for a genuine historical perspective on otherwise bald facts, and an analysis which would heighten interest in and give greater value to the material being presented. For example, not enough attention is paid to the cultural climate during the stages of the National Library movement. Certainly the nineteenth century in general (and the pre-Confederation period, insofar as its library concerns can be shown to foreshadow “national” library concerns), was not as barren of interest as — more by omission than by any specific comment — the author suggests. “In the two decades preceding World War I, there is little evidence of the kind of national cultural identity from which would flow the concerted cultural effort required for such a major enterprise as a national library” is an assertion supported only by a condescending remark quoted from Brebner’s Canada: a Modern History. If we consider merely literary history, we can find much to counter this assertion: the 1890s and 1900s saw the rise to literary fame of poets like Lampman, Roberts and D. C. Scott. Bliss Carman’s work was being acclaimed in the United States; in England Pauline Johnson, in buckskin and bear-claw necklace, was reciting her poetry to enthusiastic audiences. If the compilation of bibliography is a testimony of a “concerted cultural effort”, the period in question offers pioneer efforts by Kingsford (1892), James (1899), and Horning and Burpee (1904). All three bibliographies answered some expressed need, and each certainly implies a body of writing wanting the focus of a central library to document literary production and to make it available to readers. Occasionally the author tends to repeat information already given, where allusion to it would suffice to carry the reader through the discussion taking place. This tendency is part of a greater one, that of reporting without comment. It is indeed comment, not reporting, that one wishes for: notes on the St. Andrews Conference, 1961, for example, read like dry conference minutes.

The text has a neat appearance, with a pleasant typeface nicely disposed on the page opening. There are too many typographical errors, however. Footnotes appear where they should, at the foot of the page; but it is a pity that the actual note numbers are much too small to be easily legible. The use of caption headings makes good sense, and is consistent with the manner of presentation. At times, the language shows a regrettable tendency to jargon: “budgetary requirements for goal implementation”, I suppose, means money needed to get on with the job. Words such as “recency” and “arrearages” jar.

The work will meet a contemporary need for a demonstration to foreigners, and to Canadians as well, of important aims and achievements of Canadian librarianship. In the discussion may also be found the starting-points for several theses in Canada’s library history.

David Sinclair

An Annotated Selected Bibliography of Bibliographies on Women, by Margrit Eichler. Waterloo: Department of Sociology, University of Waterloo, 1973. 17p. $1.00

People who regard the movement for improving the status of women as a
recent phenomenon will find this selected bibliography surprising. It contains bibliographies from many parts of the world and refers to material dating from 1848 to the present. The subjects covered show the breadth and scope of women's studies, including women's suffrage, education, abortion, sex-stereotyping, and employment.

Libraries who do not yet have material on women will find this a useful tool for acquisitions, since all bibliographies included are readily available for purchase. The selection has been extremely well done, so that the seventeen pages of the bibliography contain much of the best work published in this field. The material is as diverse as the people in the movement, and will be invaluable to many users for many different purposes. For those who view the movement as a battle this bibliography will supply a source of ammunition. For those who regard it as a study, it is an excellent research tool. For all people, men and women, it provides the entry to some fascinating reading.

Lin Good

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Women: A Guide to Bibliographic Sources, compiled by Anne Woodworth. Toronto: University of Toronto Library, 1972. (University of Toronto Library, no. 15.) 7p. $1.00


The two works under review here are attempts to provide researchers in the area of women's studies with the necessary bibliographic tools. The first is a limited general guide, while the latter is a more detailed bibliography on women in Canada covering a specific period of time.

Women: A Guide to Bibliographic Sources is really a library reference handbook, and more specifically a University of Toronto Reference Library handbook. It is organized into three general divisions: General Sources, Sources in the University of Toronto Reference Room, and Sources outside the University of Toronto. The first of these divisions is a very general how-to-use-the-library guide, irrespective of subject. Included here are instructions on how to use the card catalogue or a periodical index. The second division lists twenty-six citations of which only seven fall under the subheading entitled bibliographies; of these, one is an abstract and only two are Canadian. The compiler states that only a few titles are listed here, and that more can be located through enquiry at the Reference desk. How unfortunate that she did not list them all, or at least reveal the criterion for selection. The remainder of the twenty-six citations are biographies, directories, course syllabi and government publications. Here again, some of the information could have been more appropriately included in a