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From the Reference Desk

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and digitised back files of the journal — making them freely available via **MetaPress**.

ATG: Tell us about the UK library and publishing markets? Are eBooks taking off in the UK?

You ask about the UK library market and the UK publishing industry. I think that UK academic libraries, on the whole, are in good shape. Of course we don't have huge budget increases but on the other hand we have introduced a level of stability and many have got out of the cycle of annual cancellations which was so depressing. The main reason for that has been the national e-journal negotiation undertaken by **JISC** via the **NESLI2** initiative and other national and regionally negotiated deals for e-databases and eBooks. As far as eBooks are concerned, take-up has been slow and this is probably due to the fact that publishers have struggled to find appropriate business models which appeal to libraries. That is beginning to change which is encouraging.

We also have a vibrant research and development environment — once again funded by the government via **JISC**. For example, a £10 million call has gone out recently for digitisation projects for important and unique research collections in UK libraries.

ATG: Will we have libraries in the future? What predictions would you make about scholarly publishing/communication over the next, say, ten years?

I don't think I have anything particularly profound to say about the future except that libraries and publishers will almost certainly find themselves responding more and more to the activities of information giants such as **Google**, **Microsoft** and **Yahoo!**. Libraries will increasingly need to tailor their services to their students and staff to provide focused, individual and relevant support for their learning, teaching and research. Peer review — possibly not in its traditional guise — will continue to be of paramount importance in a research world where quality is crucial. 🐼

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From the Reference Desk

by **Tom Gilson** (Head, Reference Services, Addlestone Library, College of Charleston, 66 George Street, Charleston, SC 29401; Phone: 843-953-8014; Fax: 843-953-8019) <gilson@cofc.edu>

The struggle for civil liberties is at the core of America's beginning and runs throughout our history. Needless to say, it has been a complex process with numerous contradictions and inconsistencies. The search for religious freedom, the right to privacy, and due process played out in tandem with the institution of slavery, immigration restrictions and blacklists. This complexity is only compounded by our age of "high-tech terror" pitting civil liberties against society's need to be protected.

Helping to sort through these vital issues is a recent encyclopedia published by **Routledge**. Edited by respected scholar **Paul Finkelman**, the *Encyclopedia of American Civil Liberties* (2006, 0415943426, \$475) contains 1,423 entries that vary in length from 250 to 6,000 words. Articles discuss major personalities and influential laws and legal cases, as well as treating broader themes, issues, and events. The biographical entries run the gamut from historic figures like **James Madison**, **Fredrick Douglass**, and **Margaret Sanger** to contemporaries ranging from **Janet Reno** to **John Ashcroft** to **Larry Flynt**. Numerous legal cases and individual laws are presented providing their context, relevance and resulting impacts. Larger themes and concepts from affirmative action to rule of law and from victims' rights to theories of privacy are covered as are historical overviews on topics as diverse as the right to bear arms, judicial review, segregation, and sentencing guidelines.

The articles are well written and grounded in historical and legal precedence with the overall treatment comprehensive, scholarly and attuned to the importance of the topics being discussed. There is solid use of "see also" references and a thematic list of entries linking related articles. Each entry has a brief bibliography or a list of cases and statutes cited, in most instances, both. The 189-page general index is thorough and makes use of numerous sub-headings to take readers to specific aspects of larger topics.

The *Encyclopedia of American Civil Liberties* is a timely and important reference. Browsing its contents and reading individual articles reminds us of the pivotal role the struggle for civil liberties has played in our history. Simultaneously, it points to the necessity of keeping this struggle in the forefront of our concerns as we move into the future. This set is a definite purchase for most academic libraries and should receive serious consideration from larger public libraries. High school libraries may want to first consider the *Encyclopedia of Civil Liberties in America* edited by **David Schultz** and **John R. Vile** and published by **M. E. Sharpe** (2005, 0-7656-8063-7, \$299)

Sharpe, Social Issues in America: an Encyclopedia (2006, 0765680610, \$499) is another that is worthy of attention. Edited by the prolific **James Ciment**, this set consists of eight slender volumes, one of which being an index to the set. More than 2,100 pages have been packed into the set offering coverage of over 150 topical social issues. Although for the most part written by academics, the articles are accessible to general lay readers, high school students and lower division undergraduates. In addition to thorough explanations, each entry has a useful chronology of the issue being discussed. Individual articles are also accompanied by a glossary of terms, two-three primary source documents related to the issue, and a useful list of references and Websites. The topics covered are the type that students gravitate toward when doing social issues research. They are a diverse mix ranging from At-Risk Students to Wilderness Protection; Corporate Crime to Racial Profiling; Identity Theft to Prostitution; and Gay and Lesbian Rights to Terrorism. Attention has also been paid to helping undecided students identify interesting topics. There is a "topic finder" listing topics by broad categories, a unique cross reference index that substitutes for having "see also" references at the end of each entry, and a list of topics covered in each volume.

