Literary Materials in the Week,” and is co-editor, with Michael Gnarowski, of “Canadian Poetry: Studies, Documents, Reviews.”


The literature of the health sciences is expanding so rapidly that librarians in this field face a great variety of changes, modifications, and innovations in their daily tasks and long-range planning. This book brings together in one handy volume a bibliography of publications relating to all aspects of health science librarianship.

It is organized into sixteen major sections which deal with general health sciences librarianship, collection use and processing, rare books, microforms, audio-visuals, learning resources, computers, architecture, manpower and training, networks, union lists, bibliographies and catalogs, directories, and a library publishing program. Emphasis is on the most recent publications in the United States and Canada.

Within each section, each book or pamphlet is described in correct bibliographical form, followed by critical annotation. Prices and location of publications are not given. Journal articles are not included.

The book has three index approaches to the material — by author, title and subject. Inevitably there are a few errors and omissions — for example, Canadian Standards for Hospital Libraries, 1975. Nevertheless, Health Sciences Librarianship is thoroughly researched and will prove to be an invaluable aid to the busy health sciences librarian. Typography and format of the book are pleasing; it is hoped that it will be updated on a regular basis.

Mae Morley
(Ms. Morley is Medical Librarian of the Kingston Psychiatric Hospital, Kingston, Ontario.)

History and Philosophy of Science: A Student’s Guide to Reference Sources.


This is a select list of the reference material available for the History of Science in the various libraries of McGill University. Some material for the History of Technology is also listed, but there are (perhaps necessarily) few entries for the Philosophy of Science. There are six sections: Histories, Encyclopedias and Dictionaries, Bibliographies, Periodicals, Biographies, and Book Reviews. Each entry includes a brief note giving useful information on the contents.

Most of the classic reference works that have appeared in English, French and German are included, for instance the multi-volume surveys by Daumas, Sarton, Taton and others. The list of bibliographies is fairly comprehensive and includes the very useful Isis Cumulative Bibliography. However, the Royal Society Catalogue of Scientific Papers, an indispensable guide to primary material, is not mentioned. The list of periodicals is very restricted and refers the reader to the bibliographies for more detail. The bibliographies include the new Dictionary of Scientific Biography.

Although a useful guide to the reference material available, a list such as this has its limitations. The standard histories mentioned here are still important, but any student wishing to get seriously involved with the subject would need to be aware of the ever increasing amount of specialized research now being published. The current bibliographies would help, but would be no substitute for the guidance of someone experienced in the field.

Peter J. Bowler.

(Professor Bowler who teaches the History of Science in the Department of History at the University of Winnipeg, has published a book and several articles on the history of evolutionary theory.)


Cette bibliographie réalisée par deux professeurs en sciences politiques de l'Université d'Ottawa et publiée par la Bibliothèque nationale du Québec vise à établir un inventaire des études (livres, articles de revues,
thèses) portant sur les idéologies au Québec. Elle contient 1006 titres classés par ordre alphabétique d'auteurs. On a retenu surtout, mais non de façon exclusive, les textes publiés depuis 1945. Comme il faut s'y attendre, la plupart des études répertoriées ont été publiées au Québec, mais l'on trouve également des publications américaines, françaises, britanniques ainsi que des publications canadiennes des autres provinces. La bibliographie n'est pas sélective et présente, à côté d'ouvrages d'envergure, des articles de vulgarisation que les spécialistes jugeront peut-être négligeables.

La compilation bibliographique est suivie d'un classement systématique du matériel retenu. La répartition se fait selon les catégories suivantes: 1) les généralités, 2) les périodes, 3) les hommes (journalistes, écrivains, politiciens), 4) les mouvements, 5) les journaux et revues, 6) les thèmes idéologiques. Un système de renvois numériques permet de retrouver facilement les références bibliographiques. Cette classification systématique contribue à mettre en lumière que certains secteurs, comme le nationalisme, ont été superprivilégiés par les analyses idéologiques, alors que d'autres domaines ont été négligés et restent à explorer.

L'élaboration d'un tel instrument de travail représentait certes un défi. Le concept d'idéologie reste difficile à cerner. Et même si l'idéologie comme telle n'est devenue un objet spécifique de recherche que depuis quelques années, il reste qu'au paravant nombre d'études sociologiques et historiques se sont intéressées aux attitudes, aux mentalités, aux courants de pensée qui ont marqué soit la société québécoise dans son ensemble soit tel ou tel groupe social. Les auteurs ont réussi à éviter les écueils et à offrir un instrument de travail valable aux chercheurs et, en général, à tous ceux qui s'intéressent à l'évolution de la société québécoise. Pour reprendre la formule stéréotypée mais adéquate, cette bibliographie remplit une lacune dans le domaine des études idéologiques qui constitue actuellement un nouveau champ de recherche.

Irma Larouche

(Mlle. Larouche est une bibliographe, Section de la consultation générale et de la bibliographie, Bibliothèque nationale du Canada, Ottawa.)


The idea of a record of incunabula in American libraries is older than the Bibliographical Society of America, for it was advanced at the organization meeting of that Society in 1904. The original plan was for a full bibliographical description of each item, as well as for locations of copies, and although this noble ideal had to be modified, the Census was still not published till 1918. This was serially in the New York Public Library Bulletin (April-December, 1918), but a monographic reprint, with additions, appeared in 1919.

Many bibliographers had been involved in the great project up to this point – notably George Watson Cole and George Parker Winship, and several libraries had given the Census their a home, the last home being at Harvard. In 1924, however, Miss Margaret Bingham Stillwell assumed the awesome responsibility of revising the Census, and the new headquarters for the work became the Annmary Brown Memorial Library in Providence, Rhode Island. The renewal of collecting activity after the Great War soon made it clear that the 1919 Census was outdated, and no doubt its publication had itself stimulated interest in incunabula in North America. Miss Stillwell had made some progress in up-dating the files, when the 1929 stock-market Crash and its aftermath virtually cancelled her labours: private collectors were compelled to sell or donate their libraries so that the holdings records were, almost at a stroke, obsolete. The need for the publication of a completely revised Census was crystal clear, and the Bibliographical Society of America was quick to sponsor the Second Census. It appeared in 1940, and contained almost twice as many entries, and nearly three times the number of copies, as the 1919 work had embraced.

Frederick R. Goff of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division of the Library of Congress had assisted Miss Stillwell for four years with the 1940 Census, and in 1957, a year after the edition went out of print, he accepted the invitation of the Bibliographical Society of America to edit a further revision of the records leading to