professional life in America and England, finally becoming Regius Professor of Medi-
cine at Oxford. Throughout his career he was an ardent bibliophile and book collect-
ror, amassing a large and valuable collection. After his death, this collection was
housed in the Osler Library, McGill University, and it was the occasion of the 50th
anniversary of the library that prompted these essays.

Those unversed in the history of medicine or medical bibliography need not fear
arcane discourses on unpronounceable subjects. These essays have more to do with
bibliography in general than medical history, and were written by bibliographers and
librarians, not historians.

Following a biographical sketch of Osler’s bibliographic activities are four short
essays dealing with medical bibliography, past and present. Richard Durling presents
an account of his research on medieval manuscripts, pointing out the bibliographic
tools available to scholars in the field. While this is the most specialized essay, it may
give others a feel for the problems encountered and the bibliographic work yet to be
done in this area of the history of medicine. Turning to a very different bibliographic
problem, Estelle Broadman reviews the last seventy years of enumerative bibliogra-
phy, tracing the growth of *Index Medicus*, MEDLARS, and other attempts to organize
the vastness of modern medical literature. The history of analytical and descriptive
bibliography is undertaken by Thomas Tanselle, but from a literary point of view,
since, as he points out, descriptive bibliography of scientific material is practically
nonexistent. Finally, Eric Freeman of the Wellcome Library of the History of Medi-
cine tries to find common ground where the historian, librarian, and bibliographer
should meet—a lamentably rare occurrence.

This book of essays, while necessarily somewhat superficial in covering such
extensive territory, is nevertheless an attempt to provide this common ground. Sir
William Osler, who was above all a catalyst for others’ activities as well as an
enthusiast himself, would have been pleased with this effort.

The style is generally informal and accessible, and adequate footnotes are pro-
vided.

M.L. RUSSELL

(M.L. Russell, Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto, has a long-
standing interest in the history of medicine.)


O.A. Cooke has produced a revised, updated edition of his bibliography that was first
published in 1979 and covered the period 1867-1967. It consists of an unannotated
checklist of approximately 2500 entries grouped under six main headings. Two short
opening sections deal first with Bibliography, and then Defense Policy and General
Works. The majority of items are arranged under the headings Naval Forces, Land
Forces, and Air Forces and are subdivided chronologically by historical period. A
new concluding section contains titles relating to the unified services since 1968.
Individual items are listed alphabetically within each section or subsection. The bibliographic description includes a main entry (where relevant), full title and imprint, and a pagination statement. The chronological organization of bibliographic entries has certain limitations. While offering benefits to the serious researcher interested in a specific period or topic, it presupposes a level of subject knowledge that may be lacking in the less expert user, who might find a conventional alphabetical arrangement by author more accessible.

The criteria of selection have remained largely unchanged. Cooke confines himself to published primary and secondary works on Canadian military topics in the form of books, pamphlets, and serials. Individual articles, theses, and works of fiction or poetry have been omitted. Military history has been defined in the narrowest terms, to include only those works that bear directly on the Canadian armed forces since Confederation, or those concerning Canadian personnel who have served in the armed forces of other countries, for example, papal Zouaves and the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion. Materials relating to the social or political aspects of the ‘Canadian military experience’ are excluded. Consequently, political memoirs and works dealing with conditions on the home front during the two world wars have been largely ignored, although John Thompson’s excellent social history of the prairie west during World War I, *The Harvests of War*, has somehow found its way into the section on General Works.

The decision to omit individual articles in favour of serials devoted exclusively to military subjects was perhaps dictated by unavoidable practical considerations of time and space, but it is nevertheless regrettable. General historical journals, such as the *Canadian Historical Review* and even popular periodicals like *Saturday Night* and the *Canadian Forum*, contain many relevant and valuable studies which have gone unrecorded in Cooke’s bibliography. Unpublished academic theses have also been overlooked. One can appreciate the author’s wish to keep the bibliography to a reasonable length. The line has to be drawn somewhere, but I feel that Mr. Cooke’s parameters are too restrictive. We are still faced with a relative paucity of rigorous, scholarly research on Canadian military history. As W.A.B. Douglas admits in his preface to the first edition, Cooke’s listing, in spite of its impressive length and scope, contains comparatively few works of any substance. This being the case, one must ask whether the author should have neglected other major sources of original, substantive contributions to the field.

The second edition comes equipped with three bilingual indexes that provide access by subject, personal names (apart from those selected as the main entry), and by service, branch, formation, and unit. This represents a considerable advance over the first edition, which had no indexes of any description and was, as a result, severely limited in its usefulness. There is still, however, room for improvement.

The subject index, which would be most helpful to the non-specialist, is insufficiently comprehensive and poorly cross-referenced. For example, there is no heading for Riel Rebellion so one must look under Northwest Campaign, 1885. Neither does one find headings for nuclear weapons or the arms race, even though a number of important works dealing with the subject have been included. By contrast, the index of military formations and units is comprehensive and elaborately organ-
ized to provide easy access to items dealing with everything from armies, corps, and brigades to individual field ambulances. This may be appropriate in view of the fact that so many entries belong to the genre of conventional regimental history. However, a more sophisticated, analytical brand of military history is now being written in Canada—represented by such eminent practitioners as Desmond Morton, C.P. Stacey, and J.L. Granatstein—and the index should provide more numerous access points to this material.

The index of unit names may also present problems for the uninitiated. Many Canadian battalions and regiments have gone through a bewildering series of changes and reorganizations. Mr. Cooke might have used the introduction to apprise the reader of this fact, as well he might have inserted additional cross-references to take account of the different designations of a given unit over time. The logic behind the ordering of headings in this section of the index is not always readily apparent, and a brief explanatory note would have been welcome. In addition, since entries are not individually numbered, one must rely on page references in the index to find the corresponding item in the main body of the text. With as many as twenty entries to a page it is often difficult to determine to which entry a given heading refers.

I do not wish to appear overly critical. One may cavil at various sins of omission and commission. The fact remains that Mr. Cooke's bibliography is a valuable source because of its scope and uniqueness. No other comparable bibliographical guide exists to this important, hitherto neglected body of Canadian historical literature. The author has set himself a daunting task. But it is also an ongoing one. Necessary revision, additions, and corrections will, it is hoped, be incorporated into succeeding versions. Meanwhile, this much improved, large format, second edition of *The Canadian Military Experience*, will serve us well.

R.V. CUPIDO

(R.V. Cupido is a librarian in the Canadian History Department of the Metropolitan Toronto Library.)


This useful book is comprised of the papers presented at a conference on Canadian studies in Great Britain held at the British Library in 1983. The first group of papers presents a perspective on and rationale for Canadian studies in the United Kingdom. The second surveys the resources available in Britain for the study of Canada, particularly those collections at the British Library. The third and final group is composed of a number of reports on bibliographical and historical projects in progress, including the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, RETRO, the Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions' project, and the Centre for the Editing of Early Canadian Texts at Carleton University.

From the Canadian point of view the rationale for Canadian studies (upper or lower case 's' as the case may be) may seem to require little argument at this point, it