

FALL 1976

VOLUME 38

NUMBER 3

TEXAS LIBRARIES



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- 99 Systems Significant Development
for Texas Public Libraries
- 101 Basic Texana Laurie Dudley
- 108 Clio in the Machine Shops of
Aggieland Charles R. Schultz
and Evelyn M. King
- 113 Nancy Carol Roberts Library
Serves Washington County Nann Blaine
- 116 AASLH Awards Go to Texas
Projects in Localized History
- 118 Laffite Materials Purchased
for Research Center
- 120 Koto Presented to Texas
- 121 Flick On...
Films Come to South Texas Anne Hollingsworth
- 126 Using American Newspapers
for Historical Research Elsie S. Hebert

Editor: Millicent Huff

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About the Cover

Although the west entrance of the Texas State Library is the one most often pictured, the San Jacinto Boulevard or east side of the building is the most familiar to the thousands of Austinites who use the thoroughfare daily. The windowless tower with the emblems of six nations whose flags have flown over Texas houses the stack area of the Library.

A Book about Texas

One of the most lasting results of the Bicentennial year may be the interest that has been generated in state and local history throughout the United States. New areas of interest are sparking interest in the writing and publishing of much new material. At the same time, many basic titles are being made available in reprints of various kinds. Although *Texas Libraries* is not a book-selection tool, a fact that we seem to point out each time we publish a list of titles, we are publishing in this issue a list of basic titles prepared by Laurie Dudley of Abilene Public Library. Another aspect of state and local history is the research that is done from newspapers. To the extent that it was written at the University of Texas at Austin, Elsie Hebert's paper on using newspapers for research in American history has a Texas orientation. Hopefully, it will assist librarians and library users to make better use of these newspaper materials.

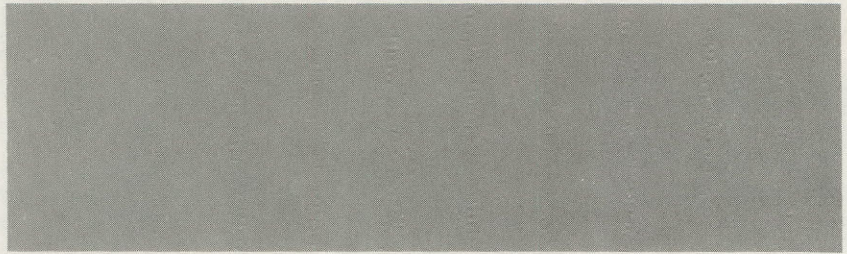
Systems Significant Development for Texas Public Libraries

The most important recent development for Texas public libraries has been significant State funding for regional systems organized under provisions of the Texas Library Systems Act of 1969. This legislation gives each system a great deal of latitude in developing cooperative activities.

The list of standard titles on Texas prepared by Laurie Dudley of Abilene Public Library for members of the Abilene Major Resource System represents one kind of assistance that systems offer smaller libraries. The article on starting a film program in the South Texas Library System by Anne Hollingsworth illustrates a more comprehensive system activity.

Each year when the ten systems prepare a set of activities for the following year, they combine both limited activities and larger ones. System staff members may provide technical assistance to smaller libraries, publish a newsletter, and conduct workshops on topics of interest to librarians and trustees in the area. Special activities may provide books-by-mail to persons in counties which have no library service.

Library systems are indeed making it possible for libraries of all sizes to provide the wide range of services that their patrons need. As anyone who has ever driven across Texas knows, the population of the state is unevenly distributed. Library resources are also unevenly distributed. Effective systems are making it possible for individual libraries to overcome some of the difficulties that result from this uneven distribution.

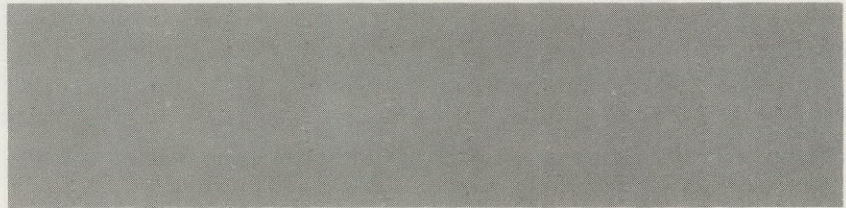


Taste and interests vary so much that anyone who dares prepare a list of books about Texas is treading on dangerous ground. What delights one reader may be irrelevant to another. What one observer says matches his view of the state may easily offend another equally astute reader. While such volumes as the *Handbook of Texas* and the *Texas Almanac* are basic, discussion beyond that point can quickly become heated.

Simply limiting a bibliography to Texas is not enough. There is great variety among the regions of the state. The following list prepared by Laurie Dudley of the Abilene Public Library, for example, includes a volume on tornadoes but not one on hurricanes. Nor does it include a book on twentieth-century urbanization, the oil industry, lumbering, or ethnic groups. Prepared for a primarily agricultural region where there is no city with more than 100,000 people, it reflects its area.

Every reader will quickly discover favorites that have been omitted. Libraries building collections of fiction, ethnic studies, or in fact in-depth examinations of any topic will find little assistance. Like any bibliography probably should be, this is preceded by a caveat emptor.

What the list does provide is a guide to standard titles about Texas that are currently in print. It emphasizes authors and titles long familiar to Texas readers. To supplement these volumes, a librarian may pick up new titles from local and state review publications, from visits to publishers' exhibits, and from the host of other available information.



Basic Texana

by Laurie Dudley

Purchasing the books on this list gives a library a basic Texas collection. If your budget is limited, you could manage nicely with the books that are starred. If you are nearly broke, you could still have the most basic books for about \$50.00; they are double starred.

*American Heritage. *Texas and the War with Mexico*. New York: American Heritage Publishing Co., 1961. \$6.89 PLB. Much broader in coverage than the title indicates, this is a juvenile title but useful for all ages.

*Barker, Eugene C. *The Life of Stephen F. Austin*, Founder of Texas, 1793-1836. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1969 (1925). Paper, \$3.25. The definitive biography of Austin.

*Bedichek, Roy. *Adventures with a Texas Naturalist*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1961 (1947). \$11.95; paper, \$4.95. A really exciting book that should make any reader more aware of nature in Texas.

Benton, W. E. *Texas: Its Government and Politics*. 3rd ed. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1972. \$7.95; paper (text) ed., \$4.95.

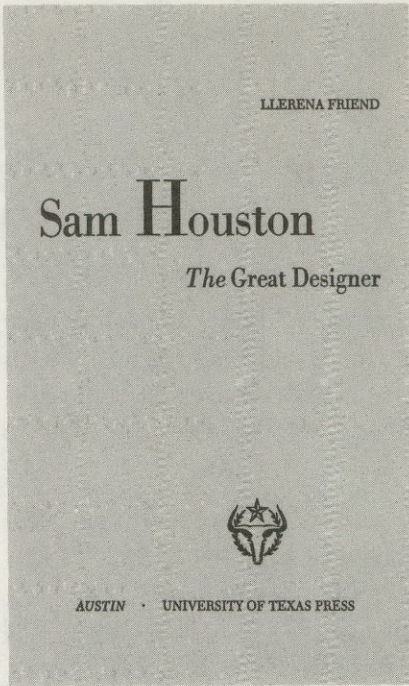
Bracken, Dorothy A. *Early Texas Homes*. Dallas: Southern Methodist University Press, 1956. \$12.50. Not a must, but an interesting and helpful book.

Dale, Edward Everett. *Cow Country*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1974 (1942). Dobie said of it, "Bully tales and easy history."

Dobie, J. Frank. *The Flavor of Texas*. Austin: Jenkins Publishing Co., 1975 (1936). \$9.50. Very good, with lots of social history.

*Dobie, J. Frank. *The Longhorns*. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1941. \$10.00. Paper, New York: Grosset & Dunlap, Inc. \$3.95. Pure delight to read.

*Dobie, J. Frank. *The Mustangs*. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1952. Paper, \$2.45. Excellent; the second Dobie book to buy.



Title Page of Sam Houston, the Great Designer

Dobie, J. Frank. *Tales of Old Time Texas*. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1955. \$7.50; paper, \$2.95. Enjoyed by all ages.

Ford, John S. *Rip Ford's Texas*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1963. \$10.95. A good picture of early days in Texas.

*Friend, Llerena. *Sam Houston: the Great Designer*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1954. Paper, \$2.75. The best biography of Houston.

Frontier Forts of Texas. Waco: Texian Press, 1966. \$10.00. Eight forts are covered, including Fort Concho and Fort Mason.

Gard, Wayne. *The Chisholm Trail*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1954. \$8.95. A good account of the most famous trail, and of men, cattle and cowtowns.

*Graves, John. *Goodby to a River*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1960. \$7.95. The river is the Brazos and the writing is excellent.

Green, Ben K. *Horse Tradin'*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1967. \$6.95. All of Green's books are enjoyable, but this is the best.

Greene, A. C. *A Personal Country*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1969. \$6.95. A fine book about the Big Country.

THE
HANDBOOK OF
TEXAS

A Supplement

VOLUME III

ELDON STEPHEN BRANDA
Editor

Foreword by
JOE B. FRANTZ



AUSTIN

The Texas State Historical Association

JOE B. FRANTZ, *Director*
L. TUFFLY ELLIS, *Associate Director*

1976

Title Page of The Handbook of Texas: A Supplement.

Haley, J. Evetts. *Charles Goodnight, Cowman and Plainsman*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1949 (1936). \$9.95. A good picture of Goodnight's life and times.

***Handbook of Texas*. 3 v. Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1952, 1976. \$80.00. One of the basic Texas titles. Libraries that have the first two volumes will want to add the new volume.

Hendrix, John. *If I Can Do It Horseback; a Cow-country Sketchbook*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1944. \$7.50. Good reading about life and people in the Big Country and Panhandle.

