Publisher Bestsellers- University of Illinois Press

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Publisher Bestsellers

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From the University of Illinois Press we received a long list of best selling books in many categories, and here are the highlights from Richard Wentworth, Director and Editor-in-Chief.

Top Ten Bestsellers University of Illinois Press

*The best selling book which originated at Illinois is *Four Theories of the Press* by Frederick S. Sebert, Theodore Peterson, and Wilbur Schramm. This was originally published in 1956 and 82,000 copies have been sold to date.

*Pissing In the Snow and Other Ozark Folktales,* by Vance Randolph, has sold 10,000 copies in cloth and 52,500 in paperback.


Other Books that have done very well include:

*Power and Powerlessness: Quiescence and Rebellion in an Appalachian Valley,* by John Gaventa, with more than 23,000 copies sold in the paperback edition and 4,000 in the cloth edition.

*Prairiescapes,* a collection of photographs by Larry Kanfer, which has sold more than 23,000 copies.

*A recent book in military history, *Thunder Below! The USS Barb Revolutionizes Submarine Warfare In World War II,* by Admiral Eugene Fluckey, which has sold more than 15,000 copies in three years.

*Eugene V. Debs: Citizen and Socialist,* by Nick Salvatore, with 3,700 sold in cloth and more than 11,000 in paperback.

*Stars of Country Music,* edited by Bill C. Malone and Judith McCulloh, with more than 13,000 copies sold in cloth edition.

*Nativity Americans In the Twentieth Century,* by James S. Olson and Raymond Wilson, with more than 14,000 copies sold.

*One of the most important books Illinois has published in American history is The Plains Across: The Overland Immigrants and the Trans-Mississippi West, 1840-60,* by John D. Unruh, Jr. Sold more than 12,000 copies of the cloth edition published in 1979. This book has been picked up by the History Book Club.

Best Kept Secrets University of Illinois Press

No list of bestsellers is complete without mentioning a couple of sleepers, presumably books that haven’t done as well as they deserve. Wentworth offers the following suggestions:

Work-Writer in America: Jack Conroy and the Tradition of Midwestern Literary Radicalism.* This is a broad study of radical Midwestern writers. At 700 pages in length and priced at $34.95 it sounds like a bargain.

A work which should be in most college libraries, the three-volume *Letters of Eugene B. Debs,* edited by Robert Constantine, has sold only 600 copies.

By the way, the inaugural poem read by Miller Williams for the Clinton Inauguration was published by this press.

In addition, Illinois puts out a newsletter called *Presstime* and has a Website <http://www.uiuc.edu/providers/quipress> which can supply full ordering information if you missed ordering any of these fine books.