

ing racism; and this reading matter is in great demand in the libraries. A few of the colleges are developing special collections and are helping white and colored patrons to obtain reliable and valid information on the race.

Negro education must be made realistic. The library stands in an excellent position to assist the student in obtaining an

understanding of the dual world in which he lives. It can help him to acquire techniques of adjustment and stability in a world based upon caste due to race and color, while he lives at the same time on the threshold of change, ready to cross into new opportunities for freedom and equality.—*Walter G. Daniel, Howard University Library, Washington, D.C.*

Hispanic Source Materials and Research Organizations

Handbook of Hispanic Source Materials and Research Organizations in the United States. Edited by Ronald Hilton. With a foreword by Herbert J. Priestley. Prepared under the auspices of the Bancroft Library. Toronto, University of Toronto Press, 1942. 1 l., xiv, 441p. Lithographed from typescript.

THIS VOLUME records the results of a tour of the United States by Professor Hilton on a Commonwealth Fund fellowship in 1938 and is necessarily to be used with that date in mind. It is a summary of materials relating to the culture and achievements of the Hispanic peoples at home and abroad, in the old world and the new, as found in libraries, museums, private collections in the United States.

Instructive, stimulating, chastening, challenging, it serves as a friendly and experienced guide, sounding a bugle call for thought as to fitting use of the material here recorded.

It brings to mind thoughts of the homeland and of the early cave dwellers with their primitive wall paintings; of the westward movement of venturesome spirits from Phoenicia, *ex oriente lux*; of Hannibal and his legions, of Roman culture spread to the westward; of the Senecas,

Trajan, other worthies from Hispania; of great invasion waves welding those widely scattered blood and linguistic stocks so firmly and so divergently in a combination at once unified and fiercely individualistic; of the struggle for dominance between Mecca and Rome; of the tremendous influence of the victory of Rome as shown in the life and thought, in the buildings and art; of how that new product of the Far East—paper—was first made in Europe at Jativa; of how slow was the progress of printing and the development of native printers; of the stir in youthful blood as the ships of Henry the Navigator drove through uncharted southern seas; of the spread of the peninsular people over the new-found Western World and the whole of Oceania in that amazing age of discovery; of how Philip the Second and Charles the Fifth ruled and guided and governed so breathtaking a part of the world; of how British and French fought in the peninsula; of the country as a battleground in our own and recent generations; of how a constant scene of pastoral life combined with political and military upheavals to lay before us a tale and record almost without parallel the wide world over; of how commanding are its

figures in literature and art, in craftsmanship and navigation, in the admiration of men of all nations and all times; of a people gentle and cruel, kindly and intolerant, fiercely individualistic and docilely obedient, virile, quick of perception and reaction, at once narrow and cosmic in outlook.

Verily the achievements are great, as also the prospects for the future.

This survey calls for thanks to the fund that made it possible, to the man that carried it through and put the results before us, to the institutions that encouraged and published it.

The Handbook

The emphasis is on the humanities and the arts and social sciences. There are occasional references to the natural sciences but they are far from equal in scope or importance. A supplement is promised, to correct errors in mistaken interpretation, to add new material, and "on the basis of this completed work, a conspectus of the whole field arranged according to subject matter."

The present arrangement is alphabetical by states, Arizona to Wisconsin; followed by "Organizations, etc., without specific location," from "American Historical Association" to "Who's Who in Latin America;" under each state alphabetically according to city or town.

The index gives extensive and satisfactory attention to names of persons and places, touches on some topics, but as a guide to subject matters leaves much to be desired. Basketmakers, for instance, are entered, but not a word for such topics as agriculture, botany, censorship, dances, engraving, finances, folklore or folk art or folk music, graphic arts, the Inquisition, labor, land tenure, mining,

music, navigation, laws, pottery, printing, textiles, race problems, a dozen others that come to mind.

This is not said to complain of the index but rather to call attention to the larger problem the volume poses—namely, the crying need for a study of the source material in this country for research in the whole field of Hispanic life and culture, more especially or more timely in the Latin American field.

This guide is before us. How best is it and the material it records to be used?

It shows plainly and unmistakably how insistent is the demand for a report on and a guide to the guides to and indexes of Hispanic and Latin American material in this country, printed or manuscript.

Good subject guides are available for some libraries, such as the Newberry in Chicago and the public library in New York City. So too guides to particular localities such as the Downs' *Resources of Southern Libraries: A Survey of Facilities for Research* (1938), and *Resources of New York City Libraries* (1942). And Harvard, Cornell, Boston Public, and other libraries have to their credit excellent bulletins, handbooks, catalogs of general and special collections.

Other Sources

The catalogs of the John Carter Brown Library have been a source of help here for a generation and more, so far as printed material is concerned. And in 1928-30 the University of California brought out its two volumes of *Spain and Spanish America in the Libraries of the University of California*, this likewise confined to printed material.

Then we have the *Guide to the Latin American Manuscripts in the University of Texas Library*, compiled by Carlos E.