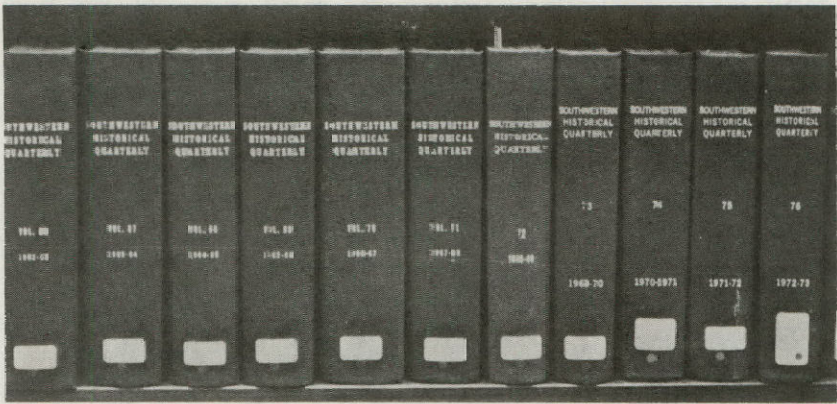
Heroes of Texas. Waco: Texian Press, 1964. \$10.00. Includes nine biographical sketches.

Holland, Ellen B. *Gay as a Grig: Memories of a North Texas Girlhood*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1963. \$6.95. Warm, humorous account of growing up in Weatherford around the turn of the century.

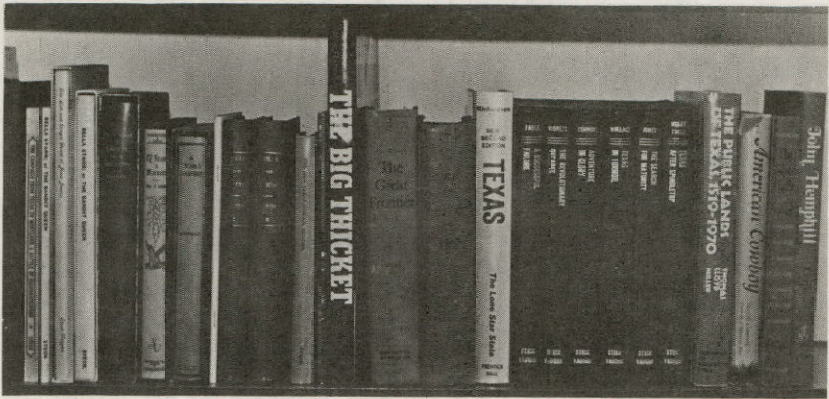
Horgan, Paul. *The Great River*. 2 v. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, Inc., 1960 (1954). rev. ed. \$11.95. Paper (text) ed., New York: Funk & Wagnalls Co. \$2.95 each. A detailed survey of the civilizations of the Rio Grande: Indian, Spanish, Mexican and Arglo-American.

- Horgan, Paul. *The Heroic Triad*. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, Inc., 1970. \$7.95. Paper, New York: New American Library. \$3.95. Essays, selected from *The Great River*, about the cultures of the Southwest: Indian, Latin and Anglo-American.
- Indian Tribes of Texas*. Waco: Texian Press, 1971. \$10.00. Includes eight tribes.
- James, Marquis. *The Raven*. Dunwoody, Georgia: Norman S. Berg, Pub., 1968 (1929). \$14.95. Paper, Covington, Georgia: Mockingbird Books, 1975. \$1.95. Fictionalized biography of Sam Houston.
- Kirkland, Forrest. *The Rock Art of Texas Indians*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1967. \$12.50. Absolutely fascinating paintings reproduce Texas pictographs and petroglyphs. Text is by W. W. Newcomb.
- Koock, Mary Faulk. *The Texas Cookbook*. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1965. \$9.95.
- Lasswell, Mary. *I'll Take Texas*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1958. \$7.95. A book full of love for the land and people of Texas.
- Lord, Walter. *A Time to Stand; the Epic of the Alamo as seen as a Great National Experience*. New York: Harper & Row Pubs., Inc., 1961. \$7.89 PLB.
- Lynch, Dudley. *Tornado: Texas Demon in the Wind*. Waco: Texian Press, 1970. \$7.95. The most comprehensive book on Texas tornadoes.
- MacCorkle, Stuart A. *Texas Government*. 7th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1974. Paper, \$6.50.
- Major, Mabel. *Southwest Heritage: A Literary History with Bibliographies*. 3rd ed., rev. and enl. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1972. Paper, \$6.50.
- *Matthews, Sallie Reynolds. *Interwoven: A Pioneer Chronicle*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1973 (1936). \$10.00. Very well written account of pioneer ranch life.
- Morehead, Judith. *Texas Wild Game Cookbook*. Austin: Encino Press, 1972. \$6.95
- Morgan, Sarah. *The Saga of Texas Cookery*. Austin: Encino Press, 1973. \$6.95.
- *Newcomb, W. W. *Indians of Texas: From Prehistoric to Modern Times*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1961. \$7.50; paper, \$2.95. The basic book on Texas Indians.

- Oppenheimer, Evelyn. *Texas in Color*. New York: Hastings House Pubs., Inc., 1971. \$4.95. A useful book of photographs and brief descriptions of places around the state.
- Owens, William A. *This Stubborn Soil*. New York: Charles Scribner's, Sons, 1966. \$6.95. Fine account of the author's boyhood on an East Texas farm.
- Owens, William A. *Three Friends: Bedichek, Dobie, Webb—a Personal History*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1975 (1969). Paper, \$3.95.
- Perry, George Sessions. *Texas: A World in Itself*. Gretna, Louisiana: Pelican Publishing House, 1975 (1942). \$6.95. You won't agree with all of it, but you'll be better acquainted with your state after reading this book.
- *Peterson, Roger Tory. *A Field Guide to the Birds of Texas and Adjacent States*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1963. \$8.95.
- *Pickrell, Annie Doom. *Pioneer Women in Texas*. Austin: Pemberton Press, 1970. \$12.50. Very useful, though the writing is uneven.
- *Pool, William C. *A Historical Atlas of Texas*. Austin: Encino Press, 1975. \$15.00. Broader scope than the title indicates.
- Reynolds, Robert. *Texas*. Portland: Graphic Arts Center, 1973. \$25.00. Stunning photographs. The brief text is taken from the writings of Mary Austin Holley, Sam Houston, Roy Bedichek, and others.
- Richardson, Rupert N. *Along Texas Old Forts Trail*. Abilene: Neil Fry (Abilene Chamber of Commerce), 1972. \$1.95. Good coverage of the Big Country.
- Richardson, Rupert N. *The Comanche Barrier to South Plains Settlement*. Millwood, N.Y.: Kraus Reprint Co., 1973 (1933). \$22.00. A magnificent history.
- Richardson, Rupert N. *The Frontier of Northwest Texas, 1846-1876*. Glendale, Cal.: Arthur H. Clarke Co., 1963. \$12.00. Early times in the Cross Timbers and prairies.
- **Richardson, Rupert N. *Texas, The Lone Star State*. 3rd ed. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1969. \$11.50. The basic Texas history book.
- Schiwetz, E. M. *Buck Schiwetz' Texas*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1960. \$15.00. Distinguished sketches from all over the state.
- Six Flags of Texas*. Waco: Texian Press, 1968. \$10.00.
- Six Missions of Texas*. Waco: Texian Press, 1965. \$10.00.



- Sonnichsen, C. L. *I'll Die before I'll Run: The Story of the Great Feuds of Texas*. Old Greenwich, CT: Devin-Adair Co., Inc., 1961 (1951). \$7.50.
- Sonnichsen, C. L. *Ten Texas Feuds*. rev. ed. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico, 1971 (1957). Paper, \$2.95. An important part of Texas history.
- The Texas Capitol*. Austin: Texas Legislative Council, 1975. \$3.15. A real bargain, with many pictures in full color.
- ***Texas Almanac*. Dallas: A. H. Belo Corporation, 1975-76. \$3.50. Paper, \$2.50. Absolutely essential. Get acquainted with the wealth of information in it.
- Tinkle, Lon. *Texas: A Picture Tour*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1973. \$12.50. More basic than either the Oppenheimer or the Reynolds.
- Tinkle, Lon. *Thirteen Days to Glory: The Siege of the Alamo*. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1958. \$6.95. The best choice on this subject.
- Tolbert, Frank X. *Day of San Jacinto*. 2nd ed. Austin: Jenkins Publishing Co., 1969 (1959). \$8.95. Slightly fictionalized, but authentic.
- Walton, Ralph. *Texas Law in Layman's Language*. 2nd ed., Houston: Gulf Publishing Co., 1975. \$7.50.
- *Webb, Walter Prescott. *The Great Plains*. New York: Grossett & Dunlap, Inc., 1957 (1931). Paper, \$2.95. This may be the greatest book by a Texas author.
- *Webb, Walter Prescott. *The Texas Rangers*. New ed. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1965 (1935). \$10.95. By far the best book on these lawmen.



Webb, Walter Prescott. *Story of the Texas Rangers*. Austin: Encino Press, 1971. \$6.95. Webb did this shorter version for younger readers.

White, C. C. *No Quirtin' Sense*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1969. \$5.50; paper, \$2.95. Irresistible autobiography of a black preacher in East Texas.

*Wills, Mary Mott. *Roadside Flowers of Texas*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 1961. \$5.75. Lovely paintings and good text.

Women of Texas. Waco: Texian Press, 1972. \$10.00. Only one of the eight women included here is also in the Pickrel book.

*Writer's Program. *Texas: A Guide to the Lone Star State*. rev. ed. New York: Hastings House Pubs., Inc., 1969. \$9.95. Interesting and helpful.

The following three books will help you to help your patrons. Even if you don't have any of the volumes included in the two indexes, or most of the books Dobie mentions, you can use these to determine what books will best answer your patrons' needs, and can then request them through interlibrary loan.