Social Issues in America: an Encyclopedia has been designed for ease of use and with the intent of being a helpful starting point for exploring high interest issues. That it succeeds so effectively is a compliment to **Mr. Ciment** and his collaborators. Libraries where social issues are an area of interest or a focus of student research would be well served by considering this set. Those libraries looking for a less expensive, but dated, alternative might consider **Macmillan's Social Issues** edited by **Robert D. Benford** (1999, 0-02-865055-7, \$125)

Sage Publications recently released a single volume encyclopedia that will be equally at home on reference or circulating shelves. Edited by **Barney Warf**, the *Encyclopedia of Human Geography* (2006, 0761988580, \$150) helps define the parameters of this evolving area of geographic study, as well as offering a rich source of background information for numerous concepts, themes and approaches.

As characterized in this encyclopedia, human geography is more than the geography of place. Human geography relates to the "study of how societies construct places, how humans use the surface of the earth, how social phenomena are distributed spatially, and how we bring space into consciousness." The individual entries in this work provide such linkages in a clear understandable fashion, while at the same time, maintaining their scholarly

Speaking of works published by **M.E.**

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grounding.

As editor **Warf** notes, the advent of geographic information systems (GIS) offers scholars a new tool superseding the mathematical modeling once dominant and engenders a new excitement within the field. This excitement is reflected in the *Encyclopedia*. Coverage is diverse and multidisciplinary portraying the integration of human geography with the other social sciences. There are over 300 articles that delve into broad areas ranging from cartography and GSI systems to urban geography, and from geographic theory to political social and cultural geography. As such there are articles that discuss the spatial contexts of disparate issues like class war, sovereignty, crime, historic preservation, gender, segregation, environmental justice, globalization and cyberspace. There are also entries devoted to the development of the discipline like those on the **Berkeley** and **Chicago Schools**, Positivism and the Quantitative Revolution, as well as the impacts of Marxism, Humanistic Geography, Feminism, Postmodernism and Post structuralism. While each entry has a list of suggested readings, generally these bibliographies are brief. Given the growth of the field, any future edition should enhance this aspect of the *Encyclopedia*.

The *Encyclopedia of Human Geography* provides a scholarly and intellectually challenging overview of the topic, as well as specific explanations of the linkage between geography and social, economic, and political issues. Larger academic libraries that support classes in geography will want to add it to their list. Libraries looking for a shorter, less expensive treatment should consider **Greenwood's Encyclopedia of Human Geography** (2004, 0313320101, \$59.95).

Another encyclopedia that lends definition to a growing area of scholarly research is **Greenwood's Our Earth's Changing Land: an Encyclopedia of Land-Use and Land Cover Change** (2006, 0313327041, \$225). Edited by **Helmut Geist**, this two-volume set is a product of Land-Use/Cover Change project

initiated through programs sponsored by the **International Council of Scientific Unions**. Operating from 1995 through 2005 the *LUC* helped define the differences, as well as the linkages, between land cover, "the biophysical state of the earth's surface" and land use, "the manner in which biophysical attributes of land are manipulated." The *Encyclopedia* presents the "crucial terms and topics" resulting from this research in more than 300 entries.

However, editor **Geist** wisely starts the first volume with three helpful introductory essays. Entitled "Land Change as a forcing Function in Global Environmental Change," "Land Use Change in a Global Historical Perspective," and "Land Cover Change," these essays provide the foundation for the rest of the encyclopedia. They are well worth reading and reference related articles within the rest of the text. The individual entries fall within broad categories and treat types of land change ranging from cropland to forest and from urban-industrial to rangeland. Other articles cover specific causes and impacts of land change, as well as aspects of land use dynamics and land cover conversion and modification. There are also articles discussing individual countries and regions, specific conventions and environmental agreements and analytical techniques like modeling and satellite imagery methods. Most of these articles range from 1,000 to 2,500 words although shorter entries often describe influential organizations or offer the brief biographical sketches that are contained in the *Encyclopedia*. Aside from a general index there is a useful guide to related topics by category and an alphabetical list of entries. There are numerous "see also" references at the end of each entry, as well as references to related articles by the use of bold type within the text.

Although primarily intended as a reference work, *Our Earth's Changing Land: an Encyclopedia of Land-Use and Land Cover Change* is another work that could be placed in either reference or circulation collections. It addresses topics of increasing interest and importance in a timely and thorough fashion. Informed by recent scholarship, this work should answer specific questions, as well as provide stimulation for further inquiry. While it is most appropriate for academic libraries, larger public libraries with patrons interested in these issues would do well to consider it.

