseudonyma

The Bibliographical History of Anonyma and Pseudonyma by Archer Taylor and Frederic J. Mosher traces the development of the bibliography of this field from its beginnings, with chapters on homonyms, Latinized names, pseudepigrapha, anonyma and pseudonyma. There is an extensive bibliography of books and periodical articles with at least one library location for each. Two classified guides to dictionaries and other literature, one by language and geographical area, and one by subject, are included.

Dictionaries

The first volume of a new dictionary of modern literary Russian to be complete in fifteen volumes has been published by the Institut Russkogo Iazyka of the Akademiia Nauk SSSR. Entitled *Slovar' sovremenogo russkogo literaturnogo iazyka*, it is intended for the educated reader and is based on the vocabulary used in literary, artistic, social, political, and general scientific works appearing in Russian in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Emphasis is on the philological and not the encyclopedic interpretation of words. Entries include the field in which the word is used, variant meanings, some variant forms, derivations, references to other dictionaries, and in most cases extensive illustrative quotations with

their sources. Loan words from other languages are numerous.

Another scholarly historical language dictionary which follows the same general pattern as the *Oxford English Dictionary* is the *Geiriadur prifysgol cymru; a Dictionary of the Welsh language*, of which three fascicules covering A-Arfarwydd, have appeared. It includes literary and historical words, obsolete and archaic expressions, and technical terms from the arts and sciences. Each entry gives etymology, definition in Welsh, English equivalent, and the date of the earliest use of the word. Most entries give also, a reference to the source of the earliest use and at least one illustrative quotation. These citations refer to an extensive bibliography of sources.

Philosophy

Published under a grant from UNESCO, the *Bibliographia Philosophica* aims to list all books, periodical articles and book reviews published from 1934-1945 in Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Latin, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swedish. To be in two volumes, the first, entitled *Bibliographia Historiae Philosophiae*, is arranged chronologically according to the lives of the philosophers of different historical periods and schools. The volume lists 23,057 numbered references with bibliographical description of each item. According to announcement, the second volume will contain a register of some 2,000 authors giving the philosophical works they have written, translated, edited, prefaced, or reviewed as well as studies about them written during this period. Plans call for five-year supplements.

Religion

The product of modern Hebrew scholarship, the new *Encyclopaedia Biblica* [*Ensiqlopëdiyah Miqrã'it*]; *thesaurus re-*

rum biblicarum alphabetico ordine digestus promises to be an important and outstanding encyclopedia of the Old Testament. It is being published under the auspices of the Jewish Agency of Palestine and the Museum of Jewish Antiquities of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. The contributors (forty-eight in volume one) are for the most part Israeli scholars and are authorities in their fields. The articles, written entirely in modern literary Hebrew, are signed with initials and are usually accompanied by bibliographies which list books both in Hebrew and in western European languages. Volume one covers the letter *aleph* and includes an extensive and notable article on Palestine. The book is well-printed and attractively bound, and is illustrated with several hundred cuts in the text, full-page plates and outline maps.

Supplement II of the *Catholic Encyclopaedia* presents a record of events since the publication of the original work in 1903 and of the first supplement in 1922. It is being published in loose-leaf form so that additions can easily be inserted. Articles in the first two sections cover events in Albania, Canada, Ceylon, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, England, Estonia, France, Germany, Holland, India, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Slovakia, and the United States, arranged by country, with other articles on special dogmas, orders, persons, etc.

Labor

An extensive and valuable bibliography of labor movements has been prepared by Édouard Dolléans in his *Mouvements ouvrier et socialiste, chronologie et bibliographie: Angleterre, France, Allemagne, États-Unis (1750-1918)*. Each chapter deals with a significant movement or period which may concern one or more of the countries considered in the volume. The first

part of each chapter is a chronology of events which is followed by bibliographies listing source materials, some partisan studies, periodicals, books and pamphlets of the period, and histories and monographs on the period and its events and personalities. The final chapter "The international labor and socialist movement and the war, 1889-1918" goes beyond the geographical boundaries indicated in the title, and includes material of world-wide scope in Russian and other languages.

Music and Folklore

The *Bibliography of Jewish Music* by Alfred Sendry represents the first serious attempt to compile a comprehensive bibliography of Jewish music. The bibliography of almost 10,000 items is divided into two sections, the first, literature on the subject, the second, the music itself. The literature section, including books and periodicals, covers reference works, historical periods, forms of music, relations with other fields, and biographies of Jewish musicians. The music section covers sacred and secular music with the latter including vocal, dramatic, folk, and children's music. A list of recorded music, an appendix of earlier Biblical and Rabbinical sources, and an index of proper names complete the work.