Bratcher, James T. *Analytical Index to the Publications of the Texas Folklore Society*, vols. 1-36. Dallas: Southern Methodist University Press, 1973. \$12.50.

Dobie, J. Frank. *Guide to Life and Literature in the Southwest*. rev. and enl. Dallas: Southern Methodist University Press, 1974. \$5.95; paper, \$2.95.

West Texas Historical Association Yearbook. Cumulative Index for Vols. 1-45. Abilene: West Texas Historical Association, \$10.00.

Clio in the Machine Shops at Aggieland

by Charles R. Schultz and Evelyn M. King

Centennial celebrations at academic institutions are commonly times when historians come to the forefront to describe and reflect upon the past contributions of their institution and administrators occasionally speculate upon its future. In this respect, Texas A&M University has done the expected things. Dr. Henry C. Dethloff, a professor of history, produced a splendid two-volume narrative history as well as an attractive one-volume pictorial history of Texas A&M University. A special issue of the alumni magazine highlighted a number of aspects of our past. Several exhibits of pictures and memorabilia called attention to previous celebrations, important people and events of our past, and to athletic achievements. An alumnus artist prepared and the University Press published a portfolio of paintings of campus scenes. Most units of the University sponsored Centennial Academic Assemblies in which prominent specialists from throughout the world were featured speakers. The University held proclamation and convocation ceremonies to honor its first century and to look ahead to its second. Again, all such activities are commonly associated with centennial observations.

Texas A&M, however is an extraordinary university. Students at few other institutions exhibit the spirit of the Aggies or possess their interest in and enthusiasm for the history and traditions of their school. Aggies are known everywhere for their strong support of their alma mater both in spirit and with financial resources. Consequently, it is not a completely unexpected development that a retired professor of mechanical engineering

—Dr. Charles Schultz is University Archivist and Mrs. Evelyn King is Assistant Director for Special Collections at the Texas A&M University Libraries. Photographs are by Kathryn Rzasa, humanities reference librarian at the Texas A&M University Libraries.

has produced an attractive and informative book entitled *One Hundred Years of Engineering at Texas A&M, 1876-1976*.

Professor Emeritus Charles William Crawford was born in Brazos County in 1897. A few years later his family moved to Ozona in West Texas but returned to Brazos County in time for him to complete his public schooling at Bryan High School in 1915. Crawford enrolled at Texas A&M the following fall. In 1919 he was awarded a degree in mechanical engineering. During that summer, while working in Port Arthur, he received an offer to teach at Texas A&M. In the preface of his book he indicates that his feelings were "Oh, well, I'll take it for a year." That one year turned into a lifetime of work for and devotion to Texas A&M and the students who enrolled here to pursue an education in engineering.

That Crawford's decision to accept the offer "for one year" proved to be a wise one, both for himself and Texas A&M, is demonstrated by his rapid rise through the academic and administrative ranks. In only ten years following his initial appointment as instructor he rose to professor and head of the mechanical engineering department. Somehow during the same ten years he completed the course work and other requirements for a masters degree in mechanical engineering. He held the post of department head until 1957 when he was named Associate Dean of Engineering. After five years in this administrative post, he returned to his first love—teaching engineering—for three years. Following his retirement in 1965 he taught a year at the University of Basrah in Iraq.

Through the years, Mr. Crawford has received many honors and awards. In 1956 he became the first Texas A&M faculty member to be named a Fellow in the American Society of Mechanical Engineering. He received the \$1000 General Dynamics award for outstanding contributions to the teaching of engineering in 1964. In 1962 the Charles W. Crawford Award was established by the Dean of Engineering to honor those who have rendered especially meritorious service to the College of Engineering. Probably the greatest honor and tribute, however, is the high esteem accorded him by his former students. One of them wrote to the Alumni Office after attending his 50th reunion, "Seeing and visiting with 'Charlie' Crawford again was worth the trip." Many other alumni have similar feelings about their former mentor.



Mechanical Engineering Shops, 1884. Courtesy Texas A&M University Archives.

The idea of writing a history of engineering at Texas A&M was first suggested by the then A&M Archivist, Ernest Langford, in 1957. At the time, Professor Crawford was too busy to undertake the interesting and exciting but tedious task of research connected with such an endeavor. When he returned from Iraq in 1966, however, Crawford soon concluded, as recorded in his preface, "Cutting grass and fishing wasn't my idea of useful retirement." As a result, he began the ten year labor of love that resulted in *One Hundred Years of Engineering at Texas A&M, 1876-1976*.

Because space was available and the records were there and because he had had a long personal friendship with Archivist Langford, Professor Crawford was allocated work space in the Special Collections-Archives area of the University Library between 1968 and the completion of his book. Professor Crawford spent countless hours searching through University catalogs, special subject files, biographical files, annual reports of the president and chancellor, the Archives photograph collection, and a variety of other records. In addition, he corresponded with numerous faculty members and students as well as a few of their descendants. Finally, he spent many months writing and rewriting various sections of the book and in prodding and cajoling his friends and colleagues to finish their chapters. He also carefully examined each of those chapters to be certain that there was



H. B. Zachry Engineering Center, 1972. Courtesy Texas A&M University Archives.

consistency in style. We were all happy with and for the author when the book was finished a few weeks ago. Would that all our patrons were as patient, cooperative, and interesting as the author of *One Hundred Years of Engineering at Texas A&M, 1876-1976*.

The book is divided into three sections: The Story, The Departments, and The People. In "The Story" Professor Crawford, with an assist from Dean Fred J. Benson, surveys the development of engineering education at Texas A&M during the last hundred years. Through the century there has been an evolution from the original course in mechanics and engineering to a college of eleven departments with a multiplicity of specialties. Dean Benson briefly recounts the last twenty years in the final chapter of this section. It is probably worth noting that Mr. Crawford personally experienced over half of the century of growth.

For "The Departments" the author called upon many of his friends and former colleagues to describe briefly the academic programs in which they have taught or are teaching. The sixteen chapters contain brief histories of all the existing and some discontinued disciplines as well as of the Engineering Extension Service, Engineering Experiment Station, and Texas Transportation Institute. Most of the authors played substantial roles in the development of the departments about which they have written.



Evelyn King and Charles Schults (right) accept presentation copy of One Hundred Years of Engineering at Texas A&M from the author, Charles W. Crawford.

In "The People" are several lists of names and brief biographical sketches of people prominent in the engineering program at A&M. Listed are twenty-eight engineers who have been awarded honorary degrees, thirty-two who have been honored as Distinguished Alumni, forty-one staff members who have received the Faculty Distinguished Achievement Award from the Association of Former Students, nineteen recipients of the General Dynamics Award, eight faculty members who have been given the Charles W. Crawford Award, and seventy-two graduates who have earned professional degrees in engineering. Brief biographies of eighty-five people include several presidents of Texas A&M, many of the deans of engineering, and a large number of department heads.

Through more than forty years of teaching engineering at Texas A&M, Professor Crawford attempted to instill initiative and a quality of "do it yourselfness" into his students. Thus it is not unusual to note that he published *One Hundred Years of Engineering at Texas A&M, 1876-1976* privately. The book has been expertly laid out by a professional book designer, attractively printed by a good press, and well bound in maroon and white (what else!) buckram with gold lettering on the front cover. Copies may be purchased for \$10.00 plus sales tax (\$.50 in Texas) from Charles W. Crawford, 4200 Maywood, Bryan, Texas 77801.

Nancy Carol Roberts Library Serves Washington County

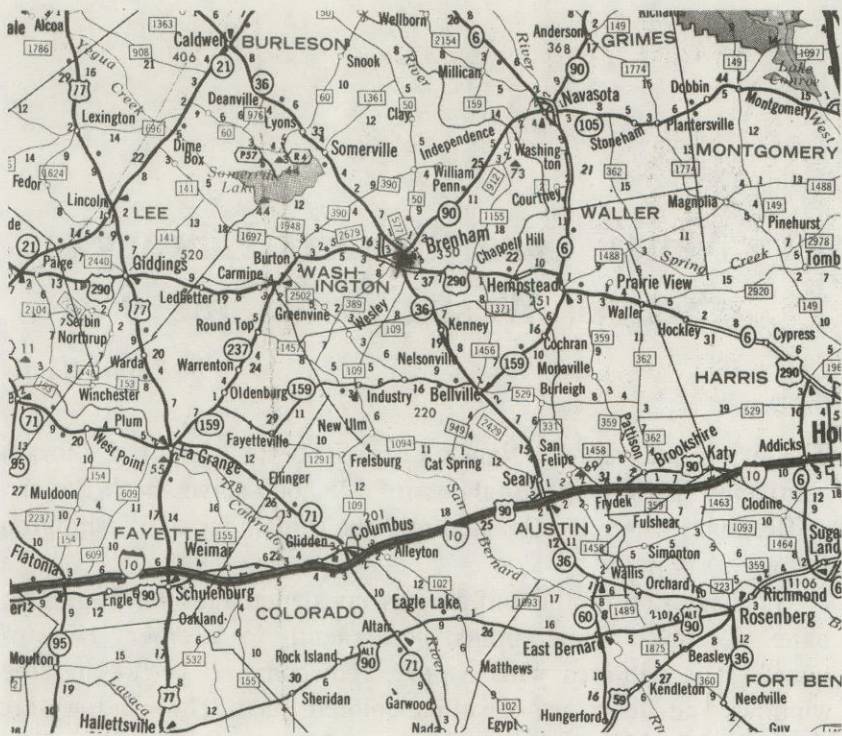
by Nann Blaine

The 6,560 square foot Nancy Carol Roberts Memorial Library completed in 1974 at a total cost of \$250,000 serves both the city of Brenham where it is located and the remainder of Washington County.