Castañeda and Jack Autrey Dobbs, issued as Miscellaneous Publications Number 1 of the Committee on Latin American Studies of the American Council of Learned Societies (Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1939); the various W.P.A. guides to the Mexican pamphlets in the Sutro branch of the California State Library at San Francisco; Manuel S. Cardozo's "Guide to the Manuscripts in the Lima Library, Catholic University of America," Cambridge, 1941 (in *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, No. 6).

The New York Historical Society printed in its *Quarterly Bulletin* for January 1944 a summary of "Latin Americana in the Society's Collections," and but few months before that appeared "Books on Latin America and Its Art in the Metropolitan Museum of Art Library," compiled by John B. Montignani (assistant librarian), a classified arrangement of titles of books in this field as of July 31, 1943.

All most commendable, decidedly encouraging. But the point is that nowhere is there in one single, central place a guide to the printed or manuscript guides and material we now have in such widely scattered form and places.

State the situation, and the need for action is spoken at once. No call for discussion. The need is for action.

Another obvious question rises—namely, "What is to be done with this guide or index once it is fashioned and set before us?"

How can the unexplored and undiscovered sections and corners best be studied?

To a certain extent future studies will depend partly on circumstance, partly on fortunate personal or individual leanings or prejudices or interests, partly on healthy

and commendable curiosity, largely on how intelligently these various interests can be guided and controlled.

Is it too much to expect or to hope that some means may be developed or found to sketch in general outlines some of the regions worthy of exploration? To suggest some of the unanswered questions worthy of consideration by seekers after knowledge, by students of art for art's sake, or even by candidates in quest of higher degrees for material or professional advance?

Is it too much to ask if the scholars and investigators blessed with a record of past performance and with a perspective based on years of trial and error can sketch for the younger generation phases of this opportunity for investigation worthy of their attention?

Some of us hope some such friendly or fatherly advice and leading may be at hand.

And now, for an even more specific question:

Grant that the happy time has arrived when we have before us a satisfactory and comprehensive record of source material in this country, have also an effective and sympathetic and stimulating guidance and control of new fields of exploration and new expeditions into and over those fields. What then? Shall we stop, content to view with pride the new piece of fruit? The answer is plain, but not so simple are the means and methods. How note current activities in these fields, current additions to our stock of knowledge?

If I read it correctly the writing on the wall pleads for joint action, for pooling of information, for systematic announcement of information of this kind by such publications as the *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, the *Hispanic*

American Historical Review, the *Inter-American Bibliographical Review*, the *Revista Hispanica Moderna*, the *Revista Iberoamericana* of the Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana, the *Revista Interamericana* of the Instituto de Asuntos Interamericanos, Universidad de Florida, and the other similar publications of the Hispanic peninsula and the Western World.

Comprehensive gathering and systematic publication at regular intervals in one or more journals of this kind will mark a

long stride toward help for research and investigation. It will furnish news about studies in process, about their progress, about the finished results.

It all calls for thought and attention, for the matching of mind with mind. It faced us long ago. The need for solution is now all the more clearly proclaimed by the compilation and appearance of Dr. Hilton's handbook. May action and solution come soon.—*Harry Miller Lydenberg, A.L.A. International Relations Office, Washington, D.C.*

L.C. Subject Headings

Subject Headings Used in the Dictionary Catalogs of the Library of Congress. Fourth edition. Edited by Mary Wilson MacNair. U. S. Government Printing Office, 1943. 2v.

— *Cumulated Supplement, 1941-1943; January 1944 Supplement.* H. W. Wilson Company, 1944. 2 no.

Subject Headings has long been known not only as a guide to the cataloging practice of the Library of Congress but also as a general index to its classification schedules. Publication of the present (fourth) edition, listing subjects and references as of Dec. 31, 1940, is of unusual importance. The first volume conforms to the pattern of previous editions and consists of subjects followed by classification numbers and references to related headings. The second volume lists, for the first time, the "refer from" references under the headings to which they refer. Catalogers have been asking for this special section for many years. It is an invaluable guide and timesaver.

Mary Wilson MacNair, editor of all four editions, has earned the gratitude of

librarians by her devoted labors in this exacting field and by her willingness to take on a heavy additional burden in order to comply with the request of catalogers for the new section. Miss MacNair is known not only for the high quality of her editorial work but also for her impressive contributions to the cataloging of periodicals. Her retirement, recently announced, is a matter of deep regret to the library profession.

Printing of the first edition of the Library of Congress *Subject Headings* was begun in 1909 under the direction of the chief of the Catalog Division, the late James C. M. Hanson, under whose editorship *Catalog Rules, Author and Title Entries* had appeared the previous year. The edition was completed in 1914 under the direction of Charles Martel, who succeeded Mr. Hanson as chief of the Catalog Division; and it was under his supervision that the second edition appeared in 1919, the third in 1928.

David J. Haykin, chief of the Subject Cataloging Division, says in his introduction to the fourth edition: