letter are separately numbered. As might be expected, there are more numbers — 3,636 — under the letter 'C', because of the frequency of the word Canadian as a corporate author or title than under any other letter. Under each entry the author's name, the title, the place, the publisher and the year are given. Place of publication is usually indicated by a single letter as 'M' for Montreal and 'T' for Toronto. The reviewer wishes that the compiler had given some indication of pagination, even if incomplete by bibliographic standards; but doubtless this information was not available from his sales records.

The bibliography is also a source of information on book prices over the last two decades. The compiler lists the prices for which a book was sold in separate years; by and large, prices seem to have been doubled over the several years from the mid-1950's to the mid-1960's. If copies of a publication were sold in several different years, the prices for all years are given. In all probability, the number of sales recorded is a rough indication of the availability of the title.

Mr. Amtmann has established himself as "Mr. Canadiana" in the book trade; now he has put us in his debt as a bibliographer with his four-volumed listing of Canadian books and pamphlets, many of which are unrecorded elsewhere. One is reminded of the Toronto bookseller, W. R. Haight, who, before the turn of the present century, issued three thin catalogues which are still consulted by those of us interested in Canadiana; Bernard Amtmann's Contribution to a Short-Title Catalogue of Canadiana will continue to be consulted for at least as long a period of time.

Bruce B. Peel

(Mr. Peel, whose reputation as a bibliographer rests securely on his standard Bibliography of the Prairie Provinces (Toronto, 1956, and now published in a revised edition), is a prolific writer in the fields of Canadian bibliography, history, and librarianship. He is past president of the Bibliographical Society of Canada, and is Librarian to the University, University of Alberta, Edmonton.)

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Reference Aids in Canadian History in the University of Toronto Library, compiled by Jane Clark. Reference Series No. 14. Toronto: Reference Department, University of Toronto Library, 1972. 75p. $5.00

How Index-learning turns no student pale,
Yet holds the eel of science by the tail.

Granted that an index volume may be a reference book these lines from The Dunciad (1729 ed.1, 233-4) suggest an apposite leit-motiv for these two guides to the expanding corpus of bibliographical, historical, and other scholarly activity on the current Canadian scene. The larger of these also meet a much wider and more international need.

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Canadian Reference Sources appeared during May 1973, the result of a project begun by the Canadian Library Association in January 1964, and announced five years later as a "Guide to Canadian Reference Books." This is the latest of more than a dozen national or nationally-oriented guides to reference works from Europe, the Middle East, the Orient, and Latin America that have appeared in recent years to complement and extend such standard guides as Louise Noelle Malclès's Sources du travail bibliographique (3 vols., 1950-58) and her Manuel de bibliographie (2nd ed., 1969), Constance M. Winchell's Guide to Reference Books, with its three supplements, the latest issued in 1972, and A. J. Walford's Guide to Reference Materials (3 vols., 1966-70).

Canadian Reference Sources is based largely on the holdings of the National Library of Canada and emphasizes Canada in general, the ten provinces, the territories, and the cities of Ottawa, Montreal, and Toronto. New editions and new works up to December 1971 have been included. For serials, in most cases, the most recent number seen by the editor has been included. (A first supplement is planned for publication in 1974, for 1972 and 1973 imprints, as well as retrospective works not entered in the first edition. A selection of three dozen items to be included in this supplement appeared in Canadian Library Journal 4 [July-August 1973]: 346-51.) Some 1,300 items are given pointed, incisive annotations, and valuable, pithy notes, here and there, cite supplementary sources. Four appendices in as many pages feature slightly longer background notes on the history of four publications: the national bibliography Canadienne; Canadian Government Publications du gouvernement. Catalogue; Canadian Periodical Index: an Author and Subject Index/Index de périodiques canadiens, auteurs et sujets; and Canadian Almanac and Directory.

This guide is divided into five main groups, with a mnemonic notation: GR (General reference works 19 per cent), HA (History and allied subjects 14 per cent), HU (Humanities 25 per cent), SC (Science 10 per cent), and SS (Social science 32 per cent). Cross-references are conveniently placed among the entries, which help a great deal to find subjects dispersed under several headings. For example, dissertations on specific subjects (34 items) are listed at GR2 (Dissertations) and they are not entered in the subject index. Main divisions of the five groups are arranged alphabetically. The index enters authors, titles, selected subjects, and also the authors and titles in the annotations and notes. Prices of the works listed are not given.

The editor of Canadian Reference Sources is Head, Reference Collection Development Section, National Library of Canada.

While the physical, social, and cultural dimensions of the Canadian environment indicated, by and large, through the reference sources of the National Library are given in Canadian Reference Sources, Reference Aids in Canadian History is a list of holdings of the Humanities & Social Sciences Division of the University of Toronto Library of interest for students of Canadian history. It is the latest in a series of bibliographic aids published by the library. This bibliography seeks to familiarize students with the University of Toronto Library's various resources in Canadian history. Just over two hundred annotated entries are arranged according to type of publication: bibliographies, encyclopedias, periodicals and newspapers, biographies, government documents, manu-
scripts, theses, geographical guides, special topics, and uncatalogued material. An author and title index is included.

Reference Aids in Canadian History lists more items (203) than Class HA (History and allied subjects, 175) in Canadian Reference Sources but because of the various unpublished and out of print items in the university collection, these two listings supplement rather than duplicate each other.

The cultural revival now current in Canada has been characterized as “a culture in search of an economy.” Reference books are said to be like watches — “the worst is better than none, and the best cannot be expected to go quite true.” Canadian Reference Sources and Reference Aids in Canadian History provide a sort of topographical atlas and overlay, respectively, to where this cultural revival has been happening. These maps may not “go quite true” but they are nevertheless dependable guides to the foreground and background to much of what has brought this present Canadian “Elizabethan” period about.

Rudolph C. Ellsworth

(Mr. Ellsworth, a librarian, and Head, Bibliographic Research Services, Queen’s University Library, is the author of numerous articles on current events in the library world.)


Single copies free. Quantity orders: 10 copies for $2.00; nos. 2 & 3 o.p. at time reviewed.

The Library Guides to Research, Reference and Bibliography are an attractive series of pamphlets designed to assist students in finding reference works and other materials required for their research in the McMaster University Libraries. Neatly turned out in stiff typeset covers and with the text duplicated from photographically-reduced typescript, these guides are most suitable for the purpose for which they are designed — as inexpensive handouts which may be provided to students who are bewildered by the quantity of resources available to them, and who need a simple and systematic guide to the literature of the subject they are researching.

Somewhat more attention to accuracy and consistency in bibliographic style and proofreading would improve nos. 2, 3 and 4. These guides are not as comprehensive or as scholarly as the guides published by the libraries of some other Canadian Universities, e.g. Toronto, British Columbia, Laval, Victoria. However, they are superior to some of the rather superficial unannotated handouts prepared by some other Canadian academic libraries for their readers.

The History guide is a particularly successful effort at choosing a useful