The exterior of the building is constructed of an aggregate panel of crushed stone applied permanently to a cement asbestos board. It is trimmed with copper, redwood and brick, and the windows and doors are of smoke-colored glass. The windows are flanked with side panels which are architecturally placed so that the sun will not shine directly into the building, yet provide additional lighting without glare. A large front entrance and a large back entrance provide the feeling of space and also provide easy access to the building itself.

In the front of the building, the City has placed the old horse-watering trough which was moved from its former location behind Food City to the present site. Native Brenhamites claim the trough was given to the City of Brenham as a memorial to war veterans. It will now be used as a fountain to enhance the beauty of the building. This small green area is separated from the main building with a circular driveway providing easy access to the front door and the book drop which is to the left of the main entrance. Above the book drop is an historical marker of the library which reads in part as follows: "Brenham Public Library, First in the County, Founded 1901 and still maintained by the Fortnightly Literary Club, with County and City support...1966 by State Historical Survey Committee."

On the west side of the building is a ramp from street to sidewalk to provide easy access to the building for wheel chair patrons. Rest rooms are also equipped for easy use by the handicapped.



As one enters the main building, the charge desk is readily seen to your left. Here there are two heights check-out stations, one for the children to the left and another slightly higher one for adults. The left of the building contains all the children's books and tables and chairs for their reading pleasure. Also, on this side is the junior section with books and mysteries for the middle and the junior school set. To the right of the building as one enters the front door is the adult section with fiction along the outer walls and the non-fiction on the center stacks. Many reference books are to the front right, paperbacks are in the center, and many of the current and back issues of magazines are on the far right wall. A lounge area with comfortable chairs is located in front of the magazine rack so that patrons may sit and browse through the magazines and current newspapers which are also available. Other tables and chairs will be available for study or research in each area.

Centering the main lobby is a large oval table which was built for the library by the late August Hodde in 1934. Against the far wall near the back entrance hangs a portrait of Nancy Roberts. To the left is the librarian's office, and behind that is the work room



where all books are processed. There is a door on the west side of the building which will be used to deliver books or for patrons who wish to use the meeting room when the main library is not open. Two rest rooms are to the left of a long hall, and at the end is a janitorial room. To the right of the hall is a meeting room. This is an all-purpose room which will be used to show films, for story hours, and will be available for any civic group for meetings day or night. A small kitchen adjoins the meeting room for serving light refreshments. Use of the room may be reserved with the Librarian, and will accommodate between 60 to 70 persons. It is hoped that a film and record library may be built up and used in this room also. Money for the room was donated by Mrs. Clara Belle Levy in memory of her mother, Mrs. Hannah Simon Foiz.

Edward F. Hildebrandt and his son, William Hildebrandt, both of Brenham, were architects. The building was constructed by Chappel Hill Construction Company and landscaping was by Clarann Nursery of Chappel Hill. Gifts of \$124,870 supplied nearly half of the funds, while the remainder included local tax monies, revenue sharing funds and a \$50,000 federal Library Services and Construction Act grant from the Texas State Library.

Award for Harris County Heritage Society

AASLH Awards Go to Texas Projects in Localized History

Seven Texas organizations and individuals have been recognized for outstanding work in the field of state and local history by the American Association for State and Local History. They are among the 94 from throughout the United States and Canada who received such recognition this year.

Awards of Merit go to the Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio, the Harris County Heritage Society, Dr. Rupert N. Richardson of Abilene, and Dr. Malcolm D. McLean of Fort Worth. Certificates of Commendation are being presented to students at Gary High School for their publication *Loblolly*, the Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation for *Texas Highways* magazine, and Donovan L. Hofsommer of Plainview.

Dr. Dorman H. Winfrey, director of the Texas State Library, serves as a member of the national awards committee, representing Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

Citations on certificates that will be presented to each of the recipients recognize specific contributions.

The Institute of Texan Cultures is recognized "for the production of printed and audiovisual materials emphasizing the



Award OF MERIT

to HARRIS COUNTY HERITAGE SOCIETY

for

RECONSTRUCTION AND RESTORATION OF
EARLY HOUSTON STRUCTURES AND FOR
A WELL-ORGANIZED DOCENT PROGRAM
TO INTERPRET THESE STRUCTURES
TO VISITORS



Presented by
The American Association for State and Local History

Robertson
President

William K. Beatty
Chairman, Committee on Awards

SEPTEMBER 19, 1976
Date

confluence of cultures in Texas.” The Harris County Heritage Society received an award “for reconstruction and restoration of early Houston structures and for a well-organized docent program to interpret these structures to visitors.”

The award to Dr. Malcolm D. McLean recognizes his contribution to the study of Texas history in *Papers Concerning Robertson's Colony in Texas*. Dr. Rupert N. Richardson's 1976 award is the second that he has received. In 1953, he received an award from what was then a relatively new program. His award this year recognizes his contributions to Texas history as author and teacher.

The Certificate of Commendation to the students at Gary High School is given “for publishing *Loblolly* and through this medium gaining an improved understanding of their area and transmitting this understanding to others.” *Texas Highways* is being recognized “for its efforts to increase interest in Texas history by frequent articles on historical sites of interest to Texas tourists.” Donovan L. Hofsommer is now teaching at Wayland College in Plainview, but he received a Certificate of Commendation “for a readable word-and-picture history of the resort business in Iowa's Spirit Lake Country.”

Judge Price Daniel shows Dr. Dorman H. Winfrey "The Journal of Jean Laffite" that will be in the collection of the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center.

Laffite Materials Purchased for Research Center

The 257-page hand-written "Journal of Jean Laffite" has been purchased by Supreme Court Justice Price Daniel and will be deposited at the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center that is now under construction at Liberty. Also in the collection are the bucaneer's family bibles, albums, daguerreotypes, and a contract with his ship captains.

The journal is not a diary but a record book of memoirs written by Laffite between 1845 and 1850 with this explanation:

Since my retirement some years ago, many people have repeatedly urged me to write my memoirs, documenting the recital of events of my life with complete and authentic records so that I might have a true account to my descendants, with the understanding that they would not release it until one hundred and seven years from this date. This I decided to do, although previously I had always refused to reveal my past, which is a private matter and concerns no one but myself.

The journal was written in French. In 1958, a translation into English was published in a limited edition by Laffite's grandson under the title of *The Journal of Jean Laffite*. At the time of its publication, the book attracted relatively little attention because it was not accompanied by adequate proof of handwriting and dates of paper and ink.



Although many of Laffite's activities are clothed in mystery, there are the examples of his signature both in the Archives of the Texas State Library and at the Federal Records Center in Fort Worth. The handwriting in the journal has been verified by experts to be the same as that in these documents.

A sidelight on the question of the journal is reflected in the two approaches used by recently published encyclopedias. The 1966 edition of *Encyclopedia Americana* cites Stanley C. Arthur, *Jean Laffite, Gentleman Rover* (New Orleans, 1952) as based on memoirs that had recently come to light. The *Britannica 3* cites only the more traditional story of his death, which also appears in the *Handbook of Texas* (Austin, 1952).



Koto Presented to Texas

On the day after Thanksgiving, Kimiko Kishida, a young Japanese woman, presented to the State of Texas a traditional Japanese musical instrument called the koto. She was on her way back to Osaka, Japan, after having been a student at Southwestern University in Georgetown. Ms. Kishida and a fellow countryman, Seiji Koroda of Toyama, Japan, brought the koto to Austin as a symbol of understanding and harmony between her country and the United States.

The koto is a 13-stringed instrument which has been known in Japan for over a thousand years. First used in the Imperial Court, around the 16th century it came into more general use and was played by commoners. Long and rectangular in shape, the koto is placed on the floor to be played, usually with one end raised a few inches off the floor on a small stand. Ivory posts are stuck under the strings at different points to tune the instrument. The performer kneels to play and plucks the strings with ivory picks attached to the thumb, first and second fingers of the right hand. The left hand pulls or depresses the strings to produce the various tones and pitches. The sound is somewhat similar to a harp but distinctively Oriental in its melodic patterns.

The koto that Ms. Kishida gave Texas is made of finely grained paulownia wood and has a mountain scene inlaid in one end. It is being exhibited in the Pease Room in the lobby of the State Library and is displayed lying on top of the red brocade cover it is wrapped in to be transported.

The success of new programs depends upon effective planning and implementation. Today the film program of the South Texas Library is a thriving one, the success of which can be attributed to the effective groundwork that was laid when it was a pilot program. In this article Anne Hollingsworth, who has worked with the program since its beginnings, tells how the program got started.

Flick On. . .

Films Come to South Texas

by Anne Hollingsworth

Systems in the state of Texas were a dream in the minds of many ambitious librarians years before the Library Systems Act was passed in 1969. The purpose of the ten Texas systems was to allow libraries as groups to plan and carry out cooperative services they would like to offer, but on their own could not afford.

Even though LSA was passed in 1969, it was not until 1974 that systems were financially in a position to prove themselves; however, this was only possible through the aid of federal money. In that year, the Texas State Library allocated Library Services and Construction Act grants to be used to demonstrate cooperative system services. Before 1975, money designated amounted to a mere \$50,000 a year which was to be dispersed by formula among the ten systems. In the South Texas Library System, our share was \$3,000 and our system covers 26,000 square miles and has a population of almost a million people!

With the LSCA funding of \$106,000, the South Texas Library System elected to develop a collection of non-curricular 16mm and 8mm films. The rationale for this choice was (1) a large portion of the South Texas population had been identified as a low education, low income, non-reading public; (2) there was not a film collection in the area of any size available to the general public; (3) local agencies had requested films; and (4) if the state did not budget continuation of system programs, the system would

have spent its money primarily on expensive materials of lasting value.

