

Outstanding Reference Sources: The 1997 Selection of Recent Titles

By Shirley A. Maul

ANNUAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF
DISTINGUISHED REFERENCE WORKS
SELECTED BY ALA/RUSA'S
REFERENCE SOURCES COMMITTEE

An icon calls to mind the essential characteristics of the object being depicted. For reference services and sources I have seen libraries use the question mark for answering; the light bulb for clarifying; the owl for wisdom; the lightning bolt for speed; the globe for comprehensiveness; the loom for interrelatedness; a Greek temple for enduring truth; a coffee grinder for. . . . A coffee grinder? Maybe it symbolizes the all-night study sessions students sometimes spend with reference sources. Maybe it simply represents the grinding and sifting of information.

The many icons used for reference do depict the qualities we expect to find in a good reference source—readily available answers that are clear, complete, and comprehensive. These qualities and more preoccupy the Reference Sources Committee throughout the year as it reviews the many reference works that appear.

The Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) committee has two charges: first, to identify useful and often unique reference titles; second, to provide an annual list of new, high-quality reference works that are suitable for small to medium-sized libraries. The committee recognizes that omissions may be inevitable in a selection process that is a committee effort. Highly specialized sources, updates, and new volumes of previously recommended titles are not selected for inclusion in this list unless substantially updated. This year's list cites 30 titles.

Committee members begin their work for the next year even before ending the work of the present year. They look for new reference titles in all formats, regularly scanning online publishers' catalogs as well as the print versions. They scour bookstores, conference exhibits, and public and academic libraries. They test review copies in real library settings. They discuss, examine, compare, and consider hundreds of titles. E-mail, snail mail, fax, the telephone, and discussions with col-

Music Festivals from Bach to Blues by Tom Clynes (Visible Ink) highlights the Cosby Dulcimer and Harp Festival.

leagues at ALA's Annual Conference, Midwinter Meeting, regional meetings, and within our libraries help to confirm the nominations. Committee members look for reviews reprinted on publishers' home pages as well as in print journals and online to reduce the list for final consideration during the Midwinter selection process.

Online sites and CD-ROM products are increasingly important sources for information retrieval in libraries. The committee members reviewed many CD-ROM products and nominated three this year, but as good as Gale's *Exploring Poetry* was deemed, in the final deliberation it was regarded as more of a teaching tool than a reference source; hence none made the list, and no Internet resources were selected. This year the monumental, highly praised *Dictionary of Art* is also the Dartmouth Medal winner, presented to "award achievement in creating reference works outstanding in quality and significance." Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, donates the medal.

In all we have an extremely useful roundup of titles that not only serve our readers well but offer reference librarians terrific time-saving resources and close some long-standing gaps in the literature. Many publishers support the work of the Reference Sources Committee by staying in close touch throughout the year, keeping committee members supplied with print catalogs, updating and improving their online home pages, providing review copies for committee members, and attending our annual deliberations. Interested librarians and guests also attend the open discussion.

The 1997 Outstanding Reference Sources exhibit will be on display at the RUSA booth during the ALA Annual Conference



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SHIRLEY A. MAUL has worked at Vassar College Library in Poughkeepsie, New York, for 24 years and has headed its readers services and reference departments since 1990. As chair of the Reference Sources Committee, she is responsible for the introduction to this article and for editing the annotations written by committee members.

in July. After the San Francisco conference the display will be available for loan to interested groups. For further information, contact Executive Director Cathleen Bourdon at the RUSA office at ALA; 800-545-2433, ext. 4395; or e-mail her at cbourdon@ala.org.

THE ARTS

Dictionary of Art edited by Jane Turner. 34 vols., 32,400p. New York: Grove's Dictionaries, 1996 (1-884446-00-0) \$8,800.

This massive work authoritatively examines art from all eras and all peoples. A truly panoramic portrait of art emerges as painting, sculpture, and architecture are joined by photography, the decorative arts, designers, jewelers, collectors, critics, patrons, and teachers. Detailed tables of contents provide an overview as well as a subject's development and presentation. The bibliographies that accompany

many of the over 45,000 entries are invaluable, including English and foreign works, catalogs, articles, media, and unpublished works. Each volume features hundreds of photographs of carefully selected art works as well as maps and drawings. Volume 34 is solely an index to the first 33 volumes. Contributions from 6,700 scholars from around the world made this set possible.

Music Festivals from Bach to Blues: A Traveler's Guide by Tom Clynes. 582p. Detroit: Visible Ink, 1996 (0-787-6082-38) \$18.95.

Clynes and his research crew of music lovers traveled over much of North America in search of music festivals of every variety and stripe. The fruits of their labors are offered in this great guidebook describing over 1,000 festivals representing musical genres of almost every kind. Travelers will be grateful for vital information on location, dates, ticket agents, and contacts for accommodations as well as descriptions of each festival. From the International Accordion Celebration in Leavenworth, Washington, to the Underwater Music Festival in Big Pine Key, Florida, and from the Downeast Dulcimer and Folk Harp Festival in Bar Harbor, Maine, to the September Fiesta Festival in Wickenburg, Arizona, the musical riches all around us are made reverberantly clear.

American Libraries ♦ May 1997

LAW AND ORDER

Encyclopedia of Constitutional Amendments: Proposed Amendments and Amending Issues, 1789-1995 by John R. Vile. 427p. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 1996 (0-87436-783-2) \$75.

Nearly 11,000 amendments to the U.S. Constitution have been proposed since 1787. From religion to the environment to government, it is a rare topic that has not been the subject of a proposed amendment. Professor Vile has done an exceptional job of organizing vast amounts of information on the constitution's amending history into 400 alphabetical entries, arranged by topic or notable individual rather than by incident. Each topic is thoroughly described, its historical significance explained, and individuals involved profiled. There are several useful appendixes, such as the number of proposed amendments by decade and the dates the 27 existing amendments were proposed and ratified. The comprehensive bibliography that concludes this outstanding work cites legal and mainstream journals as well as books and government documents. This authoritative and timely source will be heavily used in all libraries.

Facts about the Congress by Stephen G. Christianson. 635p. New York: H. W. Wilson, 1996 (0-8242-0883-8) \$55.

This volume proves the old adage that less is more. The conciseness of the chapters provides a quick overview of a specific Congress, its leaders, key issues, and major legislation. Key players, votes, and events within each of the 104 Congresses chronologically compiled make *Facts about the Congress* a great ready-reference tool that is entertaining to read, especially the entries on impeachments and other scandals. It includes a bibliography, photos, a glossary, and an index. Students and librarians will appreciate this well-organized, accessible resource.

American Justice edited by Joseph M. Bessette. 3 vols., 932p. New York: Salem Press, 1996 (0-89356-761-2) \$270.

Hardly a day goes by in any library in this country without a request for information on legal concepts and issues. To fill this need, *American Justice*, the third title in Salem Press's Ready Reference series, is invaluable. This comprehensive source serves as an excellent starting point for students and laypersons researching the American legal and judicial systems. Whether the topic is broad, such as "civil law," or more specific, such as "burden of proof," the reader will find clear definitions, well-written descriptions and explanations, and numerous cross-references for all of the 842 articles. Annotated bibliographies are added to articles of 1,000 words or more. The three-volume set concludes with eight appendixes, a time line, glossary, and bibliography. No library will want to be found guilty of not having this resource.

Facts about the Supreme Court by Lisa Paddock. 569p. New York: H. W. Wilson, 1996 (0-8242-0896-X) \$55.

What was the Marshall Court's position on states' rights? How close has the Rehnquist Court come to overturning *Roe v. Wade*? *Facts about the Supreme Court* presents in chronological sequence the historical background of each

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court as defined by the chief justice. Summaries of prominent court cases, biographies of each chief justice and the associate justices, and significant events that occurred during each court's tenure combine to present an overall picture of each court and its impact. It may have been written with the student in mind, but it's perfect for the busy reference librarian.

Murder Cases of the Twentieth Century: Biographies and Bibliographies of 280 Convicted or Accused Killers by David K. Frasier. 552p. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland, 1996 (0-7864-0184-2) \$65.

True crime is perennially interesting to the public. This work presents the facts surrounding 280 famous 20th-century murder cases including information on the accused, the victims, the location of the murders, the weapons used, the courtroom strategy, and the evidence introduced during litigation. Also covered are the books, movies, and plays as well as television, video, and audio presentations about the murder. In most cases the accused were found guilty, but some famous cases that ended in acquittal also have entries. An appendix classifies the murders by type and both a bibliography index and a general index are added. Doubling as a much-needed collection development source for "true crime" collections, this excellent book promises to have heavy use.

Encyclopedia of American Prisons edited by Marilyn D. McShane and Frank P. Williams III. 532p. New York: Garland, 1996 (0-8153-1350-0) \$95.

With the United States having the highest incarceration rate in the world, and with many states now spending more money on prisons than education, there is no denying the importance of prisons in our society. In 161 articles by recognized authorities, this new encyclopedia outlines both the nature and development of American prisons, as well as the events, people, theories, and institutions that shaped them. Every major aspect of prison life is covered, from crowding and discipline to education and drug treatment programs. Organizational structures, personnel, policies, and procedures are detailed as are such issues as privacy, medical experiments, suicide, visitation rights, and excessive sentences. In short, this valuable work defines the contemporary field and answers myriad questions.

SCIENCE, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND HEALTH

Encyclopedia of Climate and Weather edited by Stephen H. Schneider. 2 vols., 929p. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996 (0-19-509485-9) \$195.

"Everyone talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it." Mark Twain's assertion has stood the test of time—until now. This title may not be able to predict or alter the weather, but it does go a long way toward explaining it. Modern weather study goes far beyond traditional meteorology. In addition to phenomena such as rain, drought, and hurricanes, it now includes a wide range of natural and social factors that have contributed to or are af-



***Viburnum opulus*, commonly known as crampbark, grows as a shrub or tree producing red berries in autumn. The bark's preparation and uses can be found in *The Encyclopedia of Medicinal Plants* (DK Publishing, Inc.).**

ected by changes in the earth's climate and weather systems. From acid rain to drama and dance, this encyclopedia presents a complete picture of the past and present of the global environment, and predicts its future. Schneider presents this for a wide range of readers on a subject that affects all inhabitants of planet earth.

Encyclopedia of Medicinal Plants: A Practical Reference Guide to More than 550 Key Medicinal Plants and their Use by Andrew Chevallier. 336p. New York: DK Publishing Inc., 1996 (0-7894-1067-2) \$39.95.

The growing popularity of alternative medicine has spawned a multi-billion-dollar industry in herbal medicines. With this beautifully illustrated volume, Chevallier provides would-be herbal consumers a guide through a bewildering array of choices. Emphasizing the plants used most widely throughout the world, he details the traditional uses of medicinal plants as well as their pharmacological functions. The 550 featured plants range from such familiar household items as garlic, lemon, tea, and parsley to grains of paradise from Africa, Iceland moss, lapacho and condurango from South America, and the banyan tree of South Asia. Each entry includes a general description of the plant, its habitat and cultivation, the parts used, its history and folklore, medical actions, and key preparations. Other sections detail preparation methods and remedies. Finally, special indexes make it easy to match plants and remedies to particular ailments.

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Harvard Guide to Women's Health by Karen J. Carlson and others. 718p. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1996 (0-674-36768-5) \$39.95; (0-674-36769-3) paper \$24.95.

This outstanding contribution to a growing range of resources on the subject is the collaborative effort of a team of practicing specialists in women's health and a medical journalist. The result is a comprehensive, easy-to-read, timely encyclopedia covering over 300 topics of special concern for women. Articles vary from coffee, cancer, and cosmetics to scoliosis, sexuality, mental health, and domestic abuse. Common medical conditions, tests, and treatments are included as well as social issues, occupational hazards, and medical-care questions. Clear drawings enhance many articles, and a bibliography points readers to organizations, books, videos, and Internet sites for additional information. The alphabetical arrangement of entries, a detailed index, and many cross-references help make vital information easily accessible to women of all ages, from high school and beyond.

Encyclopedia of Earth Sciences edited by E. Julius Dasch. 2 vols., 1,273p. New York: Macmillan Library Reference U.S.A., 1996 (0-02-883000-8) \$200.

From the stewardship of the earth's natural resources to attempts to predict earthquakes, from the study of the origin and evolution of all species to the need to protect the atmosphere and water, earth sciences have played a vital part in the preservation of the environment. This two-volume set covers not only the sciences of the solid earth, the oceanographic and atmospheric sciences, and the biological sciences, but also the study of the solar system and its place in the galaxy and the universe. Well written and indexed, this encyclopedia will find an audience with both high school and college students as well as with decision makers and the interested layperson.

Weather America: The Latest Detailed Climatological Data for Over 4,000 Places with Rankings edited by Alfred N. Garwood. 1,412p. Milpitas, Calif.: Toucan Valley Publications, 1996 (1-884925-60-X) \$99.95.

Did you know that Burlington, Vermont, averages 94 days per year with more than an inch of snow on the ground? This is only one weather fact that is available in this single-volume reference that provides extensive climatological data for over 4,000 places in the United States. The book is organized into 50 state sections; each begins with a narrative of a state's climatological conditions, followed by a full-page map indicating the location of weather stations. The main body of the state sections is composed of easy-to-read tables providing 13 data items detailed for each month and a yearly average for selected weather stations in the states. National rankings are provided at the end of the book. The combination of usability with the currency of data, breadth of scope, narratives, maps, detailed entries, and ranking tables makes *Weather America* an instant standard reference tool.

CULTURE AND DIVERSITY

Encyclopedia of American Education by Harlow G. Unger. 3 vols., 1,611p. New York: Facts On File, 1996 (0-8160-2994-6) \$175.

Educators as well as ordinary citizens have sorely needed a comprehensive, up-to-date reference on American education. This encyclopedia succeeds admirably in meeting that need. Nearly 2,500 alphabetical entries cover broad subjects such as administration, history, reform, organizations, programs, and tests; not to mention the complex ones, such as church-and-state conflicts. Profiles of leading educators are also included. Each clearly written entry provides an overview plus a bibliography of additional sources. Volume 3 contains a comprehensive bibliography, organized into 41 major subject areas. The cross-references, the detailed index, and the four appendixes add usefulness to the text, helping to make this a truly outstanding reference source on American education.

American Folklore: An Encyclopedia edited by Jan Harold Brunvand. 794p. New York: Garland, 1996 (0-8153-0751-9) \$95.

Have you been amazed by the folklore surrounding Elvis, wondered about the Tooth Fairy, or been asked to explain cow tipping or playing the dozens? Questions about these and similar subjects are answered by 263 scholars in more than 500 articles covering American and Canadian folklore from holidays, festivals, and rituals to crafts, music, dance, and occupations. Well-chosen black-and-white photographs illustrate many aspects of our rich folklife tradition. Twenty-three ethnic groups receive lengthy articles describing their traditional and contemporary folklore—with the exception of Native Americans, for whom the publishers are planning a separate encyclopedia. Short bibliographies and cross-references point the way for further research. This scholarly yet entertaining work updates and fills out a neglected area of reference.

Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History edited by Jack Salzman, David Lionel Smith, and Cornel West. 5 vols., 3,203p. New York: Macmillan Library Reference U.S.A., 1996 (0-02-897345-3) \$475.

Of the many reference books dealing with African-American culture published in the past few years, none can match the comprehensive scope and depth of these five volumes spanning 1619 to the present. Approximately two-thirds of the 2,200 alphabetically arranged topics are biographical sketches of important African Americans. Other entries address an unusual and wide range of subjects from the role of blacks in the American Revolution and other wars to their importance in opera; from their fame in sports as players, managers, and businessmen to their success in photography; from their positions in government to their contributions to comic-strip art and science fiction. The 140-page appendix provides facts and statistics on businesses, education, crime, health, economics, immigration, religion, sports, occupations, politics, awards, and population. This encyclopedia is of enduring value and destined to become a standard reference source.

Encyclopedia of Cultural Anthropology edited by David Levinson and Melvin Ember. 4 vols., 1,486p. New York: Henry Holt, 1996 (0-8050-2877-3) \$395.

Appealing both to high school students and practitioners in the social sciences, 310 scholars contributed the 340 ar-



This view of the Sinai Peninsula from space is one of several plates featured in the *Encyclopedia of Earth Sciences* (Macmillan Library Reference U.S.A.)

ticles ranging from gossip, homelessness, and dreams to semiotics, ethnopsychiatry, and political economy. In all, the encyclopedia covers eight selected areas of cultural anthropology: major subfields, major concepts, methods, theories, regions, controversies, professional aspects, topics of common study, and related topics from other disciplines. These volumes present the approaches, concepts, theories, and methods commonly used in studying other cultures as well as major topics of interest. An excellent bibliography accompanies each article. All students of anthropology will welcome this long-needed reference work.