Sports are big business with an ever expanding growth potential. A quick look through **Grey House Publishing's 2006 Sports Market Place Directory** (2006, 1592371396, \$225) makes this obvious. Packed into this bulky paperback and its 2,294 pages are some "15,487 listings, (up 2,173 from 2005)." In addition, there are "13,883 Websites (up 2,561), 8961 email addresses (up 3,334), and listings for 58,898 key executives (up 22,283)." In order to manage all this information, the Directory is divided into ten chapters with each chapter having its own index. The first chapter covers professional sports

leagues and other single sport organizations while chapter two lists multi-sports organizations like those devoted to disabled sports, youth sports and the **Olympics**. The third chapter deals with college sports, both **NATA** and **NCAA**. The remaining seven chapters cover events, meetings and trade shows, the media, sports sponsors, professional services, facilities, manufacturers, and statistics. In short, the *2006 Sports Market Place Directory* provides a single source for the address, contacts and description of the **Arena Football League**, as well as for the **US Olympic Education Center**, the **New York City Marathon**, the **Golf Channel**, the **Saratoga Race Course** and **Jantzen, Inc.** In addition, there are statistics on topics ranging from female sports participation to fitness equipment purchases to **NCAA** attendance figures. Fortunately, given all this diverse content, the *Directory* is well organized and arranged for ease of use. Beside the indexes for each chapter, there are cumulative entry, executive and geographic indexes. Convenient fold out tabs identify each chapter and provide "finger tip" access.

Public libraries where there is demand for such information and academic libraries supporting sports management curriculum will want to consider this resource. Those libraries where there is a great deal of use for such information will want to consider the online version, annual subscription \$479.00, or the online database & directory combination, annual subscription \$650. For more information on these options check out <http://www.greyhouse.com/sports.htm>.

Both science librarians and chemistry faculty and students will be glad to know a new edition of the *Merck Index* (2006, 091191000X, \$125) is available. Now in its 14th edition this indispensable standard should find a home on both library and personal books shelves. This edition contains 10,200 "monographs" that discuss "significant chemicals, drugs, and biological substances." According to the editors "over 5,000 of these monographs have been "significantly revised and updated." And while more than 500 monographs have been combined or deleted in this print volume, there is an accompanying CD-ROM that archives them, as well as those combined or deleted from the 12th edition. Each entry has the title of the compound, its Chemical Abstracts registry number and name, alternative names or trademarks, the molecular formula and weight, the percentage of composition and other chemical information including literature references. In addition each entry has structural diagrams, physical data for the compound, derivative compound, use and therapeutic category. A section of organic name reactions lists those chemical reactions that have "come to be recognized and referred to by name within the chemistry community." In addition, there is a list of chemical abstract registry numbers, as well as finding aids including the therapeutic category and biological index, the formula index and the name index. There is also a series of supplemental resources

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ranging from a glossary and a chemical terms translator to a list of universal conversion factors and a table of minerals.

In short, the *Merck Index* is a definite addition for any library collection where this type of information is in demand. Those interested in the online version can visit <http://www.merckbooks.com/mindex/online.html>.

Below is a guest review of ABC-CLIO's: *The Crusades: an Encyclopedia* edited by Alan V. Murray. The review is by Jared A. Seay, Addlestone Library, College of Charleston.

The 11th century summons of Pope Urban II to the knights of Europe to "liberate" their fellow Christians in the Holy Land began a religion fueled struggle of which the current conflict in the Middle East is an enduring descendant. Edited by Alan V. Murray, *The Crusades: an Encyclopedia* (2006, 1576078620 \$385) is the first major reference work of its kind and size to cover "the most influential religious movements of the Middle Ages." This four volume set published by ABC-CLIO encompasses the entire "crusade movement from its beginnings in the 11th century through the early modern period, including crusades to the Holy Land, Iberia, Greece, Eastern Europe, the Baltic region, and elsewhere." Indeed, what struck me while reading through the well written, detailed entries of these volumes was how the idea of "crusade" was by no means restricted to the liberation of the Holy Land or to even to non-Christians. Though initially called by Pope Urban II in 1095 to free the Holy Land of infidels, crusade — the idea of going to war to eradicate heretics and/or infidels — was increasingly summoned by kings and popes in every corner of Christendom. Crusades were called against other Christians with most of the major wars for the next 500 years started by those in power to stamp out perceived heresies (even the Norman conquest of England in 1066 was under a papal banner).

The *Crusades: an Encyclopedia* is comprehensive in its approach and covers many concepts, terms, details and matters related to the idea of crusade in medieval thought. The first volume contains a chronology of the crusades, a "Principle Narrative and Legal Sources for the Crusades" and a very useful and extensive 18-page introduction to the crusades, which I would recommend to any student wanting initial background information on the subject. There is also an appendix of "Plans of Castles in Frankish Greece and Cyprus." The last volume contains a section called "Texts and Documents." These are primary documents which include letters to and from crusaders, kings, and clergy, as well as royal reports, deeds, chronicles, and crusade songs and ballads. This four volume set has over 1,000 signed alphabetical entries which each have bibliographical references. They include translated texts on individual

crusades, rulers, places, people, institutions, and chronologies of expeditions. There are also 54 maps, numerous period paintings and modern photographs of battle sites and castles. Although the maps included are well done, I would have like to have seen more of them as geography plays such a significant role in this story. Each volume contains a complete index to the entire set as well as a ten-page general bibliography.

This encyclopedia gives excellent coverage and depth to its topic. The introduction and the articles give good background, as well

as detailed information on the major players, places, and events. The general and article specific bibliographies, as well as the primary documents, offer scholarly access to deeper research on this influential period of history. *The Crusades: an Encyclopedia* would be a worthy addition to the reference shelves of any public or academic library. 🌱

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