So, in September, 1974, the task was to establish the film collection which would be available for use by 26 system member libraries, and show results in time to have an impact on the Legislature. Where do you start when there is no existing collection? With the basics. Letters were sent to film companies for catalogs and subscriptions bought for film reviewing journals. *Previews, Landers, Booklist*, and evaluations by the Educational Film Library Association are basic. The American Library Association also publishes a list of 500 titles of basic films for public libraries.

Librarians hear time and again that one of the best ways to ensure the success of a new service is to involve the community to be served. In this case, the grant proposal specified that each system member library would contact a local non-library agency or organization and ask what subjects it would be interested in having available. The Major Resource Center was required to make 20 contacts. In this way, each library had to make initial contacts within its own community and spread the word about the development of the collection; at the same time, organizations were given input into the subject areas that would be bought. Many libraries were so enthusiastic about the program that they contacted 10-20 local agencies. In the small communities, these contacts created a rapport between the library and the community that was stronger than what could be developed in larger communities.

At the end of September, the subject area requests were compiled and tabulated and preview films were ordered. By December, preview prints were arriving daily and system staff began scheduling preview sessions. Local agency contacts in Corpus Christi were usually asked if they would like to preview films in the subject area(s) they had requested. Most said "yes" and were quite pleased to be involved directly in the selection of films. Having local agency patrons participate served many purposes. First, the agency personnel were familiar with their area; secondly, it got them excited about the collection and made them begin planning ways to use the films. News of the collection also began travelling by word of mouth—the best PR possible.

A list of films to be previewed during a week with showing times was sent to the agencies with an invitation to attend. A



check mark was placed beside films that would be of particular interest to each organization. Previews of films were scheduled at the convenience of the agencies. The sessions were well attended by a variety of people from the community. After each film was screened, every person attending filled in an evaluation form. On the basis of these, films were purchased for the collection.

At the same time, rules and regulations and circulation procedures had to be established. During the fall, each Texas library that was listed in the *ALA Directory of Libraries* as having a film collection was contacted. Librarians at several fine film libraries and cooperatives in this state were more than happy to share their rules and regulations, circulation procedures, lists of the most popular titles in their collections, as well as include helpful hints from their experiences working with films. The STLS policy drew upon this available expertise.

Circulation for a systemwide film collection was another matter. To encourage the use of this collection, placing a reservation had to be simple. Provision was made to allow libraries to call in their requests collect. If a film was not available when needed, a substitute was suggested. Using the telephone also resulted in each librarian directly communicating problems not

only with films, but with other library-oriented problems that could be referred to the system coordinator.

During February, 1975, two workshops for the area libraries were held to discuss procedures for the film collection with the system member libraries. Each library received a manual with instructions for reserving films as well as general information about films. In addition, each library was given a packet of 25 8mm films which were to be housed at the local library. These packets were rotated among the libraries every two months on a designated schedule. Having packets of films at each library gave the librarians something tangible to keep at their libraries. Rotating these small collections kept them "new" for patrons.

After the workshop, each library was sent a publicity release to have placed in its area newspaper. At the same time, all agencies that submitted subject requests were sent letters informing them of the availability of films through their local library. Films are not sent directly to agencies; the agency must request films through the local library, who, in turn, reserves them from the system film library.

An added service in this program was the reference and advisory services which were available for the asking. Librarians called in questions on what type of projectors to buy, rental information for feature-length films, and requests for source information on individual titles. During the summer months, the libraries were given the option to have the system film library regularly schedule film programs for them. Many chose to show children's films. The film library set up the weekly or monthly dates as requested in early spring and sent out the list of films for each library, thereby giving the library time to publicize the program. This method of booking proved so successful that many have carried continuous bookings into this year.

The results were phenomenal. Of course, the first month was slow—with only 15 films circulated. But within six months, an average of 130 films per month were being circulated to area libraries. Including Corpus Christi, circulation was over 300 a month. The 8mm films also circulated heavily—over 100 percent of the collection in six months.

Credit for the success of the program goes to the area librarians who made the initial agency contacts and publicized the service in their towns. Within the year, the area libraries' circulation of both the 16mm and 8mm films was greater than

that of Corpus Christi! Importantly, 50 percent of the libraries did not own projectors, but with the incentive of access to a collection, many received equipment through grants, gifts, or adding it to their budget.

After one full operational year, where were we to go? We were fortunate that the Legislature funded the Texas Library Systems at \$2.8 million for 1976, and almost \$4 million for 1977. This funding allows the South Texas Library System office to serve as a clearinghouse for information on all types of audiovisual materials that are used by system member libraries in the area. The system will also conduct a workshop dealing with audiovisuals. STLS would like to begin plans for a statewide network of lending films from one system to another since there are now nine systems involved at this time in developing film collections. Furthermore, the system will be buying projectors for the member libraries since such a high percentage did not own them. But, most importantly, we only had 400 16mm films in the collection by last August. With 27 libraries this year, our demand is now greater than our supply. We will add another 200 films this year, but will still be far short of the 2,000 mark that is the minimum requirement for our size system for ALA standards.

In sum, the key to the success of this program or any other, is involvement. Local system libraries played a vital role. In only six months, the film collection proved to be very popular; 1,280 16mm films were shown to 40,878 people. The 8mm films were circulated 3,051 times. The librarians in the South Texas Library System have experienced receiving a service rather than something they already buy on their own. Furthermore, the system librarians in South Texas know that this is their system working for them.

A member of the journalism faculty at Louisiana State University, Elsie S. Hebert wrote the somewhat longer paper from which the following was excerpted at the University of Texas at Austin.

Using American Newspapers for Historical Research

by Elsie S. Hebert

“The only true history of a country is to be found in its newspapers.” Thus wrote Lord Macaulay in the early part of the nineteenth century. We find reposing in the columns of America’s news volumes a vast reservoir of primary and secondary material relating to almost every phase of social, economic, and political development of the United States, from the beginning of the 1700s to the present.

In general, the time-consuming task of searching large quantities of musty, densely packed newspapers has presented problems which the average researcher has found almost too formidable. “Such limitations have restricted the scope and definitiveness of research studies and have forced the researcher to accept unproved hypotheses, dubious generalizations, and not infrequently erroneous conclusions.”¹

Oscar Handlin and his Harvard Guide associates pointed out, however, that there is no satisfactory substitute for delving into the files themselves. "This is necessarily a laborious procedure, for in no respect has America been so articulate as in her daily and weekly press."²

In doing research in newspapers there are two basic tasks: (1) locating newspapers that may contain information pertinent to your particular subject and (2) finding the individual articles concerning your interest.

Fortunately, there are a few basic works that, in general, can help solve the first part of the problem. If the area of research is the colonial and early nationalist period, the student has at his disposal one of the finest newspaper compilations ever accomplished in Clarence S. Brigham's *History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820* (2 vols.; Worcester, Mass.: American Antiquarian Society, 1947). This definitive and annotated listing presents 2,120 different papers by state and town, complete with publication dates.

In the description which follows each title entry, Brigham gives the date of founding and name of founder, then traces the history of the paper through changes in frequency of publication, changes in ownership, and changes in title—no small feat for colonial newspapers. One of the most valuable contributions is the listing of issue dates held by various repositories. In 1961 a 50-page supplement was issued, noting some additions and corrections.³

Picking up where Brigham left off, and of major bibliographical importance for locating and obtaining information about newspapers, is *American Newspapers, 1821-1936; A Union List of Files Available in the United States and Canada*, edited by Winifred Gregory under the auspices of the Bibliographical Society of America (New York: The H. W. Wilson Co., 1973).

This compilation of American and Canadian newspapers is designed to give the researcher the following information about each paper: name, place of publication, dates of publication, type of paper (weekly, semiweekly, daily, etc.), and the designation of repositories where copies are located. Issue dates held by the various repositories makes easy the location of papers for certain periods. Included also is a designation of dates held by the publisher.

This volume is organized by state or province and city. "A Bibliography of Union Lists of Newspapers," compiled by Karl

Brown and Daniel C. Haskill, appears on pages 787-89. On page 791 is a brief listing of special newspaper collections held by various libraries and historical societies.

Another interesting feature is the use of the asterisk before entries that were also listed in Brigham's *History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820*, thus noting some of the more successful eighteenth and early nineteenth papers. One familiar with Brigham misses in this volume the historical descriptions of the papers. Significantly, but understandably, missing also are the names of the publishers.

To supplement *Gregory's American Newspapers, 1821-1936* and to help locate copies of papers not mentioned, the researcher may turn next to union lists of newspapers. One source of information is the *Check List of Historical Records Survey Publications; Bibliography of Research Projects Reports*, compiled by Sargent B. Child and Dorothy P. Holmes (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1969). This volume, a final listing of 1,800 Historical Records Survey publications issued between 1936 and 1943, includes all publications of the several Historical Records Survey programs of the Work Projects Administration and the issues of two related programs—the Survey of Federal Archives and the Inventory of American Imprints—plus appendices in which are listed material pertinent to these programs. On page 73 is a listing of publications of union lists or check lists of newspapers for the various states.

Available in the University of Texas Library, in the 016.071 section of the stacks, are the following union lists of newspapers, some of which are Historical Records Survey publications:

Arkansas, 1819-1942	North Carolina, 1751-1900
Arizona, 1859-1911	Pennsylvania, 1719-1969
Colorado, 1859-1963	Rhode Island, 1727-1800
Louisiana, 1794-1940	Texas, 1813-1939
Mississippi, 1805-1940	Washington, 1852-1890
Missouri, 1808-1963	Wisconsin, 1833-1957

These union lists reflect the holdings available in the offices of publishers, libraries, and some private collections.

Various libraries have published union lists of their holdings. *Louisiana Newspapers, 1794-1961* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Library, 1965), is a union list of Louisiana newspaper files available in Louisiana libraries. Adding an extra dimension to this work is Edward L. Tinker's article "Bibliography of the

French Newspapers and Periodicals of Louisiana," which gives a brief history of each French newspaper between 1790 and 1910 as well as a short history of French journalism in Louisiana during this period. Also included are chronological and alphabetical lists of French newspapers and periodicals published both in New Orleans and elsewhere in the state. In addition, there is an index of papers by towns and parishes.⁴

Oregon State Library has published *Oregon Newspapers* (Salem: Oregon State Library, 1963), which is a union list of the papers of the state, listed under towns in which they are or were published, and dates of available issues in the state's four largest newspaper collections.

A Check List of Western Newspapers in the Mills Collection at New Mexico Highlands University is selected list of newspapers (some very rare), published in New Mexico, California, Arizona, Colorado, Texas, Kansas, and Mexico between 1856 and 1935. The greatest concentration is on the New Mexico papers.

Duke University has available *A Check List of United States Newspapers and Weeklies before 1900* (2 vols.; Durham: Duke University, 1932-1937). This is a guide to newspapers in the Duke General Library. In addition to indicating the issues held, the work gives brief historical annotations.

Also more complete than the union lists is Rhoda C. Ellison's *History and Bibliography of Alabama Newspapers in the Nineteenth Century* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1954), which gives brief histories of the various Alabama newspapers, as well as locations of issues.

Researchers in Texas history have a number of guides designed especially for their use. One is John M. Wallace's *Gaceta to Gazette, A Check List of Texas Newspapers, 1813-1846* (Austin: University of Texas, 1966). This volume, published under the Department of Journalism Development Program, gives brief historical descriptions of the newspapers listed but does not give locations where issues may be found. However, the University of Texas Library has a two-volume unpublished work, prepared by the Texas Historical Survey in 1935, entitled "Index of United States Newspapers in the University of Texas Library," which lists individual newspapers by state and town and indicates issues available.

Newspaper Resources of Southeast Texas (Houston: University of Houston Libraries, 1971) is a union list of newspapers held by

libraries in this part of the state. Entries, listed by state and town, are annotated, cross-referenced, and show location of holdings.

Researchers who are doing work in the Dallas-Fort Worth area may refer to *A Union List of Newspapers in the Libraries of the Fort Worth-Dallas Major Resource Centers* (Fort Worth: Texas Christian University Press, 1969). This publication lists papers by state and town, and the entries show periods of publication, frequency of publication, and location of holdings. Cross references are included, as well as indications if papers are on microform or photostat.

A handy reference for abbreviated general information about newspapers published in particular localities is the *Ayer Directory of Publications* (Philadelphia: Ayer Press, 1880-). Researchers have had at their disposal such an annual directory of American newspapers since 1869, when George P. Rowell issued his *Rowell's American Newspaper Directory* (New York: G.P. Rowell & Co., 1869-1908). The *Ayer Directory*, established in 1880 as the *American Newspaper Annual and Directory*, absorbed the *Rowell Directory* in 1910 and assumed its numbering. Between 1930 and 1966 the publication was known as *N.W. Ayer & Son's Directory of Newspapers and Periodicals*.

Helpful in a limited way with information about newspapers not included in *Gregory's American Newspapers, 1821-1936*, the *Ayer Directory* lists daily and weekly newspapers by state and city, along with the date of establishment, day of publication, method of printing, political bias, technical publication data, circulation, and names of publisher and editor. However, location of copies of papers listed is not the purpose of this directory.

To supplement all the foregoing newspaper guides and to assist the researcher in finding institutions where needed copies are available is a volume entitled *Newspapers on Microfilm*, published by the Library of Congress Union Catalog Division (6th ed.; Washington: Library of Congress, 1967). This one-volume work contains all of the information on microfilmed newspapers brought to the attention of the Library of Congress Microfilm Clearing House before November 15, 1966. It contains approximately 21,700 entries, representing 17,100 domestic papers and 4,640 foreign papers. The papers are listed geographically under state and city, with frequency of publication and the dates that each publication began and ended (if applicable). The volume shows the institutional location of positive and negative microfilm

and the issue dates included on the microfilm rolls or Readex microcards.

If the institution at which one is doing the major portion of his work does not have the exact issues of the newspapers he needs, the researcher might negotiate with the library for the needed papers after ascertaining their availability through the use of two microform guides: *Guide to Microforms in Print, 1973* (Dayton, Ohio: National Cash Register Company, 1973) and *Subject Guide to Microforms in Print, 1972-73* (Dayton, Ohio: National Cash Register Company, 1972).

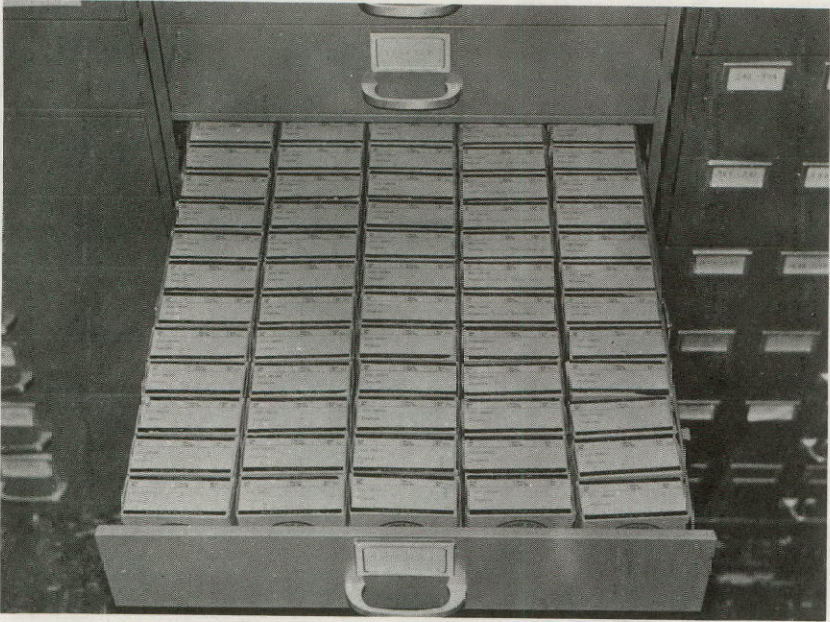
The former is an annual cumulative guide, in alphabetical order, to books, journals, newspapers, and other material available in microform from United States publishers. The *Guide* is not a union list of microforms but basically a catalog of microform publications for sale. Theses and dissertations are not listed. Newspapers on microfilm abound in the listing, both current and early issues. Newspaper entries are by state, followed by name of city, name of paper, dates available, microform in which the issues are available, publisher and price. This publication provides an up-to-date check on what can be purchased, if one knows the papers he wants to research.

The *Subject Guide* is a biennial, comprehensive listing, by subject classification, to materials available on microform from United States publishers. Like the guide mentioned above, it is *not* a union list, but an ordering catalog.

An index to subject classifications is provided in the front matter, as well as a directory of publishers. Newspapers are listed alphabetically by state in category "70" for domestic newspapers and category "75" for foreign papers. Where indexes are available, they are listed with the individual papers.

As in the previously mentioned microform guide, the individual entries give the following information: state, city, name of paper, dates available, publisher, microform in which copies are reproduced, and cost.

Two other microform catalogs are also published: *Newspapers on Microfilm and Special Collections, 1973-74* (Wooster, Ohio: Micro Photo Division, Bell & Howell, 1973), which lists collections, periodicals, and newspapers on microfilm and microfiche, with dates reproduced; and *Southwestern Newspaper and Historical Material on Microfilm, 1969-1970* (Dallas: Microfilm Center, Inc., 1969), which lists the names of papers, under state and town headings, and indicates dates on microfilm.



The availability of newspapers on microfilm makes indexes and other materials particularly important to the modern library.

Once copies of the papers and desired issue dates are located, the second part of the researcher's task looms large: that of finding individual articles concerning his particular interest. This article hopes to offer some guidance in this direction by citing some of the indexes to these papers and some bibliographical sources which might guide the researcher to papers and items that may serve his particular needs.

Preliminary to doing newspaper research, the student would profit by briefing himself on the history of the papers of the period about which he is writing in order to acquaint himself with editorial policies and promotions that influenced their activities. For this purpose, several journalism histories which have extensive bibliographies are listed in the Bibliography section of this article.

Those who are concerned with researching newspapers for the purpose of writing about American history cannot afford to ignore the English press, particularly during the early periods. Before the advent of international wire services in the last half of the nineteenth century, papers of both countries relied heavily upon "exchange" news. For students doing research at the University of Texas, the University library has a descriptive catalog of its British newspapers and periodicals collection: *British Newspapers and*

Periodicals, 1632-1800, compiled by Powell Stewart (Austin: University of Texas, 1950). Entries are by publication name, followed by extensive description of the paper, dates of publication, and issues held.

A major tool in researching English newspapers is *Index to The Times*. The London *Times* has been indexed continuously from 1790 to the present day. For the period 1790-1905 the index is called *Palmer's Index to The Times Newspaper*, and between 1906 and January-February, 1957, it is designated *The Official Index to The Times*. Entries are brief, alphabetized according to name, place, and subject. Subentries are alphabetized according to subject matter headline, without regard for chronology. Reference notations give month, date, page, and column, the last being designated by letter. (The paper's eight columns are lettered a to h, reading left to right.) Stories concerning foreign relations with Britain are indexed to the other country involved.

Early indexes were printed quarterly (approximately 536 quarterly volumes), but since 1957 the *Index* has been published in bi-monthly volumes. Entries are compiled from the final editions each day, but stories not appearing in the final editions are also included.

One of the leading southern weeklies of the eighteenth century was the *Virginia Gazette*, established August 6, 1736, by William Parks in Williamsburg. In addition to the news of the legislature and governor, the paper gave much space to the Virginia Sweepstakes, plays, poetry, and prose. This is one of the few colonial newspapers that has been indexed. Lester J. Cappon and Stella F. Duff are the compilers of the *Virginia Gazette Index, 1736-1780* (2 vols.; Williamsburg: The Institute of Early American History and Culture, 1950).