Women and the Military: An Encyclopedia by Victoria Sherrow. 381p. Santa Barbara: ABC-Clio, 1996 (0-87436-812-X) \$60.

Women's role in the armed forces has been controversial throughout our history, and today is certainly no exception. This timely and highly informative encyclopedia chronicles both the contributions and the difficulties women have experienced within the U. S. military. Nearly 400 alphabetical entries covering individuals, events, laws, court cases, wars, and specific service branches follow a clearly written introduction. The numerous cross-references and the comprehensive bibliography provide excellent leads for readers and researchers to other high-quality sources. Women's myriad contributions to our military efforts have previously been ignored in the military reference literature. All libraries will now want to fill that lapse with this unique, thoroughly researched title.

Directory of Saints: A Concise Guide to Patron Saints by Annette Sandoval. 309p. New York: Dutton, 1996 (0-525-94154-1) \$18.95.

Almost everyone seems to have a patron saint; businesswomen, butlers, unhappy wives, television workers, paratroopers, and even the homely. With the recent interest in guardian angels, people are more likely than ever to want to know which patron saint is theirs. Few of the many available dictionaries of saints offer easy A-Z access by patron-

age—rather than by saint's name or feast day—as this directory does. Each entry contains brief biographical information, the saint's feast day, and any other patronage of the saint. The appendixes include Roman Catholic feast days, emblems, and symbols of the saints; baptismal names; saints' prayers; an alphabetical listings of the saints; and patron saints by countries and places. A bibliography and index wrap up this wonderfully handy reference source.

Encyclopedia of World Sport from Ancient Times to the Present edited by Davis Levinson and Karen Christensen. 3 vols., 1,317 p. Santa Barbara: ABC-Clio, 1996 (0-87436-819-7) \$225.

Baseball, basketball, and football are not the only games in town in this set, as attested to by entries for buzkashi, football, kendo, rock climbing,

snowboarding, and takraw. Among the many strengths of this work are the cultural and social views it provides. Concepts and special aspects are featured in entries for aggression, art, disabilities, ethics, ethnicity, leadership, literature, movies, mythology, politics, psychology, technology, and values, all in relation to sport. To really expand one's horizons, the entry on "volkssport" is a must-read. The editors chose about 150 contributors to provide authoritative text. Interesting photographs and fascinating sidebars enhance this comprehensive work.

Voices of Multicultural America: Notable Speeches Delivered by African, Asian, Hispanic and Native Americans, 1790-1995 edited by Deborah Gillan Straub. 1,372p. Detroit: Gale, 1996 (0-8103-9378-6) \$95.

If, as Thomas Mann wrote, "speech is civilization itself," then this volume represents a vital, vibrant slice of American civilization. Here are over 230 speeches by over 130 African, Asian, Hispanic, and Native-American orators, spanning our history from 1790 to 1995. The speeches are virtually all unabridged, and entries include biographical information and text placing the speeches in historical context. In some entries, the aftermath of the speech is explained; others even describe the audiences' reactions. The depth of this collection is impressive, including the words of those speeches known to all Americans as well as those little known outside their ethnic communities. Essays on the oratory traditions of each ethnic group, over 100 photographs, a timeline, plus speech category and ethnicity indexes combine to make this a reference source without equal.

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

American Nature Writers edited by John Elder. 2 vols., 1,210p. New York: Scribner Reference, 1996 (0-684-19692-1) \$220.

American nature writing is a genre with an illustrious past and a vigorous future. It is a genre that has raised our

