

Reviews of Books

EDWARD E. HILL, *Editor*

In Pursuit of American History: Research and Training in the United States, by Walter Rundell, Jr.; foreword by James B. Rhoads. (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1970. xv, 445 p. [appendixes, bibliography, index]. \$7.95.)

Their concern with common sources—whether manuscript, printed, or photocopy—makes archivists, librarians, and historians natural allies. Increasing specialization within each group, however, and the rapidly growing number of collections and of universities offering graduate work have created problems in communication among individuals within the field. Walter Rundell's highly readable book takes a giant step in the direction of improving communication. Coming to the project from the American Historical Association's Service Center for Teachers of History, he brought to it a concern with the learning process without the personal ties that would make his outlook basically sympathetic with either the keepers of depositories or the academic researchers.

Rundell's skill in using the results of interviews and questionnaires makes his presentation of varied points of view most effective. Comments from those questioned in geographically scattered archival and manuscript collections, libraries, and colleges and universities give the volume a highly personal note and considerably humanize the material. For example, one group of graduate students became interested in social science techniques because teaching assistants had their offices near the sociology department. A woman in another university became interested in their possibilities when she married a psychologist. The recognition that many informal experiences are part of the learning process also leads him to quote a student who felt much gratitude for the opportunity to work on a documentary editing project.

Archivists and librarians will appreciate Rundell's respect for their professions, and many will applaud his efforts to encourage a better understanding of archival management. For example, he counters one professor's suggestion that new collections be better publicized with a suggestion that researchers read the *American Archivist*. A concern for historical method permeates the volume. At the same time that he urges better teaching of research processes, the author gives custodians of research materials responsibility for not putting artificial barriers in the

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way of researchers. The barriers range from administering materials poorly and limiting valid research uses to providing old and too few readers for microforms.

The body of the book has detailed chapters on Historical Method, Social Science Tools, Collecting Original Sources, Dissertation Topics, Local Sources, Printed Sources, Photocopy, Finding Aids, and Documentary Editing. The concluding chapters treat Researcher-Custodian Relations and Research Needs. The author's own research methods are made obvious through a rather detailed explanation of his survey techniques in the preface and a series of nine appendixes. The latter include a list of institutions visited, persons questioned, David Donald's syllabus for a seminar in historical method, a selected list of microfilm finding aids, the National Historical Publications Commission microfilm program, and data on travel by researchers from various institutions. A subsidiary value of the publication is the information on various collections and prevailing attitudes toward researchers.

The National Historical Publications Commission financed this survey through a grant. The finished product is a scholarly triumph, and the Commission with all its good judgment over the past years has made no wiser decision than the selection of Rundell. That such a study was needed reflects the growing size in the numbers of people and institutions and the area of the research-oriented community. The informal discussion of common problems that could once take place at professional meetings is no longer adequate. This book will doubtless reopen many lines of discussion and provide food for thought for both researchers and custodians.

Texas State Library

DORMAN H. WINFREY

GUIDES

Unesco. *Guide for the Establishment of National Social Sciences Documentation Centers in Developing Countries*, by Jean Meyriat in collaboration with Micheline Beauchet. (*Reports and Papers in the Social Sciences* No. 24; Paris, 1969. 72 p. \$1.50 [available from UNIPUB, Inc., P.O. Box 433, New York, N.Y. 10016].)

The *Guide*, prepared by the Secretary-General of the International Committee for Social Science Documentation with the aid of a staff member of the Scientific Information Exchange Service, Maison des sciences de l'homme, includes numerous passages of interest to archivists. Unlike most literature on documentation, the *Guide* is clearly and simply written because it appears to be addressed to public officials and center trainees who lack technical knowledge about documentation centers. "Documentation" is defined as "the whole range of techniques which make possible the most efficient use of the documents necessary to those who work in the social sciences." Professor Meyriat defines "document" as "any graphically recorded material, whatever its form and nature that

may provide information" and includes "economic and social history in the social sciences." He refers to "archives documents" as "unique items in the centers." Apparently, these items may include official records.