The papers indexed begin with the earliest available issue of William Parks' *Gazette*, September 11, 1736, and end with the last issue of the *Gazette* of John Clarkson and Augustine Davis printed in Williamsburg, April 8, 1780, but the *Index* does not include materials printed in the *Gazette* after it moved to Richmond.

Advertisements as well as news are included in the alphabetical listing by person, institution, place, and subject. Imperial and colonial news are indexed in more detail than local news from Britain. Entries after 1766 carry initials of the printer indicating which of the competing *Gazettes* is being listed, for in

that year William Rind established another *Virginia Gazette* in Williamsburg, with the cooperation of Thomas Jefferson, who considered the old *Gazette* to be too much under the influence of the government.

Only one American newspaper for the first quarter of the nineteenth century is known to have a published index. It is the *Index to Local News in the Hampshire Gazette, Northampton, Mass., 1786-1937* (3 vols.; Boston: The Historical Records Survey, 1939). Volume I is an alphabetical listing of local items from A to M; Volume II, Part I completes the Northampton items from N to Z, Part II contains a listing of articles concerning Hampshire and Franklin counties; and Volume III is a Personal Section, with entries alphabetized by names of persons in the news. Limited cross references are used in the "headline-type" index, which gives only date of publication of the various articles.

The *New York Sun* in 1833 marked the beginning of a new kind of newspaper—the penny paper, so-called because the single folded page sold for a penny. The *Sun* did not have the field to itself for long, for in 1835 James Gordon Bennett started the independent *New York Herald*. It was the *Herald*, the *New Orleans Picayune*, and the *New Orleans Delta* that sent correspondents to Mexico to supply the people of the United States with reports on the Mexican War. Toward the end of that conflict editors of the various New York papers formed a newsgathering association, called the Associated Press.

With the *Herald*, American journalism acquired a new department: Wall Street. Bennett sought to inform his readers about the fine points of business and finance, and he sought to tell the truth about stockbrokers and to protect the public from swindlers.⁵

Bennett's paper was the forerunner of the *Wall Street Journal*, founded in 1889 by Charles H. Dow as the voice of the Dow Jones and Company financial news service. In 1973 the *Wall Street Journal*, with a circulation of 1,249,095, carries comprehensive news stories that interpret trends in business and industry.

Since 1959 (for the year 1958), the *Wall Street Journal* has published its annual *Wall Street Journal Index* (New York: Dow Jones and Company, 1959-). Compiled for the final Eastern edition, the *Index* is presented in two parts—corporate news and general news, with the daily Dow Jones closing averages carried, by month, at the back of the corporate section. The dates, page

number, and column number are given with each entry. In the corporate news annotated items are listed chronologically under company names. In the profit reports, per share earnings are shown following the net income figure. In the dividend reports, payable dates and record dates are shown. Topical headings are used in the general news section, with descriptive entries made chronologically.

Besides pioneering newspaper coverage of Wall Street activities, Bennett kept the *Herald* in the forefront with other progressive newspaper techniques. In 1860, after noting the efforts of the *New York Times*, the *Herald* organized its own index bureau, under the direction of Robert Bligh, one of America's first newspaper librarians. Not content to index just the current issues of the *Herald*, Bligh, on orders from Bennett, went back to 1835, the year the paper was founded, and indexed each issue in longhand on large ledger sheets and later in loose-leaf books. This index was continued until 1880. Bligh's undertaking was considered throughout the newspaper world of his time the most stupendous job of its kind.

From 1880 until 1920, when the *Herald* and the *New York Tribune* merged, the index was under the direction of several persons. The index, which consists of 1,742 volumes, is entirely in longhand, with the exception of the period 1908 to 1920, when it was typewritten.⁶ I can find no evidence that this index has been published or microfilmed, nor have I been able to find any definite information about its current location. (It is possible that the index is among as yet unprocessed materials at the University of Missouri.)

In 1851 Henry J. Raymond and George Jones recognized the need for a conservative Whig newspaper to sell for one cent. On September 18 they issued the first edition of the *New York Times*. Although the *Times* proved to be consistently Whig, it was never violently partisan and, for the most part, followed a middle-of-the-road policy. The paper was sympathetic toward the poor, but it had no patience with those who would alter the system of the American economy.⁷

The development of the *Times* and the growth of its news coverage—indeed, the history of the United States—can be traced through its highly regarded *Index* (New York: The New York Times Co., 1913-), which considers itself to be the "Master-Key to the News."

The *Index*, currently published semi-monthly, with a

cumulative annual index, has been maintained since the paper's beginning in 1851, except for two periods, September, 1858-1862 and June, 1905-1913. The *Times* has been in the process of indexing the missing periods, and now all years are available except volumes for 1907-1912, which are in progress. It was not until 1913 that publication of the *Index* began in its present form.

The first part of Volume I, which covers the period September 18, 1851, to August 31, 1859, is the original handwritten index, reproduced in facsimile. Two different handwritings reveal that two persons made all the entries. Crowded late entries reveal that the index was compiled throughout publication. Entries follow a single alphabetical sequence, not separated by years. Under main headings, entries show issue number, not dates, and are presented chronologically. The hand-written compilation also includes limited cross references.

Harry A. Friedman wrote about this early index:

The earliest known newspaper index in the United States is that of the *New York Times*, which shortly after its establishment in 1851 started a handwritten guide to the content of its issues and continued it in this form until 1860, when the first printed index was issued.⁸

The second part of Volume I—September 1, 1859 through December 31, 1862—is a newly prepared index and is separated by the year. For the entries in this part an attempt is made to follow the intent and style of the other nineteenth-century indexes; they are brief and merely indicative. No attempt is made to summarize the contents of the articles.

On January 1, 1863, the *Times* resumed its original index, with Volume II covering 1863 to 1874. More sophisticated than its predecessor, the *Index* was set in type, but it was still intended for staff use only. A number of major headings or categories were used, but the annotations were still labels. After July 1872 the major categories used in the *Index* are "Editorial" and "General." By 1883 some of the entries had acquired longer annotations, but the first volume that began to take on something of the look of today's *New York Times Index* was Volume IX—July, 1905-December, 1906. A "Texas" entry in 1905 reads "Texas to sell 6 million acres at 1st public sale ever held in state."

The *Index* restricts itself to news covered by the *Times* itself, and the editors admit that most of the *Index* is devoted to

“profound” issues, with only an occasional coverage of the “lighter side of the news.”

Today the *Index* presents itself as a condensed, classified history of the world as recorded daily in the final late city edition of the *New York Times*. It also includes the Sunday supplementary sections and advertisements related to the news.

While many late nineteenth century papers were trying to outdo each other in circulation-building exposes, crusades, and sensational reporting, the *New York Evening Post* remained a sober, dignified publication, appealing in this period to Wall Street readers. Under E. L. Godkin, the paper acquired an influence far beyond its relatively small circulation. Allan Nevins has written: “As the greatest role in the leadership of opinion in the generation preceding the Civil War had been played by Horace Greeley, so the greatest single part in the next generation was with little doubt that of E. L. Godkin.”⁹ Godkin was editor of the *Nation* from 1865 until 1899 and editor of the *Evening Post* from 1881 to 1899. The *Nation* became a weekly edition of the *Post*.

James F. Rhodes used the *Nation* to a large extent in writing the history of the 1865-1877 period because he had a respect for Godkin’s editorials. “Whatever may be thought of his bias, he had an honest mind and was incapable of knowingly making a false statement; and this, with his other qualities, makes his journal excellent historical material.”¹⁰

The *Post* started its daily index in 1873, prepared in handwritten form on loose-leaf ledger sheets. This index was continued through 1920. From 1908 to 1916 the paper published a printed index of its editorial page for office use only, and in 1925 resumed its news index on typewritten ledger sheets. The index project was discontinued in 1933.¹¹

After Greeley’s death in 1872, Whitelaw Reid gained control of the *Tribune* and shaped its course to appeal to the wealthy and the educated. The paper was a reflection of the economic and political interests of the upper class, and it is significant that the *Tribune* did not deviate throughout the remainder of the century from espousing Republican Party programs.

In 1875 the *Tribune* undertook to publish an index of its own, under the direction of W. L. McPherson, who carried the indexing back to 1841, when the paper was founded. The index was simple and more restricted in scope than the *New York Times Index* and was published continuously until 1906.¹²

Available in the University of Texas Library are 31 volumes of

this index, from 1875 to 1906, on three rolls of microfilm. The work is basically a subject index, alphabetized in a single dictionary-type listing. Subentries are alphabetized under main headings until 1903, when chronology of events seems to take precedence over alphabetizing.

Entries carry only brief, label-type descriptions, with date of publication, page and column given. In 1875 the *Index* was divided into three categories—editorial, miscellaneous, and foreign news. From 1876 until 1898 it was a single listing of all news matter; then from 1896 to 1906, the *Index* was divided into general news and foreign news. Beginning with the 1895 *Index*, more names seemed to be main entries, with stories concerning these people alphabetized under the name. Cross references were used from 1901 onward. In addition to the main listings in the years 1882-1887, the *Index* carried a summary of events for the year, as the *New York Times Index* does.

Another factor that, in a sense, simplifies research in American papers published after the Civil War is the wide use of news services. News-gathering agencies, like the Associated Press and United Press International, feed a steady stream of news into newspaper offices in all states. The wire services enable daily papers throughout the country to get the same international and national news almost simultaneously. Because the wire services are depended on by most newspapers for information beyond their own communities, their output helps shape the thinking of American readers everywhere. Except for any editing that might be done at the local level, a researcher would get the same information in a wire story in the *Austin Statesman* as he would in the *New York Times*. That is why the *Times Index* can be used to locate wire stories from which a local angle might have been developed in another paper.