Intended to be comprehensive in its scope, the *Bibliography of North American Folklore and Folksong* by Charles Haywood treats the "American People north of Mexico" and the "American Indian north of Mexico," covering both folklore and folk music. Music in printed form and on records is given equal importance with other forms of folklore. Annotations are chiefly descriptive although some material is evaluated. There is an author and subject index with title entries for individual songs and songs in collections.

Theater

The Oxford Companion to the Theatre edited by Phyllis Hartnoll is intended as a companion to the playgoer with the emphasis on the popular rather than the literary theater. Related arts such as the opera, ballet, and theater music are treated in single articles but the cinema has been deliberately omitted. The most space is devoted to the theater of England and the United States with due attention to the Classical and Modern European theater and with a single article on the theater of the Far East. Whenever possible, dates of the first production and publication of a play have been supplied. Only a select few of the outstanding contemporary actors and dramatists have been included. A subject bibliography of more than 1,000 books on the theater concludes the volume.

Wilhelm Kosch's *Deutsches Theater-Lexikon; biographisches und bibliographisches Handbuch* is, according to the author, the first attempt at a dictionary of the German-speaking theater. To be completed in fourteen parts, the first Lieferung covers A-Bechert, and gives bio-bibliographical information on outstanding actors, dramatists, composers, and critics, as well as longer articles on dramatic theory, history, and themes. At the end of each biographical entry, writings by the author are listed as well as writings about him in books, periodicals, and newspapers.

Literature

Although there are extensive histories, with bibliographies, of the French literature of the Middle Ages, there has not been a comprehensive bibliographical manual dealing with this period. The *Manual bibliographique de la littérature française du moyen âge* by Robert Bossuat is designed to fill the needs of both the research worker and the student and lists materials in

French and other Western European languages. After an introduction giving general works, the book is divided into two sections, *L'ancien français* and *Le moyen français*. For each work listed, the principal editions are listed, followed by translations, adaptations, and critical works. The latter include both books and periodical articles. There are two indexes, one by names of original authors and titles of works, the other by names of modern editors and modern authors of critical works.

The *Bibliografía de literatura hispánica* by José Simón Díaz is a first attempt at a comprehensive bibliography of all the Hispanic literatures, and it promises to be an extremely valuable work when complete. The first volume, General historical and critical works, is divided broadly by language, Castilian, Catalan, Galician, and Basque, the Castilian being further subdivided to differentiate between the literatures of Spain and the Spanish American countries. Periodical articles and unpublished works such as theses and lectures are included and whenever possible references are given to book reviews. Library locations are frequently noted. Volume 2, General bibliographies, will be divided by subject and later volumes, devoted to individual bibliographies, will be arranged by author.

History

Medieval.—Festschriften and other homage volumes published in honor of scholars, occasions, or institutions include many scholarly contributions usually not easily found because they are not indexed. This makes the *Index of Mediaeval Studies published in Festschriften, 1865-1946* by H. F. Williams particularly helpful as it provides an index to the studies concerning medieval art, customs, history, philosophy, literature, language, and science of Western Europe.

It covers more than 5,000 items from about 500 volumes, with the emphasis on Romanic material. Included are a list of Festschriften, a list of reviews of some 170 Festschriften, an index of authors, and one of subjects.

United States.—*A Guide to the Microfilm Collection of Early State Records* issued by the Photoduplication Service of the Library of Congress was begun in 1941 as a joint project of the Library of Congress and the University of North Carolina to locate and reproduce early state legislative proceedings. When the project was resumed after the war the coverage was expanded to include also statutory laws, constitutional records, administrative records, executive records, court records, some local records, records of American Indian nationals, and a miscellany group. It is an index to over 2,500,000 pages of records represented on 160,000 feet of microfilm. The general arrangement is by state subdivided by the classifications noted above. Library locations and reel numbers are given for each item.

Great Britain.—The third volume in the series of *Bibliographies of British History* covers the eighteenth century, 1714-1789 and is edited by Stanley Pargellis and D. J. Medley. It follows the same general plan as the earlier volumes by Conyers Read (Tudor period, 1485-1603) and Godfrey Davies (Stuart period, 1603-1714). The emphasis is on contemporary and source materials but secondary works are also mentioned. William Kent's *Encyclopaedia of London*, originally published in 1937 has been issued in a revised edition noting changes caused by the war.