The organization of the *Guide* follows archival and library functions—acquisition (collection), description (registering, classifying, and cataloging), arrangement (storing), and reference (service). Each function is described in a few concisely written pages. For budgetary planning the *Guide* suggests projections of 5 percent increases each year in holdings, staff, and expenditures. The personnel in the documentation center should ideally be one quarter supervisory, one quarter specialized secretaries, and the remainder chiefly technical experts. One of the few enigmatic passages is the reference to the necessity for maintaining independent documentation centers. Whether independence concerns policies and procedures or a relationship to the general bureaucracy is obscure.

A more serious problem for archivists is the failure to mention the relationship between the national archives and the national documentation center. The *Guide* does distinguish between libraries and documentation centers by noting that the latter, in addition to performing library functions, analyzes the contents of documents. The centers make "all necessary working instruments and aids available to those who are concerned with the social sciences." These instruments may include manuscripts. That Professor Meyriat is aware of the relationship between archives and documentation centers is evident from his decision to append to his *Guide* the results of a study in Brazil of "Modern Techniques for Archives in Tropical Countries." The techniques relate exclusively to problems of preservation. The author, Manfred I. Rauschert-Alenani, recommends standards for paper, filecards, ink, pens, typewriters, typewriter ribbons, carbon paper, bindings, document pouches, clips, boxes, magnetic tape, microfilm, and audiovisual materials. In his opinion the major unsolved problems concern inks for stylographs and ballpoint pens and the preservation of color film.

The author notes that documentation centers are expensive institutions. In fact, he warns that they should not be established until developing nations can properly fund them. Why then should poorer nations indulge in this luxury? Some indication of the need appears in a report of a study by Professor Meyriat and others of the relationship of agricultural input to national income (in *Journal of Economic Literature*, p. 369-404, June 1970). The study is considerably hampered in many countries by deficiencies in data about employment, crop areas, yields, and output. Adequate documentation centers more than pay for themselves by encouraging economic and social planning with a reasonable chance of success.

U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Social Security Administration. *Social Security Sources in Federal Records, 1934-1950*, by Abe Bortz. (*Research Report No. 30*; Washington, Government Printing Office, 1969. viii, 118 p. 65c.)

As the introduction points out, "The history of social security in this country is a fertile field for research, and much of the story of how it all began and evolved into the broader programs of today is yet to be written." The report, prepared by the Social Security Administration Historian, will prove a very useful tool for those working that fertile field. With the growth of medicare and the discussions currently being held concerning a national health program, it is unfortunate that the more recent period was not covered. Perhaps this will be done in the near future.

A short section in the report on the availability of records will prove particularly helpful to those about to embark on research in the National Archives and Records Service for the first time. A brief description of the pertinent depositories and the procedures to be followed in obtaining records is included. Since this part is intended for the newcomer, addresses of appropriate NARS offices would have proven helpful. One of the finest sections is entitled "Events Reflected in Social Security Files." Not only does it lead scholars to the files pertaining to their study, but it also presents a good, concise history of how social security developed in the United States. The final introductory section deals with the places where other pertinent material may be found. Many other governmental bodies besides the Social Security Administration have created records dealing with the topic. The Department of Labor, for example, was closely involved in the beginnings of social security, and various congressional committees created records on the program. The locations of significant Congressmen's papers are also noted. The introductory material, along with the appendixes, makes up nearly half of the report. This may appear to be a significant part of what is to be a guide to sources, but without it, the report's value would be diminished by much more than half.

The actual inventory of Social Security record collections consists of six chapters: Records of the Committee on Economic Security; Records of the Chairman of the Social Security Board (1935-1940); Records of the Executive Director, Social Security Board (1935-1940); Central Files of the Social Security Board (1935-1947); Records of the Executive Director, Social Security Board (1941-1948); and Records of the Office of the Commissioner (1949-1950), Records of the Bureau/Division of Research and Statistics (1946-1950), and Actuarial Records (1946-1950). Each chapter begins with a short introduction explaining in summary fashion the contents of the files. The inventory in one case consists of a list of folder titles. Other records are listed by a decimal filing system. In the latter a key to the numbers would facilitate the location of records.