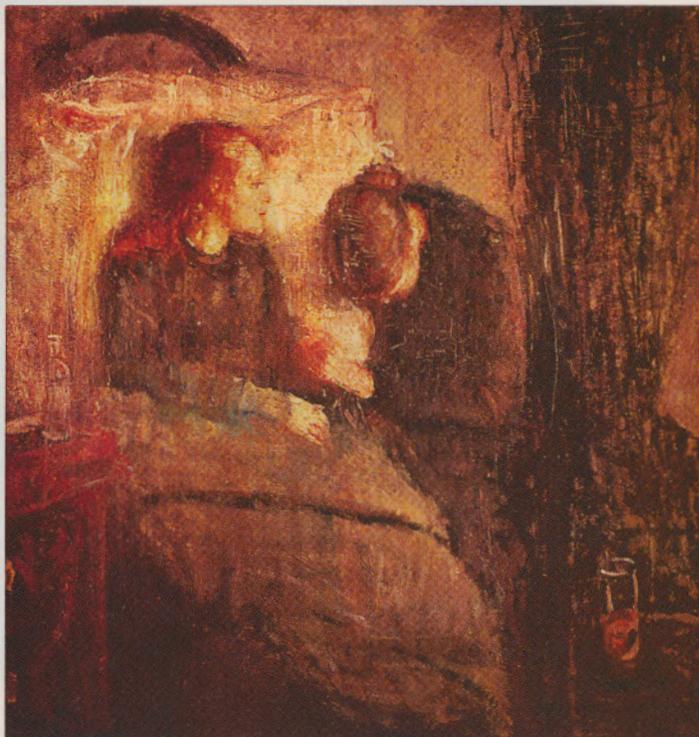
environmental consciousness even as it touches our hearts. These two volumes cover 70 authors from William Bartram to contemporary writers like Annie Dillard and John McPhee—authors whose works live on that “vivid edge” between literature and science. The entries discuss the authors’ lives and works and include selected bibliographies plus citations to biographical and critical studies. Of particular importance are the essays on topics ranging from “African Americans, Writing and Nature” to “Forms of American Nature Poetry” and “Modern Birdwatching Literature.” This excellent set is a welcome resource for us all—students and readers, beekeepers and bird-watchers, and casual woods-walkers.

Bartlett's Roget's Thesaurus edited by Elizabeth Wear Pitha and others. 1,488p. New York: Little, Brown, 1996 (0-316-10138-9) \$18.95.

An outstanding reference source and an outstanding value—that's *Bartlett's Roget's Thesaurus*. More than 350,000 terms and phrases in an easy-to-use format, at a price that every library can afford. Pitha and her editorial team have created a thesaurus that reflects the current state of American English, including terminology from the worlds of computers and television, with such sub-categories as “Living Things,” “The Arts,” “Feelings.” But what really makes the book a joy to use is the tremendously useful lists—everything from phobias to styles and periods of furniture. It's smashing, awesome, cool!

Latin for the Illiterati by Jon R. Stone. 201p. New York: Routledge, 1996 (0-415-91774-3) \$55; (0-415-91775-1) pap. \$14.95.

Do Latin phrases give you *cutis anserina* (goosebumps)? Do you struggle *cassum* (in vain) with Latin dictionaries? *Macte animo!* (Take courage!) Stone has compiled a helpful and practical reference guide aimed at those of us for whom Latin is *terra incognita*. Here are nearly 6,000 words, phrases, and abbreviations culled from the arts, music, law, philosophy, theology, medicine, and the works of ancient writers. Stone has also included a section of handy lists: the Seven Hills of Rome, countries and regions, colors, and, of course, Roman numerals, both cardinal and ordinal. *Gaudeamus igitur!* (Let us be joyful!) *Latin for the Illiterati* is a ready-reference dream come true.



Edvard Munch's "The Sick Child" at the Nasjonalgalleriet in Oslo is among the hundreds of artworks reproduced in the massive *Dictionary of Art*.

HISTORY

ABC-Clio World History Companion to the Industrial Revolution edited by Peter N. Stearns and John H. Hinshaw. 328p. Santa Barbara: ABC-Clio, 1996 (0-87436-824-3) \$60.

How did the invention of the cotton gin affect the social, political, and economic fabric of American life? What impact did industrialization have on the drinking habits of workers? In providing answers to these questions, this work covers the Industrial Revolution across the globe from the 1500s into the present, viewing industrialization as an ongoing process not limited to western Europe and the United States. Attention is paid to biographies, events, organizations, legislation, concepts, trends, business, materials, production, labor, and society. Bibliographic references and a chronology enhance its value.

Encyclopedia of Latin American History and Culture edited by Barbara A. Tenenbaum. 5 vols., 3,192 p. New York: Scribner Reference, 1996 (0-684-19253-5) \$525.