Russia.—A useful *Guide to Research in Russian History* by Charles Morley is designed primarily to serve as a handbook for students but it will also fill a much wider need and certain features will make it very

helpful to the reference librarian. For example, titles are given in transliteration, in many cases indication is given of the location of copies in American libraries, and the most important entries are starred. The main sections cover (1) Russian collections in American libraries; (2) Basic historical aids; (3) Encyclopedias, atlases, geographical dictionaries, (4) Biographical dictionaries and collective biographies; (5) Russian bibliography; (6) Russian historical sources; (7) Periodicals and newspapers; (8) Russian historiography.

The *Guide to Soviet Bibliographies* compiled by John T. Dorosh and issued by the General Reference and Bibliography Division of the Library of Congress lists separately published bibliographies published in Russia or relating to Russia which are available in the Library of Congress. It includes in the main, bibliographies published since 1917 and in a few cases lists bibliographies which appear in periodicals or in books not primarily bibliographic in content, when they have special importance. The arrangement is by class with author and title index.

Orient.—The *Handbook of Oriental History* edited by C. H. Philips of the London University School of Oriental and African Studies is intended as "a companion to Oriental historical studies," covering the Near and Middle East, India and Pakistan, South-East Asia and the Archipelago, China and Japan, from ancient to modern times (except that for the Near East, 622 A.D.

is the beginning date). The volume includes methods of romanization of place and personal names, glossaries of useful terms (including weights and measures), systems of dates and their relation to the Gregorian calendar, and lists of dynasties and rulers with dates.

UNESCO has sponsored the publication of *Dix années d'études byzantines; bibliographie internationale, 1939-1948* by the Association Internationale des Études Byzantines. Citing more than 2,800 references on Byzantine studies from nineteen countries, it covers, in addition to general works, books and articles on philology, literature, history, archeology, art and music, and includes material from some 250 journals and reviews. Entries for each country were submitted by national collaborators and therefore vary somewhat, but bibliographical detail seems adequate and accurate. There are full author and subject indexes.

Coptic

Winifred Kammerer's *Coptic Bibliography* contains more than 3,000 references to Coptic texts and to books and periodical articles on Coptic philology, literature, history, religion, and art. Early works are included although most items are from the late 19th and 20th centuries with an attempt to cover material published in all countries through 1948. Many entries are annotated and some contain references to important reviews.

Bibliography

Akademiia Nauk SSSR. Institut Russkogo Iazyka. *Slovar' sovremennogo russkogo literaturnogo iazyka*. Moskva, 1950. v. 1, A-B.

Association internationale des études byzantines. *Dix années d'études byzantines; bibliographie internationale, 1939-1948*. Publié avec le concours de l'UNESCO. Paris, Editions universitaires, 1949. 170 p.

Bibliographia philosophica, 1934-1945. Bruxellis, Editiones Spectrum, 1950. v. 1.

Bibliography of British History; the eighteenth century, 1714-1789, ed. by Stanley Pargellis and D. J. Medley. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1951. 642 p.

Bissanthe, Max. *Dictionnaire de bibliographie*

haitienne. Washington, D.C., The Scarecrow Press, 1951. 1052 p.

Bossuat, Robert. *Manual bibliographique de la littérature française du moyen âge*. Melun, Librairie d'Agences, 1951. 635 p.

Canadiana. (Ottawa, Canadian bibliographic centre, Public archives of Canada, 1951-), semi-monthly.

Catálogo general de la librería española e hispano-americana, 1901-1930. Madrid, Instituto Nacional del Libro Español. t. 5, R-Z, 1951.

The Catholic Encyclopedia: Supplement II. v. 18, ed. by Vincent C. Hopkins. New York, Gilmary Society, 1950. loose-leaf.

Dolléans, Edouard. *Mouvements ouvrier et socialiste, chronologie et bibliographie: Angleterre, France, Allemagne, États-Unis (1750-1918)* . . . Paris, Editions ouvrières, 1950 381 p.

Encyclopaedia Biblica [Ensiqlopediyah Miqrā'ūtī; thesaurus rerum biblicarum alphabetico ordine digestus. Hierosolymis, Sumptibus Instituti Bialik, 1950- v.1- II. Fromm, Hans. *Bibliographie deutscher Übersetzungen aus dem Französischen, 1700-1948* . . . Baden-Baden, Verlag für Kunst und Wissenschaft, 1950-51. Verzeichnis A. v. 1-4.

Geiriadur prifysgol cymru; a dictionary of the Welsh language. Caerdydd Gwasg prifysgol cymru, 1950-51. pt.1-3.

Göttingen. Universität. Bibliothek. *Deutsche wissenschaftliche Bücher, 1945-1949* . . . im Auftrage der Notgemeinschaft der deutschen Wissenschaft herausgegeben von der Niedersächsischen Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek zu Göttingen. Göttingen, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1951. 718 col.