More publications of this nature for other topics would be a most

welcome aid to research in all fields of study. The Social Security Administration, and particularly Mr. Bortz, are to be complimented for their efforts.

Wayne State University

WARNER W. PFLUG

U.S. National Archives. *Guide to the Ford Film Collection in the National Archives*, by Mayfield Bray. (Washington, 1970. xiv, 118 p., illus. \$5.)

Henry Ford, like most great historical figures, was a man of many surprises. Probably few historians are conscious of his early interest in the varied uses of the motion picture. He was aware of its potential in the field of advertising, which comes as no surprise. After the establishment of a motion picture department at the Ford Motor Co. in 1914, Ford became one of the first producers of nonnewsreel educational films and was one of the largest film producers in the world for many years. This adds still another facet to understanding the basis of Ford's power and influence upon American life in the 20th century. He was, to be sure, tough, wily, and ruthless and was reputedly the enemy of history and of the historian. It is evident, however, that he was more interested in things "historical" than he ever cared to admit.

The Ford Film collection in the National Archives is arranged in four major parts. The first three contain film made by the Ford Motion Picture Laboratories, and the fourth part contains film collected by Ford from other sources. Part I, "Education, News, and Special Subjects," consists of four categories: "Ford Animated Weekly," 1914-21, containing short news features, productions about cities, and items of general interest; "Ford Educational Weekly" and "Ford Educational Library," 1916-25, consisting of short features and unedited film on agriculture, citizenship, industrial and regional geography, history, nature study, recreation and sports, sanitation and health, technical subjects, and special subjects; "Ford News," a series of newsreels shown for advertising purposes at Detroit area theaters during 1934; and films on such special subjects as conservation, charity, drama, education, and news. Part II, "Ford Family," consists of film portraying family activities. The personal interests, family, and social life of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford, 1916-45, and their funerals are included. Some of the family's philanthropic interests, 1916-54, are shown, including activities of the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Ford Foundation, and the Henry Ford Hospital. Other film concerns the personal projects of Henry Ford, including the *Dearborn Independent*, the Ford farm, and the Henry Ford Museum. Part III, "Ford Motor Company," has been arranged under the following categories: general activities of the company, 1916-54; domestic and foreign branches, 1928-54; nonmanufacturing activities, 1914-54; plants, 1906-56, including the major manufacturing activities of the company;

and war-related activities during both World Wars and the Korean conflict. Part IV, "Film From Other Sources," 1903-54, includes advertisements for companies other than Ford, cartoons, early comedies, dramas, documentaries, newsreels, personal films, propaganda material, public service features, technical features, and travelogs.

The publication of this invaluable guide raises the general question of the state of motion picture history in the United States. Only recently have historians recognized the intellectual respectability of motion pictures. Fortunately, archivists have been more active in a number of programs aimed at the preservation of film as an important cultural force in American history. The American Film Institute is a fine example of this effort. The *Guide to the Ford Film Collection* represents another. It is well produced and includes an excellent index. One can only hope that historians will direct more attention toward studying the motion picture's impact upon American society as a result of the publication of this meticulous piece of scholarship.

Central Missouri State College

ARTHUR F. McCLURE

The Southern Historical Collection: A Guide to Manuscripts, by Susan Sokol Blosser and Clyde Norman Wilson, Jr. (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Library, 1970. [317 p.] \$6.)

The creation and publication of this *Guide* to the Southern Historical Collection of the University of North Carolina is in the best tradition and craftsmanship of manuscript librarianship. It is an admirable accomplishment in combining comprehensiveness of subject matter with brevity of presentation. Also included in the *Guide* is information about 12 manuscript groups administered by the North Carolina Collection of the university library.

The Southern Historical Collection came into being through the indefatigable labor and creative imagination of Joseph Grégoire de Rouilhac Hamilton (1878-1961) who began the collection and preservation of manuscripts while he was head of the university's department of history. By 1930 the board of trustees of the university, recognizing both Hamilton's work and the importance of the manuscript material to scholars and writers, formally established the Collection and made Hamilton its full-time director. As director (having been released from his teaching duties at the university), Hamilton traveled throughout the South persuading owners to part with manuscripts and personal papers, with the assurance that their valuable possessions would become part of the Southern Historical Collection. His success was immense in both ferreting out donors and building up the Collection.

In 1948 following the "founding period," James W. Patton was named Hamilton's successor. For 19 years he continued the high standards of collecting and preserving manuscript material set by his predecessor. The Collection more than doubled in size and had to be moved into new

facilities. The "Patton era" was also one of tremendous advance in the organization of the holdings, accompanied by a correspondingly increased utilization on the part of scholars.

The administrative head of the Collection today is J. Isaac Copeland, who became director in 1967, succeeding Dr. Patton. At the present time the Collection contains approximately 5 million manuscripts, arranged in over 3,900 groups. It is outstanding in both quantity and quality and almost daily attracts historians, historical sociologists, and others interested in the history of the South. Scholars and writers from all parts of the United States and foreign countries use its vast holdings.

The Southern Historical Collection does not collect such material as pamphlets, newspapers, or books. Its emphasis is upon collecting "private papers of individuals, families, and institutions" as its director states in the preface to the *Guide*. Public records such as those of governmental agencies are not a part of the Collection's acquisition program. The collection and preservation of manuscript material relating to southern history and its organization for use are the main purposes of the Collection. The publication of the *Guide* admirably fulfills this twofold function. The *Guide* has not only called scholars' attention to the tremendous repository of primary source material but has also expedited their work by cogently describing the material.

Designed for easy use, the *Guide* contains ample explanations. Its cost and format (paperback, with printing in very readable type and binding done by North Carolina State University Print Shop) make it possible for individuals to have a copy wherever they think appropriate. A word of caution here, however; personal possession of the *Guide* cannot take the place of a visit to the Collection, where more descriptions and indexes as well as the manuscripts themselves are to be found.

Middle Tennessee State University

WOODROW W. WASSON

DOCUMENTARY PUBLICATIONS

Ohio State University. *The First Hundred Years*. (Columbus, Ohio State University Press, 1970. [159 p.] \$7.)

This volume is one of several publications, films, and other items produced to commemorate the centennial of the university. Compiled and edited by the department of photography and cinema, the work contains 100 pictures selected from more than 65,000 items relating to campus events and personalities—no doubt one of the outstanding photographic archives of an educational institution. Photography has been taught at OSU since 1891, and since 1931 the university has employed one or more persons to obtain, process, and service its photographic records. As with most institutional archives, much of the activity was a labor of love and lacked the necessary funds to meet all the standards of archival procedures. Nevertheless, the documentation has been preserved, and

its use is becoming more frequent as campus administrators and students recognize the value of such a resource.

The arrangement of the photographs in the volume is chronological by decade. Each has a brief caption to identify it, but the details are placed in a series of "Notes" at the end of the volume. Besides general campus views, pictures of individual campus personalities, and several group photographs, there are a few major documents from the university Archives that illustrate the origin and development of the university. The reproduction quality is excellent despite the fact that some of the negatives are not in prime condition. The choice of paper provides the necessary durability to withstand handling, but the paper cover and binding will have to be replaced if purchasers desire to preserve the item. Although the major appeal is to the university's several thousand graduates, anyone interested in higher education should consider acquiring this volume. Photographic buffs and those who simply enjoy looking over illustrations of the "good old days" will also find satisfaction in its pages.

National Archives and Records Service
Region 5

BRUCE C. HARDING

The Journal of Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, transcribed from the original in the National Archives with an introduction by A. Hughlett Mason. (Philadelphia, American Philosophical Society, 1969. [xii], 231 p., illus. \$5.)

This is an accurate transcription, slightly modernized, of an important document, with a brief introduction on the origins and methods of the famous survey. Kept by Charles Mason and acquired by the Department of State in 1877, it now resides in the wildly "Miscellaneous Records" of that organization in the National Archives. As the story of the survey (and this journal) are well known, I will in this brief review only consider the merits of a modern edition of such a technical work.

