son, Professor of the History of Medicine at Johns Hopkins and formerly Dean
of the Faculty of Medicine at McGill, has supplied a short prologue to this new
edition, and the useful device of a “running foot” (analyzing the entry numbers
in the catalogue by section) has been added to the voluminous index. Six pages
of Addenda and Corrigenda provide additions to the index and make corrections
to “actual errors appearing in the original printing.”

The Bibliotheca Osleriana is to be found on the reference shelves of all major
libraries and there has long been a demand for a new edition, but its reappearance
provides an opportunity to assess the nature and appeal of the work itself. It is
not a bibliography of the works of medical men and scientists: it is concerned
rather with particular copies of works. It is not, on the other hand, a library cata-
logue in the strict sense of the term: even within the walls of the Osler Library in
Montreal it did not serve to locate books until the Osler librarian, the late D. W.
Francis, had shelf marks added in the margin of the library’s working copies; and
the celebrated notes in the Bibliotheca are an amalgam of technical detail, auto-
biography, and reminiscence by Osler concerning the acquisition of his particular
copy. If the phrase is properly understood, the Bibliotheca can be called a bio-
bibliography, the life in question being that of the collector, Osler himself. The
volume describes some 7800 works, but not so much in their own right as in their
relation to the man who collected, read, and loved them.

Attitudes towards books have changed significantly since Osler’s day, and some-
one new reading the Bibliotheca for the first time will be surprised to recognize
how fully Osler accepted his books and their authors as part of the living human
community in which he moved. The phrase “comes viae vitaeque,” which he
applied on his deathbed to his favourite volume of Sir Thomas Browne, could in
a sense have been applied to any book in his library. The friends and colleagues
who completed the Bibliotheca after Osler’s death experienced the remarkable
sensation that they remained in contact with Osler through their work on his
books. The generosity that made 13 Norham Gardens, Oxford, the “Open Arms,”
also made provision for a library in Montreal where his books continued to offer
the welcome which he had offered during his lifetime. The Bibliotheca Osleriana,
in recording the relation of Osler to his books, records also a particular phase in
the history of books themselves.

A. E. Malloch,
English Department, McGill University

A Bibliography of Lambton County and the City of Sarnia, Ontario, compiled by
Library Bulletin Series. No. 8. [viii], 146 p. $2.00
A few years ago a spokesman for the Leicester school of historians observed that "We have moved away from a world of small, intensely self-conscious local units into the world of megalopolis, or what the town-planner calls conurbations. Hence we are in danger of forgetting something which has played an immense part in the social experience of mankind. It may be difficult for us to conjure up a picture of the largely self-contained local community in the fullness of its life and vigour, but the measure of our difficulty is also the measure of our need to have its history put on record, for unless that is done a large and important tract of human experience will have passed beyond our ken." (H. P. R. Finberg, "Local History," Approaches to History [Toronto, 1962], p. 119.)

Down the street from any high school is part of the history of the nation. It may be in the form of an old house, a remnant of the Underground Railroad. A nearby street may tell the tale of Victorian fads and fancies through its architecture - the gingerbread on the front porch roof, or the Turkish "minaret" tower which anchors one corner of a building. But local history is far more than deciphering the unwritten record or what F. W. Maitland has called the ability "to construe the testimony of our fields and walls and hedges."

In this compilation Edward Phelps has shown the range of source materials now extant for the study of Lambton County from around 1830 through 1969. Mainly because the county seat, Sarnia, contains Canada's most important complex of petrochemical plants and oil refineries, and its "Chemical Valley" has the nation's greatest concentration of petrochemical industries, this bibliography reflects developments in the present century with comparatively few listings prior to 1900. The earliest imprints recorded date from 1835, 1837, and 1842, "while pre-Confederation imprints are very rare." This bibliography began "as a survey of sources used for the writing of a county history" and appeared some three years later as a list of 661 items divided into 13 subjects. These are: atlases and maps (24); biography and genealogy (44); business and commercial (26); description (24); directories (25); educational (23); Lambton County history (33); Lambton County history - localities (151); Lambton County history - special subjects (73); literature and miscellaneous monographs (101); municipal publications (59); planning, resources, and development (39); societies and organizations (38).

Selectivity within these subjects varies. Just under half the total list makes up the relatively complete headings of biography, directories, and history. The "special subjects" included under the history of Lambton County are: (1) Indians at Kettle Point, Sarnia, and Walpole Island; (2) the oil industry; (3) shipping in Lambton County, the St Clair River, and Lake Huron. The other headings list major publications in the field or representative samples of a wide variety of items.
Most of the entries are books, pamphlets, and articles that have appeared in *Western Ontario Historical Notes, Ontario History, or Canadian Geographical Journal*. Articles from local newspapers, weekly journals, and newspapers and periodicals published in Lambton County have been omitted. (The Lambton County newspapers and periodicals merit separate treatment.) Many entries include historical notes. Almost all entries show locations. While library locations are preferred, some private collections (open to researchers upon request) and a few other institutions are indicated. Availability (source and price) of those items in print as of 1969 is also indicated. An eight-page index concludes this volume.

This soft-cover volume was produced in multilith at Petrolia, Ontario by the *Advertiser-Topic*, and is available from the General Library, University of Western Ontario.

R. C. Ellsworth
Queen's University Library


Originally a series of lectures given at the University of British Columbia School of Librarianship, *Northwestern Approaches* is a happy combination of bibliography, biography and history. Its main purpose is to introduce readers to "the books written by the explorers of British Columbia and its approaches during the century which began with Bering's first voyage [1728] and ended with Sir George Simpson's second journey to the Pacific [1828]." Some of these accounts, such as Cook's *Voyage to the Pacific Ocean*, have long been classics. Others deserve to be much more widely known. (One thinks of Maurelle's journal describing his voyage to Alaska with Quadra. The entire trip from San Blas and back was made, incredibly, in a 27-foot ship with a crew of fifteen.)

Mr Smith brings new life to these narratives and their authors by fitting them into the broader history of the Pacific Northwest. The main part of his book deals, in roughly chronological order, with the Russian, Spanish, French, British and American explorations, their achievements, and their published records. Brief, informative notes accompany each title without interrupting the flow of the narrative. More complete bibliographic information is given in an extensive alphabetical checklist at the end. Historians and bookmen will also appreciate Mr Smith's choice of illustrations, for he has brought together engravings and reproductions from works few collectors have been fortunate enough to see.

*Northwestern Approaches* was never intended to be an exhaustive critical bibliography. However, its wit, polish and scholarship make it the best possible