Haywood, Charles. *A bibliography of North American Folklore and Folksong.* New York, Greenberg, [1951] 1292 p.

Kammerer, Winifred. *A Coptic Bibliography* . . . Ann Arbor, University of Michigan Press, 1950. 205 p. (University of Michigan. General Library publications, no. 7.)

Kent, William. *An Encyclopaedia of London.* New York, Macmillan, 1951. 674 p.

Kosch, Wilhelm. *Deutsches Theater-Lexikon: biographisches und bibliographisches Handbuch.* Klagenfurt, Kleinmayre, 1951. Lfg.1, A-Bechert.

London. University. School of Oriental and African studies. Department of Oriental History. *Handbook of Oriental History* . . . ed. by C. H. Philips. London, Royal historical society, 1951. 265 p. (Royal historical society guides and handbooks. 6)

Malclès, L. N. *Les sources du travail bibliographique.* Genève, E. Droz; Lille, Giard, 1950. t.1, Bibliographies générales. 364 p.

Morley, Charles. *Guide to Research in Russian History.* Syracuse, N.Y., Syracuse University Press, 1951. 227 p.

Oxford Companion to the Theatre, ed. by Phyllis Hartnoll. London, Oxford University Press, 1951. 887 p.

Philadelphia Bibliographical Center and Union Library Catalogue. *Union List of Microfilms*, rev., enl. and cumulated ed. Ann Arbor, Michigan, J. W. Edwards, 1951. 1961 p.

Pinto, Olga. *Le bibliografie nazionali; 2a. edizione viveduta, corretta ed aggiornata.* Firenze, Olschki, 1951. 94 p.

Sendry, Alfred. *Bibliography of Jewish Music.* New York, Columbia University Press, 1951. 404 p.

Simón Diaz, José. *Bibliografía de literatura hispánica* . . . Madrid, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Instituto "Miguel de Cervantes," de Filología Hispánica, 1950- v.1-.

Taylor, Archer and Frederic J. Mosher. *The Bibliographical History of Anonyma and Pseudonyma.* Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1951. 289 p.

U. S. Library of Congress. General Reference and Bibliography Division. *Guide to Soviet Bibliographies; a Selected List of References*, comp. by John T. Dorosh. Washington, 1950. 158 p.

U. S. Library of Congress. Photoduplication Service. *A Guide to the Microfilm Collection of Early State Records.* Washington, Library of Congress, 1950. various paging.

Williams, Harry Franklin. *An Index of Mediæval Studies published in Festschriften, 1865-1946, with special reference to Romanic material.* Berkeley, University of California Press, 1951. 165 p.

Quality Loss in Newspaper Microfilm

In the interest of the reading public both present and future, it is the function of the American Library Association Committee on Photo Duplication to draw to the attention of librarians and other contracting parties the importance of maintaining standard quality for newspaper microfilm.

The Committee points out that the recent trend to high reduction ratios has led to much microfilm of poor quality. The use of a ratio of reduction beyond the old 16½:1 may not in itself affect the quality, if the work is carefully done on a camera of high resolving power, with fine grain film stock, proper lighting and extreme care in processing. The evenness of the lighting of the original seems to be of the utmost importance.

The Committee has made tests of microfilm from various sources. The Committee finds that the quality appears to be less than standard. When facing pages of a normal newspaper are microfilmed in Position Two, that is with the lines of the text parallel to the edge of the film, or when facing pages of tabloid newspapers are filmed in Position Three, that is with the lines of the text running across the film, ratios of nineteen or twenty diameters are required. There should be no difficulty with tabloid newspapers on lighting, but the lighting problem on the larger

paper is a difficult one.

On such microfilm as the Committee has examined the legibility is seriously affected. The density varies within the frame especially on the corners and in some cases the small type tends to fill in even in the center of the frame. This latter defect points to lack of resolution.

Naturally such deviations as noted above make it extremely difficult for the reader on any reading machine. A more exacting test is the making of paper enlargements to the full original size. This procedure readily reveals defects, since any deviation on the film image is multiplied several times on the paper. Care was taken in the tests to use a standard Recordak Enlarger and to enlarge only one page at a time, not the whole frame. And since some newspapers have uneven inking, the test included more than one page.

In the interest of the reading public librarians should demand microfilm of standard quality, whether made by library or commercial laboratories.

In addition the Committee wishes to point out that when the microfilm positive is the only form in which the library has the newspaper (and this is becoming more and more true as libraries cease binding originals) it is essential to make a legible enlargement.