Within the volume, it is true, are some letters about the survey and the Mason and Dixon determination of the length of a degree of latitude for the Royal Society. Though a few entries stray from technicalities to accounts of what Mason saw, most of the *Journal* is a no-nonsense rendering of their measurements and observations, which are barely explained by the editor in his introduction. Even a nontechnical reader could have appreciated, for example, the connection to Newton and the question of the true figure of the earth.

Among the merits of this publication, beyond the obvious one of rendering the manuscript more accessible, is that of underlining the dependence of our civilization on rather abstruse branches of science and technology. A romantic might point to the West, a king might glibly decree the fate of huge tracts of land, but when questions of settlement and taxes arose, nothing would satisfy but painstaking astronomical observations, meticulous surveying, and careful reconciliation of survey and mathematical results. Even a layman reading the editor's account will

note the labor and care involved. Besides a few specialists, most historians take surveying for granted. If anything, historians know about cadastral surveys, not the high precision geodetic surveys like the one of Mason and Dixon.

I certainly do not recommend editing the many surveyors notebooks in existence. Most are rather matter-of-fact recordings of data of interest to only a few specialists. It is, however, most suitable that a few outstanding examples appear in modern editions, if only as reminders of some of our scientific and technical roots. Charles Mason's volume is a fine choice, and the editor deserves our thanks for what is obviously a work of both skill and devotion.

Smithsonian Institution

NATHAN REINGOLD

BIBLIOGRAPHY

California Local History; A Bibliography and Union List of Library Holdings, edited by Margaret Miller Rocq. (2d ed., rev. and enl.; Stanford, Stanford University Press, 1970. xvi, 611 p. \$35.)

California Local History is an unannotated bibliography and index compiled by the Regional Resources Committee of the California Library Association from lists of librarians' recommended titles. Margaret M. Rocq, retired chief librarian of Standard Oil Co. of California, is the editor of this revised and enlarged edition, a great improvement over the 1950 edition. The committee of librarians should receive accolades for attempting the impossible. On the whole the volume is a monumental accomplishment that will have some use as a reference tool for historians and archivists. The main body of the text, the bibliography, lists some 17,000 items in 177 California and 53 out-of-State libraries. The titles are arranged alphabetically by county, followed by works listed under cities. Other major sections of the volume include material pertaining to regional areas of the State as a whole; a bibliography of bibliographies; and material about a selection of special collections.

The main bibliography is almost 10 years out of date. It does not list many published titles from 1960 and almost none from 1965 to the present, especially major works by well-known historians including W. W. Robinson, Theodore Grivas, Donald Cutter, Francis J. Weber, W. Michael Mathes, and Doyce Nunis. Checking topically one also finds well-known works missing, and it appears there was no attempt to include items obviously missing. Altogether the bibliography is a great mass of nonselective materials, and the researcher will find important fugitive works listed with items common to a great number of libraries and other items that seem inconsequential.

The Bibliographical References section could have been strengthened by including those bibliographies available for materials excluded in the main text to guide researchers to the materials. In addition there appears to be inconsistency in what was included and what was excluded.

The Bolton and Chapman catalogs of archival materials were included, for example, but the sister catalogs by Learned, Shepherd, and Robertson (now reprinted by Kraus) were not; many theses from large libraries, e.g. at the University of California at Berkeley, were included in the main body of the text and bibliographical section contrary to the editor's statement of exclusions. Another inconsistency in the bibliographical section is listing Bepler's 1920 UCB thesis on Western historical materials in California magazines but not listing UCB sister theses by Jensen, O. Smith, and Tobin, dealing with later periods of many of the same magazines. In addition it would have been appropriate to list the somewhat extensive, annotated, and indexed bibliography, "A Study of Graduate Research in California History in California Colleges and Universities (1899 to 1959)," a University of Southern California thesis by Bleich, the bibliography of which was reprinted in the *California Historical Society Quarterly* (September 1964 to June 1966). The Bibliographical References section of *California Local History* has no convenient citations of which libraries have the titles listed; those interested must plow through the numerical citations listed in the index under the main entry. There is a listing, however, of bibliographies having indexes.

The Collections section omits collections of photographs dealing with, for example, southern California and Los Angeles by the Title, Trust, and Insurance Co. of Los Angeles; the Security Pacific National Bank in Los Angeles; the History Division of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History; and the Los Angeles Harbor Department. Other collections of photographs at the Sutro Library and the State Library at Sacramento were also omitted. These collections have been used heavily by writers and historians for decades.

The Index section will be useful only if one knows the name of the author, city, biographee, business organization, institution, or governmental body. There are almost no broad categories in the index that bring together related materials.

This reviewer, in addition to the above suggestions, recommends that the inclusion of a section on oral history and the collaboration of a historian of repute to act as a coeditor be considered for the third edition of *California Local History*. The volume is an extensive list (not all inclusive) of some works available in libraries. For historians, students of history, and archivists dealing with California history this volume will have limited use for research purposes.

Los Angeles Harbor College

PAMELA A. BLEICH

HISTORICAL STUDIES

Antique Maps and Their Cartographers, by Raymond Lister. (Hamden, Conn., Archon Books, 1970. 128 p., illus., maps. \$8.50.)

This is an interestingly told, popularly written, tastefully and profusely illustrated, but *very* brief history of mapmaking and mapmakers. It ap-

appears to be based to a large extent on the several extant, detailed, definitive works, most probably Lloyd A. Brown, *The Story of Maps* (Boston, 1949), Leo Bagrow, *History of Cartography* (rev. and enl. by Raleigh A. Skelton; London, 1964), and Gerald R. Crone, *Maps and Their Makers, An Introduction to the History of Cartography* (3d ed.; London, 1966).

The history is told in 10 chapters covering 108 pages of text and is illuminated with 58 different illustrations, mostly maps. This is indeed a very small number of pages in which to relate such a large and full history. The professional historical cartographer will certainly be a bit concerned to find that a third of the 108 pages of text is given to Great Britain. This seems to be well out of balance with the facts, especially when it is noted that for France and America only eight pages are given each. As there is no introduction or foreword, we can only presume that the author's goal was to present a very compact account. We are not given a biographical sketch of the author's professional background or his expertise through experience in the field. We can perhaps conclude from the list of books he has published that he is an author of books on a variety of subjects—*Decorative Cast Ironwork in Great Britain, Great Craftsmen*, and *The Craftsman in Metal*. He is also the author of *How To Identify Old Maps and Globes* (reviewed in *American Archivist*, 29:285; Apr. 1966—Ed.).

This reviewer cannot agree with the note on the dust cover that "... Raymond Lister has expanded the literature of map-making still further ..." nor can he agree with the statement that "... each chapter having its own carefully selected bibliography ... enable[s] the reader to pursue his studies further in any field in which he feels a particular interest." This simply is not so. The bibliography at the end of each chapter is helpful and does include some basic references, but it is far from being a carefully selected bibliography that will enable the "... reader to pursue his studies further in any field in which he feels a particular interest." Most of the entries in each bibliography are bibliographically incomplete. For example (p. 24), "Beazley, C. Raymond: *Dawn of Modern Geography*. 3 vols, 1897-1906," should read *The Dawn of Modern Geography ... A History of Exploration and Geographical Science ...* (3 vols.; London, J. Murray, 1897-1906).

This reviewer takes further issue with the statement on the dust jacket: "There is a wealth of new information which is not available from any other single source, and these fresh facts about the lives of the cartographers, with copious details concerning their works and the dates of their publication, are presented in such a manner that the book will be read as a fascinating story as well as being used as a reliable work of reference." In a work as very, very brief as this one, it hardly seems possible that there is a wealth of new information, for the book appears to be a summary of information in the standard works. Because all of this is covered in 108 pages, and a third of that is for Great Britain, it seems a bit too much to expect anything except the barest information. The publisher appears to be carried away with enthusiasm for there really are no "copious details."

This reviewer feels that this very brief account, though it has compacted much information, is nonetheless because of it a somewhat stereotyped and encyclopedic, rather than a literary, contribution. There are a good many names of cartographers, mapmakers, and draftsmen included, but there is only the barest of information about each of them, often only four to six lines. For some, such as John Speed, there are several pages. One of the major contributions of the book is the very handsomely reproduced maps. Though very much reduced they are for the most part clear and useful. The book will be helpful to the non-professional reader who has an interest in a quick review of the highlights of the subject—a kind of abbreviated who's who of mapmakers.

Center for Polar Archives
The National Archives

HERMAN R. FRIIS

The Jewish Experience in America: Selected Studies From Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society, edited by Abraham J. Karp. (New York, KTAV Publishing House, Inc., 1969. 5 vols.: I, *The Colonial Period*; II, *The Early Republic*; III, *The Emerging Community*; IV, *The Era of Immigration*; V, *At Home in America*. 2,255 p., illus. \$49.50.)

We can place the beginnings of American Jewish history at September 1654, when 23 Jews arrived in New Amsterdam (now New York City) from Recife, Brazil. From then until now, Jews have participated in and contributed much to the development of American life and culture. Their conflicts and achievements have been told for approximately 60 years in the pages of *Publications of the American Jewish Historical Society*, which was renamed the *American Jewish Historical Quarterly* in 1961.

From the many studies that have appeared over the years, Rabbi Karp selected 85 for republication in his anthology entitled, appropriately enough, *The Jewish Experience in America*. Each volume contains an introductory essay describing the period covered (the anthology terminates with World War II), a suggested bibliography of other readings, and a full index. Selection of material for use in an anthology is, at best, a thankless and difficult task. The 85 studies, out of the possibly 1,000 or so that might have been used, appear to be fairly representative. Others might quarrel with Rabbi Karp's selections, and one author told me that he would have preferred to be represented by another work.

More than 60 contributors including such prominent modern historians as Salo W. Baron, Jacob R. Marcus, Stanley F. Chyet, Bertram W. Korn, Stanley L. Falk, Zosa Szajkowski, Lloyd P. Gartner, and Moses Rischin describe the founding of Jewish communities, educational institutions, and religious and social organizations. There are studies of Jews in politics, population statistics, biographies, immigration, anti-Semitism, social discrimination, Abraham Lincoln's relations with Jews,

Jews and slavery in the South, the Jewish labor movement, and Jews in Latin America and the Caribbean. Also of importance are the studies of American Zionism, which appeared long before Theodor Herzl and the concept of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. I am, of course, referring to Mordecai Manuel Noah's Ararat Colony near Buffalo, N.Y., and to the attempts to establish agricultural colonies.

It is interesting to note that the earliest published studies were original documents, compiled and annotated almost entirely by amateurs, who recognized the need to document the role of the Jew in American history. Published in their entirety or represented in extensive quotations, are the diary of Ezra Stiles, fifth president of Yale College (1778-95), letters of George Washington to the Jewish community of Newport, R.I., the earliest extant minute book of the Spanish and Portuguese Congregation Shearith Israel, New York City, 1728-1796, and heretofore unpublished correspondence between Thomas Jefferson and various Jews. The anthology is illustrated with photographs of letters, *ketubahs* (marriage contracts), and the title pages of *siddurs* (prayer books).

Rabbi Karp's anthology serves a useful purpose in telling the story of the Jews in America. Unfortunately, it is marred by editorial shortcomings. Why, for example, were not the dates of original publication cited? Why are there no biographical notes on the contributors? Unless the reader is familiar with the original *Publications*, he could not possibly know the historical or political climate in which a particular study appeared and what prompted its publication. Further, unless he knows something about the author, he cannot be certain of an article's reliability. Undoubtedly, among the earlier publications, there are a number of inaccuracies because of faulty research. Today's historians would do well to review these early studies and update or correct any apparent errors. Despite its shortcomings *The Jewish Experience in America* deserves a place in the home library, the public school library, and all other libraries. It contains something of interest to everyone.

National Archives

SYLVAN M. DUBOW