

FEMINIST COLLECTIONS

A Quarterly of Women's Studies Resources

Special Issue: Women in the U.S. West and Midwest

The Hearts and Voices of Midwestern Prairie Women

Book review by Barbara Handy-Marchello

Not Just White and Protestant: Midwestern Jewish Women

Book review by Susan Sessions Rugh

Beyond Bars and Beds: Thriving Midwestern Queer

Culture Book review by Meg Kavanaugh

Multiple Voices: Rewriting the West

Book review by Mary Neth

The Many Meanings of Difference

Book review by Mary Murphy

Riding Roughshod or Forging New Trails? Two Recent

Works in Western U.S. Women's History

Book review by Katherine Benton

Plus

Videos about ecofeminism

Review of websites on eating disorders

New reference works on women and women's issues

Periodical notes: new feminist periodicals and special issues of other

journals and magazines

Items of note: How downsizing affects women; funding for midlife and older women returning to school; stories of women in science; National Center for Curriculum Transformation resources; and

Computer talk: new email lists, websites, electronic journals, etc.

Feminist Collections

A Quarterly of Women's Studies Resources

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FROM THE EDITORS:

About the time we were noticing a lot of new book titles coming out about the history of women in the U.S. West and Midwest, a local planning committee for University of Wisconsin-Extension was starting to pull together a conference focusing on Midwest women's history. That conference took place in early June and included some really exciting research. There were sessions on the interactions/cultural exchange between missionary women and Dakota women in the Minnesota area; Illinois women in the legal profession around 1869; violations of class, race, and gender expectations by prostitutes in Missouri; Catholic Sisters teaching in public schools in 19th-century Wisconsin; Midwestern women's clubs; Hmong women's history and culture in the Midwest; Twin Cities working women in the early 20th century; the world of Harriet and Dred Scott; and so much more territory was covered in this two-day gettogether. Some sessions and general speakers gave further credence to the view that Midwestern women were actually among the leaders in the second-wave feminist movement of the 1960s and 1970s.

One of the strongly evident newer currents in the history of both the midwestern and western United States is, of course, women's very significant role in both regions and the fact that including them means, once again, not just an "adding on to" but a transformation of the overall history of our nation as we have known it. Another transfiguring shift in our consciousness, however, involves understanding the part women of different cultures have played in our developing national identity, from the huge impact contact with white settlers had on American Indian women's lives and the changes in white culture wrought by that contact, to the two-way influence on and by Chinese women, Black women, Jewish women, Mexican women, and others of various ancestries who became part of the mix that evolved in this country. Lesbians and gays, too, of course, have been part of this history.

The books reviewed in this issue examine that diversity; in some of them, the women speak in their own words. Our history continues to unfold, and as we move toward that day in the early part of the next century when people of color will become the majority in these United States, our national consciousness will of necessity continue to evolve. It's interesting to imagine what future historians will record of this era – will we have been able to enlarge our perspective as a nation enough to transform the image/story into something broader and more flexible than it has been? As they say, only time will tell. Meanwhile, we hope you enjoy the reviews here as they nudge away at the edges (or cores) of our perceptions.

◆◆ P. H.W. and L.S.



NEXT ISSUE:

Reviews on:

Contemporary women of Africa; Women of twentieth-century China;

Women's guides to the Internet; Videos on women and science.

An article on using distance education in Women's Studies.

plus all the regular columns: New Reference Works, Computer Talk, Periodical Notes, Items of Note, and more.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Hearts and Voices of Midwestern Prairie Women

by Barbara Handy-Marchello

Glenda Riley, ed., *PRAIRIE VOICES: IOWA'S PIONEERING WOMEN*. Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1996. 300p. bibl. index. photogs. pap., \$24.95, ISBN 0-8138-2595-4.

Whitney Scott, ed., *PRAIRIE HEARTS: WOMEN VIEW THE MIDWEST*. Crete, IL: Outrider Press, 1996. 208p. pap., \$14.95, ISBN 0-9621-0393-4. (104 East Steger Rd., Suite C-3, Crete, IL 60417-1362)

 $m{P}$ rairie Hearts and Prairie Voices assume the power of place in shaping women's experience. Yet place actually forms a minor link in the creation of these collections of women's personal writings. Reading the two books in tandem provides an opportunity to assess historians' assertion that gender is historically situated. Indeed, each book, blind to the other, comes near to boring the reader by confining the selections to a geographic area. Considered together, the changes wrought in women's lives by time's passage prove far more interesting than the effects of place.

Glenda Riley is a top-notch historical researcher with years of experience researching Iowa women's history. Prairie Voices, her collection of memoirs, diaries, and letters, represents primarily educated white women of various levels of the middle class in the nineteenth century. However, within this group is a great variety of experience and perspective. Some of these women traveled to Iowa in wagons, lived in precarious situations while "settling," and provided for their families under difficult circumstances. Others, second-generation descendants of the pioneers, had the

advantages of good schools, medical care, roads, and neighbors. The book opens with the much anthologized 1840s diary of Kitturah Penton Belknap, whose skills, confidence, and spiritual peace can still serve as fundamental goals for modern women. With simple material needs, but few resources, she explains how she completed necessary work in partnership with her husband or neighboring women, how she earned money, and how she established a respected place for herself in the community. The book concludes with Dr. Jennie McCowen's summary and analysis of women's work in Iowa in 1880. Her list includes physicians, librarians, scientists, professors, telephone operators, secretaries, farmers, and bankers. McCowen notes that though many women worked in partnership with husbands and fathers and may not have been counted as employed persons in the census, they were nonetheless important to the state's economy.

Between these two documents are fifteen other pieces. While the focus is on the lives of women writers, they occasionally reflect upon the experience of American Indians, African Americans, European immigrants (who were carefully distinguished from "Americans"), and of men and boys. The perceptions of racial and gender boundaries were strong in some women's minds, blurred in others. Some of the women defended and justified these boundaries, others challenged them, though their communities did not offer much support for exceptional political positions.

 $oldsymbol{P}_{rairie\ Hearts}$ is a contemporary collection of fifty-nine poems, essays, and short stories. The writers are midwestern women, or women writing about the Midwest. Selections are arranged in alphabetical order by authors' last names, so whatever continuity of thought they may possess is up to the reader to determine. The collection exhibits breadth in the social and political scope of modern midwestern society: urban and rural; Latina, Black, Asian, and white; rich and poor; old and young; educated and only barely so. Pieces about lesbians are notably absent.

While many of these writings seem only accidentally connected to the Midwest, some of the best pieces consciously evaluate life in the region as a geographical and climatic space. The best of these is "Dichotomy" by Joan Shea O'Neal. To those who have lived in the heart of the Midwest, her images of corn, cows, summer heat, and humidity might bear down hard on the spirit. But her well-crafted poem concludes that better climates lack the ancestral connections that keep her rooted in place.

Other pieces present the Midwest as culture. In "No Heartland Here," Nancy Peiffer challenges the Mom-and-apple-pie conception of life in midwestern communities, a notion with historical foundation in some of the more sentimental memoirs in Riley's

collection. Peiffer recognizes that such romanticism hides the "festering boils," "hidden bruises," and "collective anger" of ordinary families.

Prairie Hearts is uneven in quality of writing, but most disturbing is the weakness of so many of the female characters. Too many give in to social expectations, to oppressive men and mothers, and to fear. For instance, Marilyn Coffey's poem "The Men of Nebraska" and Marsha J. Stried's "White Lady" tell of women who are afraid of men they pass on the street. There is no apparent foundation to the fear, just an unbridgeable, and unfortunate, gender gap.

Few of the characters in Prairie Hearts march forthrightly into life, but one who does is the sadly mistaken woman in a story by Kelly Easton. This unfortunate soul will "save the babies" at an AIDS clinic as a corrective to her marriage, which is sinking in a sea of alcohol and futility. She marches, but in the wrong direction. The strongest and most interesting woman in the collection is in Lee Mirand's story, "She Who Wears the Pants." Francine Pearle Taylor is an adolescent reconceived by her mother as a boy (for which her mother has been criticized by a relative) to replace the boy children she has "lost." Francine understands and sympathizes with her mother's neurotic actions and uses the gender switch with its various layers of meaning to reject the behavior of a nice young lady. She "sasses" her meddling aunt as an ill-behaved boy might and thereby releases herself and her mother from the aunt's disapproval.

hough both collections include an editor's introduction, neither provides a strong analysis linking the individual pieces or interpreting them for the reader. Scott might have more successfully arranged the poems and stories thematically to emphasize place, relationships, gender, age, or other of the major ideas that appear in these pieces. Riley's introduction to Prairie Voices, her brief introduction to each memoir, and her conclusion fail to untangle the messages about gender perceptions and the subtleties of nineteenth-century women's political and economic roles. Leaving these tasks to the reader is an unsatisfactory choice. Each book contains such a variety of ideas, approaches to life, and experiences that an insightful editorial analysis would be a useful aid to the reader's understanding.