This monumental new resource covers terrain stretching from Tierra del Fuego and Antarctica north to the Caribbean, Florida, California, and even Alaska. Its historical reach extends more than 3,000 years from the ancient Olmecs to the Mariel boatlift. An international team of over 800 scholars contributed the more than 5,300 essays on the important places, people, historic events, and cultural and economic characteristics of Latin America. Thematic articles range from carnival, tango, and voodoo to piracy, Contras,

and the Football War. Over 3,000 biographical entries highlight the contribution of Latin America to science, medicine, music, literature, world politics, business, and many other fields. Hundreds of black-and-white illustrations, photos, charts, and maps enhance the text, and brief bibliographies accompany most articles. The net result is a reference work unmatched in English that makes our southern neighbors thoroughly accessible to all audiences, middle school and above.

Encyclopedia of the McCarthy Era by William K. Klingaman. 502p. New York: Facts On File, 1996 (0-8160-3097-9) \$50.

As one of the most controversial periods in modern American history, the McCarthy era will be a topic of interest for years to come. In addition to information on

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Joseph McCarthy, this ready reference provides information on the activity in the anti-Communist hysteria of the early 1950s of figures such as Richard Nixon, Albert Einstein, Frank Sinatra, the Hollywood Ten, Whittaker Chambers, Roy Cohn, Lillian Hellman, Alger Hiss, and Owen Lattimore. Other entries focus on the government, organizations, court cases, and famous books and plays involving McCarthyism. A chronology stretching from 1919 to 1960 and 18 appendixes bring together a selection of hard-to-locate documents such as hearings before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, debates, speeches, and lists. This timely encyclopedia covers a topic that has long been overlooked in standard reference sources.

Encyclopedia of the Vietnam War edited by Stanley I. Kutler. 711p. New York: Scribner Reference, 1996 (0-13-276932-8) \$110.

This thorough overview of the Vietnam War covers all aspects of the war from French involvement and defeat to South Vietnam's collapse. The history of Vietnam from B.C. to the present appears in a separate section along with a chronology of the war. Articles in the main section cover topics such as art and literature, drug use, military strategy, the media, Vietnamese and American perspectives, military and political leaders, and slang. Black-and-white photos, maps, and tables are included as well as timely bibliographies. The Gulf of Tonkin Resolution and the Paris Peace Accords are reproduced along with a list of Medal-of-Honor recipients.

Historical Atlas of the Holocaust. 252p. New York: Macmillan Library Reference U.S.A., 1996 (0-02-897451-4) \$39.95; (0-02-897454-9) interactive CD-ROM, \$79.95.

This atlas documents one of the darkest chapters in history with over 230 exceptionally fine color maps illustrating the Jewish ghettos, the Nazi administration of conquered territories, the slave-labor factories, the Nazi railroad system, the deportation routes, and the location and layout of concentration camps and gas chambers. The maps were compiled using an impressive collection of materials from German, Polish, and American mapping agencies, aerial photographs, and German army maps seized after World War II. Although most of the book deals with the Jewish Holocaust, some of the maps and text document the persecution of homosexuals, gypsies, Slavs, and other groups deemed undesirable by the Nazis. The accompanying text is outstanding in clarity and style, adding to the encyclopedia's value for anyone researching the Holocaust or answering charges of those who deny that it occurred.

Nations without States: A Historical Dictionary of Contemporary National Movements by James Minahan. 692p. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1996 (0-313-28354-0) \$99.50.

There are hundreds of nationalistic movements throughout the world that receive very little attention until one of them suddenly flares into an international crisis, as demonstrated by Chechnya. This book provides background information and a bibliography on 210 contemporary national movements. Although some of these separatist movements are familiar



Reference Sources Committee (clockwise from left rear) chair Shirley Maul; Anna Yount, Transylvania County Library, Brevard, North Carolina; Terri Propes, San Jacinto College Central Library, Pasadena, Texas; Dorothy Auchter, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio; Kathy Horne, Tulsa (Okla.) City/County Library; Gayle Long, Alexandrian Public Library, Mt. Vernon, Indiana; Katherine Dahl, Western Illinois University, Macomb; Kip Roberson, Sharon (Mass.) Public Library; and John Lawrence, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia.

(Quebec, Puerto Rico), most of the entries in this book have won much less attention. How much information does your library have on the Euzkadi, Kalmykia, Gorkhaland, Dinetah, or Rif? Should one of these movements boil over into a crisis, *Nations without States* will provide easily accessible information to help keep pace with today's changing world. ♦

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