The number of daily newspapers in the United States reached their peak in 1916, when 2,600 were being published. By 1968 their number had dropped to 1,817, primarily as the result of consolidations and mergers.¹³ Newspaper chains have saved money by supplying the same news, editorials, and photos to all links in the organization—all making for uniformity in the news. In fact, about one-third of all our dailies belong to a chain.

A forerunner of David Lawrence's *U.S. News and World Report* was the *United States Daily*, published in Washington from 1926 to 1933. This has been completely indexed in six

volumes, running from March 4, 1926, to March 3, 1932. This *Annual Index—Digest of the United States Daily* (6 vols.; Washington: The United States Daily Publication Corp., 1927-1932) is a "digest" type of index, patterned after the *New York Times Index*. The compilation is printed in tabloid newspaper size and classified on a subject basis. It proclaims itself to be a "key to the activities of the Federal and State Governments."

A new weekly of general appeal appeared on the New York scene in 1962 when the Dow Jones Company launched the *National Observer*. This paper is designed for distribution throughout the country. In 1970 the paper issued an *Index to the National Observer Newspaper* (Flint, Mich.: Newspaper Indexing Center, 1970-) for the period July-December, 1969. A notation was made that an index for 1962 to June, 1969, was in progress.

The *Index* is divided into two sections—name and subjects, this last including geographical and corporate names as well as subject headings. Each entry is annotated and arranged chronologically under a main heading. An exception is the reviews, which are arranged by title, author, and by subject. Another unusual feature of this index is that it includes the number of column inches of text and a notation if the article has been accompanied by an illustration. The cumulation is in six-month and twelve-month volumes.

The historic old papers of the colonial period have long since disappeared from the Boston scene. Today the best known of the Boston papers is the *Christian Science Monitor*, launched in 1908 by Mary Baker Eddy, founder of the Christian Science Church. To Erwin Canham, the paper's distinguished editor, is given the credit for making the publication a general interest paper instead of a church organ. The Monitor built up its circulation through regional editions and interpretative articles on national and international events. Of special interest to researchers is the fact that, beginning in 1960, an *Index to the Christian Science Monitor* (Boston: The Christian Science Publishing Society, 1960-) began to be published. The *Index* is published monthly, with semiannual and annual cumulations. Entries are alphabetized by subject, name or country and are tabulated to show Eastern, Western, Midwest, and Overseas editions. Subheadings are listed in chronological order, rather than alphabetical. Not indexed are some sports, features, and metaphysical articles.

The index for one other New England paper has been published and is available in the University of Texas library. That is the *Index to the Burlington Free Press, 1848-1869* (9 vols.; Montpelier, Vt.: Historical Records Survey, 1940-1941). Entries are made under subject headings, are briefly expanded, and are cross-referenced.

Receiving professional acclaim as the No. 2 newspaper in the nation is the *Los Angeles Times*, ranking just behind the *New York Times*.¹⁴ Founded in 1881 and developed rapidly under the leadership of Harry Chandler, the paper has championed city and state development and promoted such projects as the Owen Valley irrigation system, the Colorado River Aqueduct, and the building of the California Institute of Technology as a major scientific center. It has also won recognition for reporting the Watts riot and for exposes in city government.

A significant development for researchers in the newspaper field was the institution in January, 1972, of a four-in-one *Newspaper Index: The Chicago Tribune, The Los Angeles Times, The New Orleans Times-Picayune, The Washington Post* (Wooster, Ohio: Newspaper Indexing Center of Bell & Howell Company, 1972-).

Compiled from microfilm editions of these four papers, the *Index* is divided into two parts—subjects and personal names. National, international, regional, state, and local articles, and some advertising have been included. Routine items are omitted, and the *Index* enumerates those items deleted.

Each entry carries a descriptive statement. In the subject section each article is listed chronologically under the paper in which it appears. Besides the month, date, and year, each entry indicates section number, page number, column number, and a designation as to whether an illustration accompanied the article. The front matter of each monthly *Index* explains the organization of the publication in greater detail.

The *Washington Post*, included in the above mentioned index, is considered among the top five leading newspapers of the nation. "Other than the *Los Angeles Times*, no American Newspaper rose more rapidly in esteem in recent decades than did the *Washington Post* after Eugene Meyer, a civic-minded financier, rescued it from a receivership in 1933."¹⁵

In Texas, one of the state's leading newspapers is the *Dallas Morning News*, founded in 1885 as the sister publication of the *Galveston News*. The two papers, connected by 315 miles of leased

wire, issued duplicate editions, a feat which drew nationwide attention at the time. "A record of vital news about Texas is maintained in the index of the Rosenberg Library of Galveston. The index covers old issues back to 1870, and until 1938 the library had a cumulative index of Galveston newspapers."¹⁶

Students of Texas history will be glad to know that the *Dallas News* library has been indexing the paper daily by subject since 1936 and that it also has a 590-card subject index for the period 1901 to 1934. The 31 rolls of microfilmed index of the *News* from 1917 to 1971 are available in several libraries.

Published in 1972 was *The Texas Observer Index, 1954-1970* (n.p.: Susan Reid and Frances Cushing, 1972-). This *Index* provides an author-subject guide to articles in the *Observer* from its beginning on December 13, 1954, through 1970. Articles are entered by headline under main headings and are listed chronologically. Entries show date of publication and page numbers. Certain types of articles have been excluded, such as regular column features. Supplements have been issued for 1971 and 1972.

Several publications concerning older published and unpublished indexes are available in the UT-Austin Library. One is Norma O. Ireland's *An Index to Indexes* (Boston: Faxon, 1942), which presents a selection of more than 1,000 published indexes under 280 different subject headings. Five different types of indexes are included: special subject indexes, indexes to sets of books, periodical indexes, cumulative indexes to periodicals, and government document indexes. However, the volume is not separated into these five sections, and items are "interfiled" according to subject arrangement. An author-title index is provided at the end of the book.

The Junior Members Round Table of the American Library Association published *Local Indexes in American Libraries* (Boston: F. W. Faxon Co., 1947), which lists unpublished indexes in libraries throughout the country, including those in newspaper libraries or "morgues." Although newspaper morgues are generally not open to the public, a serious researcher of contemporary history usually finds the newspaper staffs helpful and cooperative.

A check of the holdings listed in *Local Indexes* revealed that the Stephen F. Austin State University library in Nacogdoches has seventy typed pages of index for *Niles Weekly Register*, 1811-1849,

the entire period of the publication's existence. This publication, founded in Baltimore by Hezekiah Niles, stressed statistics and factual material and state papers. The paper impartially printed speeches and important documents, giving both sides of controversies. Readers and newspaper editors came to depend on the reliability and reporting of the *Register* in an age when most political reporting was extremely partisan.

Eric F. Goldman, in criticizing John B. McMaster's *History of the People of the United States, from the Revolution to the Civil War*, accused him of often arriving at his contemporary sources "not by thumbing through old newspapers or dipping into piles of documents, but by using the materials as they appeared in Niles' Register..."¹⁷

Another work that lists some newspaper indexes, mostly unpublished, is Herbert O. Brayer, "Preliminary Guide to Indexed Newspapers in the United States, 1850-1900," *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, XXXIII (September, 1946), pages 237-258. This guide is arranged by state and depositories. The name of the newspaper is listed, with place of publication, frequency, and dates for which the paper has been indexed. Information is also given relating to the completeness of the indexes—whether they are complete or incomplete, whether they are on cards, in typed manuscript, or in printed volumes.

Included in this work is the University of Texas "List of Newspapers Indexed" by the Texas Historical Survey, 1933-1935. In this Civil Works Administration project 400 annual volumes of 40 newspapers throughout Texas were indexed to serve as a guide to the names of people figuring in Texas news of the times. Most of the entries are biographical, but there are a few topical entries. Included in the index is the *Clarksville Northern Standard*, indexed from 1842 to 1871, and early Fort Worth, Dallas, San Antonio, and El Paso papers.

Two other unpublished indexes worthy of note are those of the *Baltimore Sun* and the *Detroit News*. The *Baltimore Sun* started its loose-leaf index in 1890 and continued it through 1942. The *Detroit News* started its index in 1919 in the form of a loose-leaf ledger. By 1927 the index filled fifteen volumes, and the indexers had completed the project back to 1873, when the paper was founded.¹⁸

This presentation has had two purposes: (1) to guide the researcher to basic reference volumes—bibliographies, check lists,

directories—to help him locate American newspaper files for the period in which he is interested; and (2) to acquaint the researcher with various newspaper indexes that have been compiled and may be available to help lighten his task of combing through volumes of printed pages to locate individual items.

I would be remiss if, at this point, I did not inject a word of caution about using newspapers as historical sources—a caution that has been reiterated many times by historians who have used newspapers extensively in their work.

Handlin and his *Harvard Guide* associates have stated that “newspapers are indispensable to the historian for both direct and indirect information they afford. Compiled in haste and often edited in bias, they must, of course, be used with critical caution.”¹⁹

Lucy Salmon pointed out that the historian might be reasonably sure of the truth of what he read in the newspapers, “but he has no assurance that he has read the whole truth, and that the truth printed is in fair proportion to the truth not printed...”²⁰

James Ford Rhodes, who used newspapers as his main sources in writing the history for the period 1850-1860 because he “found facts in them he could find nowhere else,” advised that these publications must be used with care and skepticism.

For example, to test an article or published letter written by Greeley or Godkin, the general situation, the surrounding influences, and the individual bias must be taken into account, and, when allowance is made for these circumstances as well as for the public character of the utterance, it may be used for historical evidence.²¹

So the historical researcher does not make his materials. He must take his newspapers as he finds them—a hurried commentary on hastily gathered facts. Together the newspaperman and the historian will “interpret yesterday, for the guidance of today, in the shaping of a better tomorrow.”²²

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