Though these two books are very different, in reading them together one must note how women's perceptions of significant matters have changed over time. The most striking difference is the emphasis on economic activity in Prairie Voices and on emotion in Prairie Hearts. The pioneer women of Iowa were very successful in their ability to support their families and communities, but had little to say about love and loss. The women of Prairie Hearts, with modern women's greater economic security, dwell on emotion, with little to say about bread-and-butter issues. Time has also changed women's relationship to place. For nineteenth-century pioneers, temperature, rain, rivers, snow, and the flora and fauna of their environs provided both necessary resources and lifethreatening dangers. The twentieth century moves place into the background, where women can choose to focus on it or ignore it altogether.

Individually, each of these books is moderately interesting, but not vital. Together, they carry us across time, exposing the fascinating social and economic strata of women's lives in the nineteently and twentieth centuries.

[Barbara Handy-Marchello is Associate Professor of History at University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, where she researches 19th and 20th-century women's history and maintains (despite being a 20th-century woman) a respectful intimacy with the rivers that run north.]



Miriam Greenwald

Not Just White and Protestant: Midwestern Jewish Women

by Susan Sessions Rugh

Linda Mack Schloff, "AND PRAIRIE DOGS WEREN'T KOSHER": JEWISH WOMEN IN THE UPPER MIDWEST SINCE 1855. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1996. 243p. ill. \$29.95, ISBN 0-87351-337-1; pap., \$14.95, ISBN 0-87351-338-X.

Pushed from Eastern Europe by anti-Semitism and changing economic conditions, more than twenty thousand Jewish immigrants settled in the Upper Midwest in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Half were women. In this volume, the voices of four generations of Jewish women remind us that we need to broaden the history of midwestern women beyond the stereotypical white Protestant wife of the yeoman farmer. Linda Mack Schloff argues that the environment of the Upper Midwest, a region inhabited by relatively few Jews, shaped the experiences of Jewish-American women, and that they in turn influenced their families and communities in a broader fashion.

Essentially a regional history of immigrant women to Minnesota, North and South Dakota, parts of Iowa, and northern Wisconsin from 1890 to the present, the book is aimed at a popular audience. However, it is substantive enough for undergraduate classes in women's, ethnic, and regional history. The whole is attractively designed with liberal use of photographs; each chapter consists of the narrative text, followed by immigrant voices excerpted from family histories, interviews, and letters. As Director of the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest, Schloff could draw upon a rich cache of sources such as family histories, photos, domestic artifacts, and oral interviews. An extensive bibliography supplies documentation. Schloff's writing is clear and engaging, and her prose wears the argument lightly.

According to Schloff, Jewish women "transported, maintained, and transformed" (p.2) Jewish life in four spheres: home, synagogue, work, and community organizations. She lays the groundwork for later analysis by carefully explaining the rigid gender roles accorded Jewish women in traditional shtetl life. The bundles of possessions women carried to the New World held candlesticks and prayer books, but also a cultural baggage the women would unpack in their new environment. While many Jewish families homesteaded, by the 1920s most Jewish families had given up farming to own small businesses in the many small market towns of the Midwest. As farmers' wives or helpers in main street stores, they tried to fit into community life while retaining a separate identity. The vivid voices in the early chapters retell stories of surviving tornadoes, prairie fires, and blizzards.

Schloff argues that domestic tasks tied Jewish women to their religion.

For example, a great deal of cleaning and cooking was necessary for Passover, a holiday vital to maintaining Jewish traditions. Likewise, keeping kosher required two separate sets of dishes, for dairy and meat meals. Faced with the difficulties of finding a kosher butcher, many women on farms and in small towns took the migration as an opportunity to relinquish this sacred tradition. Schloff shrewdly traces a steady process of Americanization (and at the same time, a "kitchen Zionism") by analyzing ritual objects and recipes.

While central to domestic Judaism, women were traditionally marginalized in the synagogue. Women first established their authority outside the home in the benevolent societies auxiliary to the synagogue, then founded their own organizations such as the Women's League for Conservative Judaism and Hadassah (the Women's Zionist Organization of America) in towns throughout the Upper Midwest. As women's philanthropic work became professionalized, the women created an American Judaism "that mixed Jewish tradition with secular national styles of modernity and abundance" (p.168).

Schloff's most original contributions are in her discussion of women's work, bolstered by research in the census records. She hypothesizes that economic conditions were not as harsh in the Midwest as in New York, because fewer women took in boarders and more daughters were allowed to attend school. Their education allowed them to enter white-collar work as bookkeepers, teachers, and social workers. Anti-Semitism forced many to conceal their identities in order to begin their careers. Now that most married Jewish women work full time, less effort can be directed toward the many charitable and educational causes that have benefitted not only Jewish people, but also the wider community in the region's towns and cities.

Schloff convinces us that we cannot understand the ethnic Jewish experience in the Upper Midwest unless we appreciate the role of the Jewish-American woman in that history. Further, the book complements existing scholarship on Jewish American history, which is oriented largely to the urban East Coast. This book should permanently alter the way we view the power of women to maintain

and transform their culture from within.

This reviewer also recommends the accompanying exhibit at the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul (through September 1997), a collaborative effort between that organization and the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest. Recreated scenes depict the Sabbath evening ritual, a kosher kitchen, and the places women found work, and the interactive exhibit offers audio and video presentations (including how to cook gefilte fish). A vast array of objects, from

candlesticks to prayer shawls, conveys the power of domestic Judaism and highlights women's role in bearing, transmitting, and transforming Jewish culture over the past century.

[Susan Sessions Rugh is Assistant Professor of History at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota. She is completing a book on the importance of ethnic culture to family farming in nineteenth-century Illinois. This fall she will be joining the faculty of Brigham Young University.

Beyond Bars and Beds: Thriving Midwestern Queer Culture

by Meg Kavanagh

Karen Lee Osborne and William J. Spurlin, eds., RECLAIMING THE HEART-LAND: LESBIAN AND GAY VOICES FROM THE MIDWEST. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1996. 227p. pap., \$18.95, ISBN 0-8166-2754-1.

Despite the social and historical prominence, influence, and popularity of queer communities in seaboard urban areas, the call to address midwestern queer identities is rapidly emerging in gay and lesbian literary studies. A new, multi-genre collection of queer short fiction, poetry, dramas, memoirs, and essays is devoted to identifying the problematics of narrowly ascribing "queer culture" to certain geographical areas.

Reclaiming the Heartland, edited by Karen Lee Osborne and William J. Spurlin, is an often thoughtful, very inclusive, always moving text reflecting the belief that queer culture — including political activism, liberation sensibility, and personal queer identity—is not by any means limited to

coastal populations. With an introduction by cultural critic and lesbian/gay studies scholar William J. Spurlin, and comprised of literary contributions from other emerging and established writers such as Terri L. Jewell, Kitty Tsui, and Linnea Johnson, Reclaiming the Heartland revisits theories of social and cultural construction of queer identities in a diversifying and refreshing way, this time with full attention to queers born and raised and/or living in midwestern communities for a significant portion of their lives. In essence, this important anthology proves that thriving queer culture does not, in fact, end east of the San Francisco Bay and west of the Delaware River.

Evidence of queer contributions to a previously constructed midwestern culture, and of a revised midwestern cultural landscape due directly to queer intervention, can be found in the anthology. In "Christmas in the Midwest," an eloquent poem by prizewinning Chicago writer Maureen Seaton, a woman recounts bringing a female lover home to meet her parents (having visited her family in the company of male lovers in years past). Received peaceably by her midwestern family, the narrator ponders whether her family's silence should be taken as validation or denial of her chosen relationship:

They made no mention of "here and there." We slept like children in a double bed beneath handmade quilts, trying heroically to stay afloat without their disapproval, the headlights of a straight society to validate us. (p.71)

Also in this anthology are the (more or less) familiar notions of assimilation by queer citizens in mainstream midwestern communities. In the short story "Victims of Circum-

stance" by Indiana native and resident Gary Pool, readers witness the popularity of the gay male owners of a French restaurant being threatened by the couple's attempt to adopt Andrew, a nine-year-old African-American boy. Craig and Jason struggle against the emerging disapproval of a previously supportive community, eventually convincing the adoption agency, court, media, town, and their future son that, as the judge declares, "whether or not homosexuality, as such, is viewed as being encouraged or legitimized through the placement of children for adoption with individuals who are announced homosexuals is totally irrelevant..." (p.94). The mainstream community's original approval and support of Craig and Jason is finally restored, and is further validated through the legal adoption of Andrew.

Illustrated as clearly as cultural assimilation in this anthology is the unapologetic difference of queer desire and experience. For example, poet and fiction writer Diane Williams (a Chicago native and Gurnee, Illinois, resident), in the poignant, descriptive prose of her story "Honey Sister," chronicles the collective desire for Honey, a lesbian new to the Midwest, by a close-knit circle of urban African-American lesbians and their leader, the dominant and defiant Daddy Rae. Another example of queer desire comes from "Boxers," by Joseph Like (a poet who lives in Rockford, Illinois), in which a boxing match between two men is reread and written out with original, erotic charge:

Every hold, now an embrace. Each punch, a reaching out. One head thrown back, one nestled on the other's shoulder. A hand, on the small of the back, slips down silk trunks, the other against the chest hangs on or pushes away. (p.127)

Additional contributions to Reclaiming the Heartland refute the often-spoken criticism that midwestern queers are untouched by political sensibilities, activism, and struggle for liberation. Are the lives and concerns of midwestern queers limited to bars and beds? Hardly! Resistance to oppression is widely illustrated, and resistance goes beyond overt political activism. In "An Interview with Scott McPherson," Owen Keehnen (a regular contributor of interviews to The Wisconsin Light and other midwestern queer newspapers) reveals the political and personal humor that fueled the productivity and artistic/political contributions of his interviewee, a longtime activist and playwright of the acclaimed Marvin's Room:

> OWEN: Do you view life as a black comedy? SCOTT: I view it as black. I don't know if I have a world view as much as I just try to survive. I always felt that if I just wrote seriously without the humor that everyone would say it was bad. If you can be funny and entertain, you can get away with much more. (p.169)

The inclusion of Keehnen's McPherson interview affirms that brilliant artistic capabilities, as well as political awareness, do exist in queer communities that are also midwestern.

The strength and importance of Reclaiming the Heartland comes not only from the fine work of the anthologized writers, but also from the careful editing by Osborne and Spurlin. Their focuses are various; issues considered are plentiful. The midwestern geographical landscape appears with regularity, as backdrop, foreground, influence, homeland, and metaphor for midwestern queers.

[Meg Kavanagh, originally from Waterloo, Wisconsin, recently received a bachelor's degree in English and Women's Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She will be an MFA candidate in poetry at Sarah Lawrence College in the Fall.



Miriam Greenwald

Multiple Voices: Rewriting the West

by Mary Neth

Anne M. Butler and Ona Siporin, *UNCOMMON COMMON WOMEN: ORDI-NARY LIVES OF THE WEST*. Logan: Utah State University Press, 1996. 138p. bibl. photogs. \$34.95, ISBN 0-87421-209-x; pap., \$21.95, ISBN 0-87421-210-3.

Elizabeth Jameson and Susan Armitage, eds., WRITING THE RANGE: RACE, CLASS AND CULTURE IN THE WOMEN'S WEST. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1997. 625p. bibl. \$45.00, ISBN 0-8061-2929-8; pap., \$21.95, ISBN 0-8061-2952-2.

In Uncommon Common Women, Anne Butler and Ona Siporin's purpose is to "lure our audiences toward a larger and deeper knowledge of western women, to a perception of the race, class, and gender forces that shaped their lives" (p.3). Although the intended audience is not the same, Elizabeth Jameson and Susan Armitage's edited collection, Writing the Range, has a similar goal. Each book seeks to extend our understanding of the diversity of western women and charts new ground. Butler and Siporin's book is a work of public history, experimenting with the narrative forms of the historian and the storyteller to create an accessible introduction to the ways individual lives of ordinary women connect to the history of the region. Jameson and Armitage have collected the most current research on racial ethnic women in the West to make it widely available to scholars, thus taking an important step toward making western U.S. history inclusive and truly multicultural.

Uncommon Common Women had its origin in a collaboration between historian Butler and storyteller Siporin for public presentations. They decided to translate this oral experiment in history and storytelling to the written page and added a third element, the visual, with photographs.

The book blends historical background with stories of individual women. Arranged topically, there are sections on prairie women, immigrant women, women of the schoolhouse, women criminals, and women at forts and in cities. Each chapter alternates historical background, "stories" analyzed by the historian to illustrate larger trends or to explode myths about western women, and "stories" created by the storyteller imagining the interior perspectives of historical women. In most cases, the three work together well.

One effective example is the chapter on Women of the Criminal World. The chapter begins with an overview of the ways women ran afoul of the law, from "drunk and disorderly conduct" to "violent felonies." Next the popular myth of the beautiful "dance hall girl" is peeled away to look at the realities of prostitution. Many prostitutes began at the ages of twelve or thirteen, were married to men who expected the wages of prostitution to supplement family income, made little money because men did not want to pay them well and because overhead, such as paying off officials, was high, and died at young ages because of the violence and health risks that accompanied the job. The story that follows tells of the long, elaborate dreams of Manuela for

affection, comfort, safety, and fulfilling work, punctuated by a repeated chorus of violence: "The guard slapped her hard across the face. He was pouring beer over her. 'Bitch,' He spat the word at her. 'When I'm pokin' a woman, I want her to pay attention.' He was one of the mean ones" (p.97). The chapter concludes with the story of conditions in western prisons where female prisoners, most often women of color, were beaten, sexually abused, and endured harsh physical labor and poor health conditions. The text is complemented with photographs of prostitutes and prisoners, placing specific, very human faces alongside the stories of pain, death, and survival.

The book is on shakiest ground when it moves from the context of particular lives to more general historical descriptions. Sometimes these descriptions are too general. For example, the historical background on prairie women focuses on the weather and the sod house – worthy topics, but so vaguely described that those familiar with the landscape or the many fictional, autobiographical, and diary accounts of it by women will find it simplistic. Sometimes materials appear in odd contexts. For example, the book places political organizations under the section on "women in the schoolhouse," while women in the Populist party are, rather inappropriately, included under "immigrant women." Although the authors intend for the photographs to be a third part of their experimental interweaving of narratives, and the photographs selected are wonderful, they are neither. identified in the text nor numbered to correspond to the identifications in the appendix.

Sometimes unusual juxtapositions do add new layers to our understanding of a particular experience. For example, the discussion of teachers in pioneer schools is followed by the story of a former teacher who lived on Antelope Island (in Great Salt Lake, Utah). The story beautifully unfolds as

to how this woman learned about the landscape and "taught" its wonders to her children:

She gave them the curlews, the forty fresh springs on the island, the Farmington Canyon rocks (2.7 billion years old); she gave them the bobcats, and the muledeer, the willits [sic], eared grebs [sic], and all the owls: long- and short-eared, barn owls, great horned owls swooping low over their heads, covering the land with their shadow.... Alice showed them the stuff to make their own stories. (pp.76-77)

Despite the book's limitations, stories like these are entertaining and vivid and should indeed "lure" a general reader to travel deeper into the history of ordinary women in the West.

he goal of Jameson and Armitage is to "make more materials available on the histories of racial ethnic women, so that we might imagine new ways to see the past" (p.14). That places this collection and the history of diverse women in the West at the planting stage; the seeds are being sewn so that more of us can tend them and all can reap their harvest at a later season. The array of materials in this collection shows us how many are toiling in the field of western women's history, but, as is usually true at this early stage, the quality of the articles is uneven and there is no conceptual framework clearly linking all of the work. Nevertheless, the book provides useful information and new approaches for scholars and teachers who hope to incorporate the lives of diverse women in their research and classrooms. The central theme of the collection is movement and migration and the cross-cultural contact that brought together groups with different ideas about – and social organizations of – gender. After a short section of historiography and theory, the book is organized chronologically with

sections on the colonial frontiers of the Spanish, resistance to the conquest by the United States in the mid-nineteenth century, late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century migrations, women organizing for empowerment, the role of popular culture in shaping identities, and migrations to urban areas in the period after World War II.

Other themes appear across the divides of this chronology. First is the collision of different gender systems as cultural groups met in the West. Ramona Ford sets the interpretive framework for this theme by taking apart the varying components of a culture's gender system – such as inheritance, kinship patterns, religious ideals, the division of labor and control of resources, and the flexibility of "gender" itself – that assign women



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their status in that culture. Her article looks at diversity among Native American tribes as well as examining how Native American women's status was generally changed by European conquest. Vicki Ruiz looks more specifically at the process of cultural exchanges by studying the Houchen Settlement House in El Paso. Her

complex analysis points out the mixed messages offered by the missionaries and the active sifting of ideas by the "clients." While the mission-sponsored settlement provided crucial social services for the Mexican community that were not supported by white El Paso, it also tried to Americanize and Protestantize them. Their programs offered contradictions such as recitals featuring European folk dances and costumes and the city's only bilingual kindergarten. Mexican women embraced the Settlement Houses's educational and health care services but rejected its romanticized view of the "benefits" of becoming "Americanized" because they, unlike the missionaries, understood how its promise was limited by race and class.

A second theme that cuts across

chronological boundaries is the role of sexuality and gender in creating ideologies of "race" and problematizing ethnic identification. Peggy Pascoe shows that laws intended to limit "interracial" sex and marriage in the West illuminate how muddy, changing, and socially constructed concepts of "race" were. For example, at one point laws forbade whites to marry "Mongolians," a term used to lump together Chinese and Japanese (but it was under debate whether Filipinos fit into this category or the category of "Malays"). Other articles elucidate how the unbalanced sex ratio (far more men than women) of much of the colonial and frontier period shaped

attitudes toward "inter-racial" marriage and battles over who would control women as sex partners. James Brooks analyzes female captivity and slavery in the Spanish Southwest and illustrates how captive women attempted to improve their conditions through the ties sex and children could create in their new communities. In contrast, Albert Hurtado emphasizes the risks non-European women faced in their sexual contacts with soldiers of the California missions and, later, prospectors of the California gold rush, and through the slave trade associated with the Trading Companies of the Plains. Meetings occurring in the context of conquest were fraught with violence and rape, economic exploitation, and disease. Many other articles explore how women of conquered peoples were oppressed by the new systems of racial difference that were introduced, yet attempted to resist these systems.

A final theme that runs throughout these articles is the possibility of cultural continuity and adaptation as well as the creation of new identities that were "in-between" or borrowed from different cultures to create new gender/ethnic identities. Irish women perpetuated a sense of Irish identity even in a mixed-ethnic mining community, a Japanese woman used a traditional form of Japanese poetry to express her understanding of her new country, and southern African American migrants to California used blues clubs to preserve a sense of place and culture. Women frequently crossed boundaries and created new gender identities. In the 1930s, Alice Dickerson Montemayor, of Irish and Mexican heritage, created a Chicana feminist voice within Laredo's League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC). Valerie Matsumoto explores how, in the 1920s and 1930s, Nisei (second-generation Japanese) women explored their own definitions of being "new women" and Japanese-American, which integrated new ideas of gender from United States' popular culture, compared their experiences with second-generation European ethnics, and still challenged racial discrimination and prejudice. While most of these articles explore mixing definitions of womanhood, some women sought to escape the barriers of gender or sexuality by passing as men. Those women who failed were arrested for violating laws that prohibited women from wearing

men's clothing, though women who cross-dressed in the company of male lovers or relatives were more likely to escape punishment than those women who chose female sexual partners, whether dressed as men or women.

The voices of the women in these stories and in the analyses of such talented scholars will truly "lure readers into a deeper understanding of the complexities of gender and race and challenge the narratives of women's history that ignore the West and those of western history that ignore the diversity of these women who lived there.

[Mary Neth is associate professor of history at the University of Missouri-Columbia. She is the author of Preserving the Family Farm: Women, Community and the Foundations of Agribusiness in the Midwest, 1900-1940 (Johns Hopkins University Press).]

WISCONSIN BIBLIOGRAPHIES IN WOMEN'S STUDIES

A new title recently added to our series of topical bibliographies is NEW REFERENCE WORKS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES 1995-1997, compiled by Women's Studies Librarian Phyllis Holman Weisbard. The eighteen-page bibliography lists new reference books that have come to our attention from September 1995 through July 1997. Many of the titles have been reviewed in the "New Reference Works in Women's Studies" column in Feminist Collections.

WOMEN AND SCIENCE: ISSUES AND RESOURCES has recently been updated through June 1997. Originally compiled in 1991 by Susan Searing, then Women's Studies Librarian, the bibliography has had numerous new resources added by Phyllis Holman Weisbard, bringing it to its current thirty-five-page length. Both these bibliographies as well as other titles in the series "Wisconsin Bibliographies in Women's Studies" are available on our office's website (http://www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/WomensStudies/) but single print copies are also available by request to those without Web access. Our address is: Women's Studies Librarian, 430 Memorial Library, 728 State St., Madison, WI 53706; email: wiswsl@doit. wisc.edu.

The Many Meanings of Difference

by Mary Murphy

Caroline James, *NEZ PERCE WOMEN IN TRANSITION*, 1877-1990. Moscow, ID: University of Idaho Press, 1996. 245p. bibl. index. \$49.95, ISBN 0-89301-188-6.

Judy Yung, UNBOUND FEET: A SOCIAL HISTORY OF CHINESE WOMEN IN SAN FRANCISCO. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 1995. 395p. bibl. index. \$45.00, ISBN 0-520-08866-2; pap., \$15.95, ISBN 0-520-08867-0.

Scholars of western American women have pioneered redefining the boundaries of race in American history. Not content to let the biracial divide of Black and white dominate analysis of American race relations, these historians have produced an array of works portraying the American West as a racial meeting ground and marketplace and placing gender at the center of a variety of key interactions. Native Americans, Asians, African Americans, and European Americans met, traded, fought, married, hated, and loved in the prairies, mountains, coastal plains, and cities of the West; women played crucial roles in all these processes. In two recent works, Caroline James and Judy Yung offer further evidence of the racial and cultural complexity of women's experience in the American West.

Caroline James's book, Nez Perce Women in Transition, 1877-1990, is a richly illustrated, oversize volume whose text is based on interviews with forty-six Nez Perce women, ranging in age from twenty to ninety, one-third of whom live on or near the reservation. Each is identified by name and photograph at the front of the book, but throughout the text only a narrator's age is provided as context for her story.

James desired to add to "the history of Nez Perce women" and provide "a photographic and written record for future generations" (p.1). Aimed at a general audience of non-Indians as well as the Nez Perce, the book takes an encyclopedic approach. James's prose frames women's commentary on topics such as work, life cycle, travel and trade, involvement in war and politics, religion, education, and contemporary social issues.

The women apparently spoke frankly about public and private matters, believing in the project's power to draw attention to the significance of Nez Perce women's lives and to record not only their words, but the voices of the past. As one woman states, "I hope readers will realize that this book is first hand information. We remember something from our great-grandmothers, grandmothers, and mothers..." (p.229).

The first-person testimony and photographs are the strengths of this Photographs illustrate aspects of Nez Perce women's lives from the late nineteenth century to the present: gathering camas roots, working hides, fixing and serving meals, caring for families, participating in ceremonies. Among the most interesting are those from the early twentieth century that reveal the tensions, pressures, and accommodations of reservation life. A picture of Lapwai school children, ca. 1892, shows three small girls with cropped hair, clothed in Anglo-American dresses, playing with toy

tipis, dolls, and a cradle board. New to many readers will be the photos of the Fort Lapwai Indian Sanatorium for tubercular patients. Scholars have not given tuberculosis the attention paid to earlier devastating epidemics such as smallpox.

This admirable volume suffers in two respects. James has little sense of chronology, which is unfortunate, since she attempts to describe the changes that contact with white society, the introduction of a money economy, and Christianity had on the Nez Perce. There are few dates in the text to help a reader follow historical process, and everything before contact with European American society is relegated to "traditional" culture, portrayed as an ageless, unchanging, and golden past. The second problem aggravates the first. The text of Nez Perce Women often has a snapshot quality. Paragraphs leap from topic to topic without transition and often without evident connection.

Despite its flaws, this is an important volume, for few tribal women have been the focus of such research and reportage, and it provides rich insights into the lives of Nez Perce women. While the lack of a compelling analysis may disappoint some, this is a volume with something to please everyone. It is best savored as a scrapbook, full of vivid images and first person-narratives offering a lens to Native American history from Indian women's viewpoint.

Judy Yung's splendid history of Chinese women in San Francisco, Unbound Feet, also examines the nature of social change among a group of racial ethnic women in the American West. Unbound Feet analyzes the lives of Chinese immigrant women and their daughters from the arrival of the first Chinese women in the midnineteenth century through World War II. An epilogue briefly addresses the



post-war period, framed in the context of Yung's own family.

Yung chose to use footbinding, though it was not widely practiced in the United States, as a "symbol of women's subjugation and subordination"(p.7). This works beautifully as her study moves fluidly back and forth between China and the U.S. during the period women sought to unbind their feet in a variety of ways. Yung explicates how the social and economic changes in each country shaped sojourners' lives. She demonstrates how the patriarchy of China and racism of the United States made life difficult for women in each country - a potential "push" to migration while the opportunities of America and the loyalty to Chinese family "pulled" them to both places. Depending on conditions in either country and individual family situations, Chinese and Chinese American women crisscrossed the Pacific, seeking the best lives for themselves and their children.

Almost all of the first female immigrants from China to the U.S. became prostitutes in California. Sold by their families, tricked, or stolen, most worked under brutal conditions. America welcomed the labor of Chinese immigrants, but had no desire to embrace them as permanent citizens. Restrictions based on race limited the number of women who could enter the U.S. and made creation of an immigrant community difficult. This is a frequently told tale. The strength of Yung's book is that she also charts the development of San Francisco's Chinatown and the changing role women played in its social and economic environment

through World War II. Her investigation reveals the transformative effect of three forces: Chinese nationalism, Christianity, and acculturation into American life.

Protestant missionaries, seeking to "rescue" Chinese women from the repression and abuse of men, did not encourage feminism, but they advocated education, respect for women, and companionate marriage - none of which was valued by nineteenthcentury Chinese culture. The constant flow of people and information between the U.S. and China meant that the revolutionary movements to modernize China had their effect upon Asian Americans as well. Women's liberation was a key part of the Chinese revolution, and women in San Francisco frequently legitimated their steps into public life by referencing progressive movements in China. American-born women were more affected by acculturation to American values. They often attended public schools, learned English, worked outside the home; they founded the first service clubs, joined labor unions, worked in nightclubs, and in many ways had the most difficult time dealing with dual loyalties.

Yung employs a combination of statistical evidence, material from contemporary newspapers and publications, reminiscences, and oral history in a masterly narrative that is sensitive to differences in experience shaped by class and generation. While vivid anecdotes illuminate trends, she never generalizes from anecdote to universal experiences. For instance, in discussing the ways immigrant women were bound by choice and culture to their homes, she cites the example of Law

Shee Low, who "went out so seldom that one pair of shoes lasted her ten years" (p.82). Analyzed in context, however, Law had more choices than she would in China: her work benefited her family; she had power in her household and raised children who cared for her in old age. Unbound Feet

is full of material teaching us that models of western feminism are not applicable to all groups.

In graceful prose, rich with individual stories and compelling evidence, Judy Yung has given us a great gift, a portrait of a complex community of women who exercised power and choice within the constraints of two cultures that only reluctantly accepted the rights of women.

Read side by side, Nez Perce Women in Transition and Unbound Feet remind us that it is not easy to construct a new history of western women. These detailed studies of racial ethnic women force us to realize that capitalism, religion, and citizenship mean different things in the context of different cultures. For example, among the Nez Perce the introduction of Christianity often reduced women's power and status within the culture. In San Francisco's Chinatown, Christianity provided women with the tools to challenge a repressive gender system. It will be some time before a comprehensive history of western U.S. women graces our bookshelves, but when it does it will owe a great debt to these two volumes.

[Mary Murphy is an Associate Professor of History at Montana State University, Bozeman, where she teaches American women's history and the history of the American West. She is author of Mining Cultures: Men, Women, and Leisure in Butte, 1914-41 (University of Illinois Press, 1997).]

Riding Roughshod or Forging New Trails? Two Recent Works in Western U.S. Women's History

by Katherine Benton

Patricia Riley Dunlap, *RIDING ASTRIDE: THE FRONTIER IN WOMEN'S HISTORY*. Denver: Arden Press, 1995. 193p. bibl. index. \$26.50, ISBN 0-912869-17-8; pap., \$18.95, ISBN 0-912869-18-6.

Brigitte Georgi-Findlay, *THE FRONTIERS OF WOMEN'S WRITING:* WOMEN'S NARRATIVES AND THE RHETORIC OF WESTWARD EXPANSION. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1996. 349p. bibl. index. \$45.00, ISBN 0-8165-1596-4; pap., \$19.95, ISBN 0-8165-1597-2.

Charmed by Belle Starr? Awed by Oregon Trail-traversing pioneers? So, too, are the purveyors of western U.S. women's history. This field has emerged in the last twenty years in part as an attempt to correct the male biases of western history and the eastern biases of women's history. Given these important tasks and no shortage of colorful characters, western women's history has the potential to become an important and innovative discipline. Some recent work has reflected that promise, though much remains mired in stereotype or unintentional class and race bias. While the best challenges scholars from varied disciplines to ask further questions and to rethink previous assumptions, the less useful tends to be old-fashioned, adulatory, and analytically thin. Patricia Riley Dunlap's Riding Astride: The Frontier in Women's History looks backward at the older themes of western historiography, while Brigitte Georgi-Findlay's The Frontiers of Women's Writing: Women's Narratives and the Rhetoric of Western Expansion promises to be one of the most important analytical works yet for scholars interested in

gender and the West. An analysis of the two books can serve, then, as a survey of the state of the field.

Patricia Riley Dunlap, an instructor of American history and the history of American women at Northern Virginia Community College, has attempted in Riding Astride to write a popular history of "eccentric western women," whose "extreme and militant behavior" distinguished them from their supposedly more genteel eastern sisters (p.ix). Dunlap's central aim is to include women in the century-old Turner thesis, which argued that the frontier fostered a rugged individualism and democratic values among its hardworking pioneers. Never mind that Turner was ignoring just about everyone except midwestern white male farmers when he formulated this thesis (which is why so many western historians have tried to reject his framework). Claims Dunlap, "Although Turner may not have considered the impact of the frontier experience on women or minorities, his theory fits them just fine" (p.162).

Dunlap's neo-Turnerian argument focuses less on the eastern-bred

pioneers than on their first-generation western daughters, and, occasionally, the indigenous women of the region. Because they were bred in the wideopen West, argues Dunlap, these women often harbored eccentricities and failed to "conform to protocol" (p.xii). Not content merely to chronicle the fascinating adventures of female gamblers, entrepreneurs, stagecoach robbers, and cross-dressers, Dunlap offers up a bold thesis that grants huge significance to exceptional western women. These "'peculiar' women...transformed American culture," she proclaims. "....The very fact that they refused to conform made them the initiators of women's rights in this country" (p.xii).

This is quite a daring claim - for one thing, it flies in the face of conventional wisdom in most women's historiography - so one might reasonably expect that Dunlap would take care to present ample evidence and to address opposing viewpoints. But she doesn't. Riding Astride is arranged in brief, breezy vignettes separated by section breaks, and the author makes little attempt to connect disparate material. Because Dunlap chooses to let the vignettes stand alone without analyzing the connections between them, she fails to construct a coherent argument. As a result, she leaves the reader with more questions than answers, rendering her audacious thesis unconvincing.

Granted, Riding Astride is written for a popular audience, but that does not excuse Dunlap from backing up her unusual claims. Certainly, an "outsider" can offer a fresh perspective on old scholarly assumptions, as Dunlap herself occasionally does. Her discussion of menstruation and child-bearing, for example, vividly highlights the physical challenges western women faced, and reminds historians not to ignore the material conditions of women's lives. Still, there remains the

question of Dunlap's larger argument. As a popular history, the book's rather thin evidence and neglect of key works need not condemn it to failure. Having said this, it seems to me that the distinction between popular and academic writing should be more about style and evidence than about argument. The suggestion that western eccentrics – be they prostitutes, gunslingers, or best-selling authors created the first women's rights movement is downright misleading, particularly if directed at a popular audience, who might not know the broader context of nineteenth-century women's political organizing in the abolition and social reform movements. Ironically, one of Dunlap's best chapters chronicles the life of Abigail Duniway, an early Oregon suffragist, who, one might argue, was representative, not exceptional, in the national history of women's rights campaigns. Though peppered with intriguing anecdotes such as Duniway's, Riding Astride never rises above its analytical shortcomings.

While Dunlap unsuccessfully tries to retrofit Turner's thesis, Brigitte Georgi-Findlay applies innovative new theories to western women's history. Georgi-Findlay, a German literary scholar, incorporates theories from several disciplines (including American studies, feminist criticism, and colonial studies) into a well-researched, thoroughly contextualized analysis of western women's writing, both public and private, from the 1830s until the early twentieth century. In her introduction, Georgi-Findlay explains that she began her project looking for a female counter-fantasy to the "mythical status" accorded westward expansion, which "has been encoded as a male activity" (p.ix). But she soon discovered the contradictions inherent in western women's writing. The Frontiers of Women's Writing, she asserts, lie between the simultaneous

projects of rejecting masculinist discourse and of reinforcing a racially encoded, colonial enterprise. Thus Susan Magoffin (an early traveler on the Santa Fe Trail) dissents from the calculated instrumentalism with which her male companions view the landscape at the same time that she bolsters claims of racial superiority with her disgusted observations of an Indian man who was "ugly as sin" (p.92). Such rhetoric served as "an instrument of cultural and social control and order imposed on western disorder," which reflected Anglocentric biases as much as male mythmaking did (p.xii). Georgi-Findlay concludes that, in the American westering enterprise as well as its simultaneous mythification, Anglo women writers occupy an uneasy middle ground between oppressor and oppressed. "Discourses of femininity," in other words, "complicate women writers' access to an imperial voice" (p.xiii). The persistent tension in these women's writing, Georgi-Findlay concludes, is a sign of their "unstable positioning" in a frontier myth, which is essentially a colonial discourse (p.xi).

The Frontiers of Women's Writing is organized both topically and chronologically, beginning in the 1830s with the regional writings of early women novelists and the female diarists of the Oregon Trail, proceeding to the mid- to late-nineteenthcentury recollections of army wives and tourist tracts of bourgeois ladies. and concluding with the sometimes self-deprecating accounts of turn-ofthe-century Indian missionaries. Georgi-Findlay is remarkably successful at showing recurring themes, change over time, and distinctions between genres. She also impressively incorporates historical context into her textual analysis. Georgi-Findlay's assessment of Indian missionaries' writing, to name just one example, takes into account a broad social

picture: in the late nineteenth century, even educated women had few professional opportunities, and there is a certain irony in their being sent out to "civilize" heathen peoples, at the moment when Frederick Jackson Turner (among others) is lamenting the closing of the frontier. Nearly all of Georgi-Findlay's conclusions are carefully grounded and appear right on the mark.

Because Georgi-Findlay taps several sources of theory. The Frontiers of Women's Writing can be dense reading; still, her careful explanations should keep it accessible to readers in a wide range of disciplines. Georgi-Findlay's use of both theory and historical context lends depth to her analysis, and her bibliography is a veritable treasure trove, making the work a handy resource. The insights offered by the book's multi-disciplinary analysis promise to infuse western women's history with new energy, and The Frontiers of Women's Writing could easily become a pathbreaking work in the field. While Dunlap's Riding Astride looks backward at where western history began, Georgi-Findlay's The Frontiers of Women's Writing offers western women's history a multidisciplinary model for the future.

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Additional Recent and Forthcoming Titles on Women in the U.S.

West and Midwest (limited, for space reasons, to 1996-1997 titles)

Army Wives on the American Frontier: Living By the Bugles by Anne Bruner Eales. Johnson Books, 1996. Building and Breaking Families in the American West by Glenda Riley. University of New Mexico Press, 1996. By Grit and Grace: Eleven Women Who Shaped the American West ed. by Glenda Riley and Richard W. Etulain. Fulcrum, October 1997. Capturing Women: The Manipulation of Cultural Imagery in Canada's Prairie West by Sarah A. Carter McGill-Queen's University Press, November 1997.

Contented Among Strangers: Rural German-speaking Women and Their Families in the Nineteenth-Century Midwest by Linda Schelbitzki Pickle. University of Illinois Press, 1996. Cowgirls by Candace Savage. Celestial Arts, 1996.

Daughters of the West by Anne Seagraves. Wesanne Publications, 1996.

Dreams of Glory: Women of the Old West by Larry D. Underwood.
Dageforde Publ., 1996.
Field of Vision by Lisa Knopp.
University of Iowa Press, 1996.
Gold Rush Women by Claire Rudolf Murphy. Alaska Northwest Books, 1997.

Halfway Home: A Granddaughter's Biography by Mary Logue. Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1996.

Heart of the Circle: Photographs of Native American Women by Edward

S. Curtis; ed. by Sara Day. Pomegranate Artbooks, 1996.

Heart of the Trail: The Stories of Eight Wagon-Train Women by Mary Barmeyer O'Brien. Falcon Press, 1997.

"I Do!": Courtship, Love, and Marriage on the American Frontier: A Glimpse at America's Romantic Past Through Photographs, Diaries, and Journals, 1715-1915 by Cathy Luchetti. Crowne Trade, 1996. The Important Things of Life: Women, Work, and Family in Sweetwater County, Wyoming, 1880-

Nebraska Press, 1997.

In Search of Susanna by Suzanne L.
Bunkers. University of Iowa Press,

1929 by Dee Garceau. University of

Issei Women: Echoes from Another Frontier by Eileen Sunada Sarasohn. Pacific Books, 1997.

Leaning Into the Wind: Women Write from the Heart of the West ed. by Linda M. Hasselstrom et al. Houghton Mifflin/Jaffe, 1997.

Mamie's Children: Three Generations of Prairie Women by Judy Schultz. Red Deer College Press, 1997.

A Mine of Her Own: Woman Prospectors in the American West, 1850-1950 by Sally Zanjani. University of Nebraska Press, 1997.

Native Women by Charles L. Convis. Athena Institute, 1996.

Organized Womanhood: Cultural Politics in the Pacific Northwest,

1840-1920 by Sandra Haarsager. University of Oklahoma Press, October 1997.

Pioneer Women by Charles L. Convis. Pioneer Press, 1997.

Pioneer Women: The Lives of Women on the Frontier by Linda Peavy and Ursula Smith. Smithmark, 1996. Shadows Illuminated: Women in a Rural Culture by Teresa A. Jaakkola. Stearns County Historical Society, 1996.

Stories That Shape Us: Contemporary Women Write About the West by Teresa Jordon and James R. Hepworth. Norton, 1996.

Walking the Twilight II: Women Writers of the Southwest ed. by Kathryn Wilder. Northland Publishing/distr. Bookpeople, 1996.

Why I Can't Read Wallace Stegner and Other Essays: A Tribal Voice by Elizabeth Cook-Lynn. University of Wisconsin Press, 1996.

Women and Warriors of the Plains: The Pioneer Photography of Julia E. Tuell by Dan Aadland. Macmillan, 1996.

Women in the Mines: Portraits of Life and Work, 1914-1994 by Marat Moore. Twayne, 1996.

The Women's Great Lakes Reader ed. by Victoria Brehm. Consortium, November 1997.

[Spinsters Ink also has a work in progress, on women of color from the Upper Midwest as the next century approaches.]



Flipping the Coin of Conquest: Ecofeminism and Paradigm Shifts

by Deb Hoskins

ADAM'S WORLD. 1989. 19 mins. Producer: Margaret Pettigrew. Director: Donna Read. Rental: \$50 (video). Sale: \$410 (16mm film); \$195 (video). National Film Board of Canada, 220 Hollywood Ave., Ho-Hokus, NH 07423.

ECOFEMINISM NOW! 1996. 37 mins. Producer: Greta Gaard. Sale: \$15 (+ mailing). Medusa Productions, Dr. Greta Gaard, 420 Humanities Bldg., Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth, MN 55812. Email: ggaard@d.umn.edu Website: http://www.cep.unt.edu/news/gaard2.html Guide available.

OUTSTANDING IN HER FIELD: A VIDEO BY AND ABOUT WOMEN IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE. 1995. 23 mins. Producers: Tina Fraser, Mary Alice Johnson, Margaret Martin-Wood, and Helen Rezanowich. Director: Helen Rezanowich. Sale: \$39. Media Network Society, Victoria, B.C., Canada; distr. Moving Images Distribution, 402 West Pender St., Suite 606, Vancouver, BC V6B 1T6, Canada. Phone: 800-684-3014. Email: mailbox@movingimages.bc.ca

I suspect we often gravitate to an obvious counterweight, the flip side of a single coin. Polar opposites may seem very different, but are often the same thing: death is a part of life, life springs from death. Ecofeminism argues that patriarchal structures exploit the natural world for their own purposes, that patriarchal institutions impose their will on the natural world because they see nature as distant and Other. But when ecofeminism responds to that critique by assuming a connection to nature without delving deeply into how we create it, by defining nature solely as wilderness and excluding from the definition of natural places the urban worlds in which most of us live and the farms on which we most critically depend, it produces a colonizing spirituality that uses "nature" to provide "our" salvation.

Much of ecofeminist thinking, including what I find in these three

videos, assumes a level of familiarity, even of intimacy, with the natural world that is either entirely unearned or "earned" through familiar, masculinist methods. It is but the flip side of conquest. How arrogant to assume that we will connect automatically and understand by osmosis. Our most critical reliance on the natural world is for food, and that dependence places us within a web of natural relationships. Yet no one eats in any of these videos, not even the one about women as food producers. That is because these videos define the natural world sentimentally as a distant wilderness. But most ecofeminists, like the vast majority of Americans. are mediating their relationships to the natural world through the attitudes and values of sanitized urban life. We have further to go than we realize.

In Adam's World, feminist theologian and environmentalist Elizabeth

Dodson Gray lectures to an audience, her points framed by "illustrative footage." Intercutting the talking head in this video with other footage is necessary: if I am to use a video that lectures rather than guides student analysis - and this one does - that video will have to be far more entertaining than I am. Adam's World is not. Gray argues that the environmental crisis results from an exclusively male standpoint that kills nature and denies women a voice. Although this idea is no longer new, it remains useful and makes this video most appropriate for introducing such analysis in a firstlevel women's studies course. Given the purchase price compared to the other two videos, I would seek this analysis elsewhere. The shots of pompous bureaucrats at a formal state dinner are rather fun, overlying Gray's analysis of the self-importance of maledefined places. But just as in advertising, we are being manipulated by the visuals throughout this video, and they highlight the analytical weaknesses in Gray's argument. "If indeed you are basically interconnected with every part of a whole system, then good decisions are the ones that are good for everybody." Gray assumes rather than demonstrates the breadth of our interconnection, and soars off from there. She bases this breezy vision on sweeping generalizations and zero empirical research.

Ecofeminism Now! defines the concept of ecofeminism and explores its diversity. Set largely at a 1994 Women and Ecology conference sponsored by the Institute for Social Ecology in Plainfield, Vermont, the institutional background underscores the rather academic agenda of the video. We see conferees walking down wide paths flanked by trees and grass, but they usually end up indoors, talking. Tracing the genesis of different forms of ecofeminism from various feminist theories, this video

allows authors and activists who identify with particular positions to define their own theoretical stance. This theoretical analysis is the video's strength, and recommends it for use in advanced courses in environmental studies, environmental feminism, feminist theory, and feminist philosophy. It does not name the author of this rather neat intellectual genealogy, however, and skips some of the theoretical positions on the chart. An exploration of activism outlines some of the issues, strategies, and tactics. If anti-racism, anti-imperialism, and diversity are as good for the movement as this video asserts, too little activism around these positions is depicted. Intercut throughout the video, a woman potter throws, paints, and fires pottery. The video's slipcover provides addresses and a bibliography.

Outstanding in Her Field is the only video of these three to depict women's tangible engagement with the natural world, although that engagement remains rather individualistic. This group of women, all market gardeners, do better at connecting with one another, expanding upon the farmer's market they established for selling their organic vegetables. All of these women were once city dwellers; at least one apparently still is. They each explain why they left urban existence for lives as organic market gardeners and what the change means to them. This video best illustrates the value of women's community, not least for solving such practical problems as teaching each other skills - including driving a tractor - that they would rather not have to learn from men. They draw in older as well as younger women, including (but not exclusively) their own daughters, and divulge ways to find land. One woman has used garden space in the backyards of the elderly, who appreciated her company and the continuity of their gardens. All the scenes are outdoors. Unfortunately, the faces all go nameless with just a list at the end. This video would be useful in a variety of courses and

instructional levels to illustrate both women's engagement with the land and women's community.

The primary mechanism of Adam's World and Ecofeminism Now! is a sentimentality that reinforces the message that humans have no business in nature. "Animal ecofeminism" dominates Ecofeminism Now!, while the sustainable agriculture movement is entirely absent. So of course no one eats anything in this video, leaving the impression that our connection to nature consists of protecting the rights of animals in a way that the natural world itself does not. An "animal ecofeminist" explains that she organizes foster care for the abused pets of battered women, which is a wonderful thing to do, but shifts no paradigms. The detachment of academic analysis here seems to justify the sentimentality in the pottery scenes, the music, the selectivity of the ecofeminisms represented, and the general lack of internal disagreement. Adam's World is filled with gross generalizations and sentimental manipulations. One scene shows a man felling a tree with a chainsaw, intercut with shots of a couple of cute furry critters in a tree who seem to condemn his actions, as if to say that cutting down a tree is always bad. Even the video that best depicts women's engagement with the natural world slides into sentiment. A slow-motion shot of a woman broadcasting seed opens Outstanding in Her Field, although vegetable growers would broadcast seed only for cover crops - commercial gardening requires neat rows or weeding is impossible. The image romanticizes an idyllic lifestyle rather than describing the actual connection these women make with the land. The overvoice warns not that nature can be ugly and violent, but that the lifestyle can merely be "a lot of work." Without actually saying so, the return to "mother earth" is not about the natural world's needs in any of these videos. It is about ours.

To a point, this makes sense, but only to the point that we recognize

how sanitized urban life really is. Viewing nature in terms of our own salvation, whether as a spiritual connection divorced of material realities or as material progress measured by private consumption, certainly is not surprising, since as feminists we continually struggle to shift the paradigm in our own heads. But we urban feminists seem to ignore the distance we must travel before we encounter an earth that is more than abstractions to us. The sentimentality disturbed me most when it proclaimed reconnection rather than creating it. Gray asserts that "I find...in talking to people... that what makes us sure that we're superior to animals is that we can kill them faster than they can kill us," while the video depicts a bloody whaling vessel and slabs of carcasses in an industrial packing plant. Which "people" Gray means, neither she nor the video identifies. This tendency to damn with a broad brush is a bit frightening and rather patriarchal, methinks.

If the abstraction of ethics is the issue, why not ask all the questions? What becomes of domesticated species with which humans have at least an eight thousand-year-old, interdependent relationship - not to mention the health of plants and soils that have evolved conjointly with herds of ruminants - if we all stop eating meat? If urban environments are everyday encounters for most of us, why do these videos avoid engaging with those spaces as part of nature? Could it be that we still do not quite see ourselves as part of the natural world yet, even though we say we are? The process whereby we reconnect with nature must come through the land, not through abstract theory. Surely the spirituality must flow from the material engagement for the two to intertwine as they did for Rachel Carson and Barbara McClintock.

Most of the women in these videos describe a spiritual connection with the earth that satisfies merely their personal search for meaning. Several of the farmers in *Outstanding in Her*

Field describe a spiritual sensibility that rejuvenates them and brings them as much pride as working hard does. As a restarting point, this seems logical. But their connection to the land is still a bit rootless and sterile. Only one woman describes her connection as rooted in a place. She is working to adapt her plants and their seeds to the climate and soil of her location. Eventually spiritual connection will need to go beyond individualism, but only a couple of women —

women of color – in *Ecofeminism* Now! express spirituality as a community's, and these are brief and rare voices. I suspect that reconnection will need to become both tangible and familiar, especially for those of us who are alienated from our inherited forms of spirituality. But contrast a communal gardening scene from *Outstanding in Her Field* with a woman rappelling down a rock cliff in *Ecofeminism Now!* Which image shifts the dominant paradigm?

[Deb Hoskins teaches in the Women's Studies Department at University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, which will be hosting a statewide Women's Studies Conference this fall on the topic of ecofeminism. She wishes to thank Bets Reedy and Mitra Emad at UW-La Crosse for thinking with her about the issues covered in her review.]

FEMINIST PUBLISHING

FIREBRAND PRESS, publisher of many books by lesbian authors such as Dorothy Allison, Alison Bechdel, Cheryl Clarke, Leslie Feinberg, Jewelle Gomez, and Minnie Bruce Pratt, is now struggling (as are other small presses) due to changes in the publishing industry. The press is asking for financial help in order to continue its work. Contact Firebrand Books at 141 The Commons, Ithaca, NY 14850; telephone: 607-272-0000.

Beth Dingman has suggested a FOURTH NATIONAL WOMEN-IN-PRINT CONFERENCE and is

asking for ideas, encouragement, suggestions, etc. The first Women-In-Print Conference was held in the Fall of 1976, with a follow-up in Washington, DC, in 1981 and a third in Berkeley in 1985. Included are publishers of books, magazines, and newspapers, as well as bookstores. Contact Beth with interest and/or ideas at P.O. Box 27, Norwich, VT 05055; telephone: 802-649-5297; email: newvic@aol.com.

JAVELINA PRESS is a one-woman effort hoping to publish both fiction and nonfiction from women writers

across the country, "with an emphasis on perspectives not typically represented in mainstream publishing." The press's first book is *Southwestern Women: New Voices*, an anthology of poetry and fiction by thirty women writers from the Southwest, representing Hispanic, Native American, and Anglo voices. For information, contact Caitlin L. Gannon at P.O. Box 42131, Tucson, AZ 85733; telephone: 520-326-1286.

WORLD WIDE WEB REVIEW

Eating Disorders on the Web

by Lucy Serpell

KEY WEBSITES MENTIONED:

Lucy Serpell's Eating/Eating Disorders Resources

URL: http://www.iop.bpmf.ac.uk/home/depts/psychiat/edu/eat.htm

Developed/maintained by: Lucy Serpell, l.serpell@iop. bpmf.ac.uk

Last updated: January 29, 1997.

Something Fishy

URL: http://www.something-fishy.com/ed.htm Developed/maintained by: Something Fishy Last updated: ??

Cheryl Wildes' Anorexia Page

URL: http://www.neca.com/~cwildes/ Developed/maintained by: Cheryl Wildes Last updated: ??

Harvard Pilgrim

URL: www.harvardpilgrim.org/html/clinpubs/xs-728.htm Developed/maintained by: Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Last updated: ??

A huge amount of information about eating disorders is available on the Internet. When I began compiling the Eating/Eating Disorders Resources page (see above) in September 1995, the site contained around ten links to other sites. Today, a simple search on the term "anorexia" using a search engine such as AltaVista (http://www.altavista.com) yields some 10,000 hits! However, as highlighted by James Rettig (jrrett@mail.swem.wm.edu) in his excellent article on the explosion of resources on the Net (http://www.swem. wm.edu/firehose.html), much of this information is of dubious worth. Information quality is of particular importance in an area such as eating disorders, where many searchers will be looking for information of medical as well as personal significance.

This review, however, will be aimed principally at the researcher or student seeking information on eating disorders. It is important to accept that the Web is unlikely to meet all your research needs. It will almost inevitably be necessary to turn to other media at some stage; in particular, academic journal articles in this area are rarely available

online, so a visit to the library will be essential at some point.

Websites do have certain advantages over traditional media. Specifically, sites such as Something Fishy and Cheryl Wilde's (see above) include excellent personal accounts of what it is like to suffer from an eating disorder - viewpoints that can be hard to find elsewhere and offer a refreshing touch of reality for the researcher surrounded by dry-as-dust academic journal articles. Another advantage of the Web is its ability to provide extremely up-to-date information, without the long lag times involved in paper publication. An example is the recent appearance of several sites dealing with "Binge Eating Disorder" (also known as Compulsive Eating or Compulsive Overeating), a disorder only recently officially recognized by inclusion in DSM-IV (the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Diseases, version 4). The American Dietetic Association website offers some basic diagnostic criteria (http://www.eatright. org/eatingdisorders.html), the Bristol Hospital has a great introduction to Binge Eating Disorder (http://www. bristolhospital.org/eating.html), and new sites are appearing daily.

The view that large organizations with ample financial resources necessarily produce the best websites is challenged by comparing the Harvard Pilgrim site (see above) with excellent sites like Something Fishy. Harvard Pilgrim is a managed healthcare firm and, as such, might be expected to do better. The site is poorly laid out and full of mistakes. There is no author attribution on any page, hence it is difficult to know who to notify about problems or corrections. Something Fishy's site, however, is a well laid-out, informative, and friendly site that has evolved from a single page to a site full of information of all types, from online support groups to some extremely welcome ideas on eating disorders prevention. Cheryl Wildes' site, written by a woman whose sister has suffered from anorexia for several years, is an excellent resource aimed mainly at sufferers and their families and friends. However, the site is worth visiting by the researcher for its book list and information on many U.S.-based eating disorder organizations and clinics.

Around eighty-five percent of all websites (on whatever topic) are written in English, and a majority are U.S.-

centric. It is great to see a few exceptions to these generalizations for this topic, such as the websites for national eating disorders organizations springing up all over the world, in Italy (http://www.vol.it/IT/IT/ASSOC/ABA/ index.htm), South Africa (http://minnie. iafrica.com:/ ~ronhey/index.html), and Norway (http://www.stud. unit.no/studorg/ikstrh/iks.htm), to name just three. A good place to find other non-English sites is Cath's page (http:// www.stud.unit.no/studorg/ikstrh/ed/ed.html), based in Norway, NOAH (New York Online Access to Health) maintains pages on both anorexia and bulimia with versions in both English (http://noah.cuny. edu/illness/ mentalhealth/cornell/conditions/anorexia.html or substitute bulimia for anorexia) and Spanish (http://noah. cuny.edu/sp/illness/mentalhealth/cornell/conditions/ spanorexia.html or substitute spbulimia for spanorexia).

As the Web expands, more and more unscrupulous people are out to make money from it. There are some excellent commercial sites, but as a general rule, it is best to evaluate critically any site trying to sell you something, especially diet products. As a refreshing antidote to such diet advertising, have a look at the **Beyond Dieting** site (http://www.beyonddieting.com/), which is concerned with alternatives to dieting.

On a related note, a growing number of sites (and a listserv: soc.support.fat-acceptance) exist to promote fat acceptance. Have a look at the NAAFA (National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance) site (http://www.naafa.org/) and the excellent FaTGiRL (http://www.fatgirl.com/fatgirl/), a witty and informative net-based magazine aimed at fat lesbians and their partners, but worth reading by anyone who'd like an alternative perspective on what it is to be fat. Especially recommended is the excellent newswatch page (http://www.fatso.com/fatgirl/fatwatch.html).

Of course, the pages mentioned are only a tiny selection of what is available. New resources are popping up all the time, while other sites may change beyond recognition overnight, or disappear altogether. However, whether you are a student looking for introductory information for a project, or an experienced researcher in the area wanting to keep your finger on the pulse, the Web will almost certainly provide something to interest and inspire you.

[Lucy Serpell is a research assistant and doctoral student at the Eating Disorders Unit, Institute of Psychiatry, University of London.]

COMPUTER TALK

Remember that our website (http://www.library/wisc.edu/libraries/WomensStudies/) includes electronic versions of all recent "Computer Talk" columns, plus numerous bibliographies and core lists of women's studies resources, and links to hundreds of other websites.

Note that final punctuation is often left off sentences in this section that list addresses, for purposes of clarity, since listservs and Web addresses do not include a "dot" or period at the end.

EMAIL LISTS

[A number of the following listings were gleaned from Joan Korenman's very thorough directory of email/discussion lists at the URL: http://www.umbc.edu/wmst/forums.html]

AUSFEM-POLNET is a list based in Australia for policy practitioners and scholars working on improving the economic, educational, sexual, social, and political status of women. To subscribe, send the message subscribe ausfem-

polnet firstname lastname to MAJORDOMO@ POSTOFFICE.UTAS.EDU.AU

BITHRY-L is intended for "theoretical discussion of bisexuality and gender issues." Subscribe using the message subscribe bithry-l firstname lastname and sending to: LISTSERV@BROWNVM.BROWN.EDU

CCWEST offers discussion and resources on women and girls in science and technology in Canada. Send the message *subscribe* to: CCWEST@CCWEST.ORG

CWAENET concerns issues of interest to women in agricultural and resource economics, under the umbrella of the Committee on Women in Agricultural Economics. To subscribe, send the message subscribe cwaenet firstname lastname to LISTSERV@ERS.BITNET

DAPHNET is a list for and about women in science and engineering, including those returning to the field after a break. Send the message *subscribe daphnet firstname* lastname to LISTSERVER@IC.AC.UK (note that LISTSERVER is correct, not LISTSERV)

ENRICHMENT-L is intended for discussion of women's personal and professional enrichment. Subscribe via the

website of the list sponsor, Women's Health Interactive Network (WHIN), or by sending email to ENRICHMENT-L-REQUEST@WOMENS-HEALTH.COM. In the message's Subject line (not body!) say subscribe your-email-address then put nothing in the body of the email message.

FEMINISTSF is "for feminists and activists, writers, readers, and scholars of science fiction, fantastic, and utopian literature." Send the message subscribe feministsf firstname lastname to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UIC.EDU

FEMUSCLE intends a supportive environment for women athletes with significant muscle development (bodybuilders, rugby and football players, throwers, swimmers, etc.) and discussion on gender role prejudices about the female form. To subscribe, send the message *subscribe femuscle* to MAJORDOMO@LIGHTNING.COM

FLANNERY-L is intended for scholarly discussion of 20th-century American author Flannery O'Connor and her writings, including announcements, calls for papers, new publication information, etc. To subscribe, in the Subject line (not body) of your email message, say add me to the list and send to: FLANNERY-L@GRUMPY.GAC. PEACHNET.EDU

GLOBALRN is a list for discussion by nurses and other health care professionals on topics related to culture and health. To subscribe, send the message *subscribe globalrn firstname lastname* to LISTSERV@ ITSSRV1.UCSF.EDU

H-SAWH is a moderated list intended for discussion of the history of women and gender in the U. S. South. Topics may include current research, teaching approaches and methods, reviews, announcements, etc. Send the message sub h-sawh firstname lastname, institution to LISTSERV@H-NET. MSU.EDU. The short questionnaire you receive must be completed and returned before your subscription begins.

HDSOC-L is affiliated with the Hilda Doolittle Society and offers discussion about the works of poet HD (Hilda Doolittle). To subscribe, send the message *subscribe hdsoc-l firstname lastname* to:LISTSERV@UCONNVM.UCONN. EDU

Maiden-L offers a "helping hand" to women new to the Internet. Send a subscribe message saying subscribe maiden-l firstname lastname your-email-address to: MAJORDOMO@WOMEN.CA

MARXISM-FEMINISM is a list maintained by the Spoon Collective for discussion around "the intersection of feminism and marxism." To subscribe, send the message subscribe marxism-feminism to MAJORDOMO@LISTS. VILLAGE.VIRGINIA.EDU

MLN (Malaysian Lesbian Network) offers a discussion area for Malaysian lesbians. Send the message *subscribe QAPA-L firstname lastname* to LISTSERV@BROWNVM. BROWN.EDU

MYSTERYWOMEN is a list for women only, for discussion of mystery and detective writing by women. To subscribe, send the message subscribe mysterywomen to MAJORDOMO@LIST.SIRIUS.COM

NICEJG (NiceJewishGirls) is intended for lesbian and bisexual Jewish women as a women-only "social, political, cultural, and spiritual gathering place." Send a message saying subscribe nicejg firstname lastname your-emailaddress to: MAJORDOMO@ZOOM.COM

NWMST-L deals with Women's Studies in the five Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden, as well as three autonomous territories. To subscribe, send the message *subscribe nwmst-l firstname lastname* to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UMU.SE

ROGUE offers European lesbians working in the fields of writing/publishing a place for exchanging views. (At this time, only European subscribers, please!) Send a regular email message asking for an applications form to: ROGUE-REQUEST@SETA.FI

SA-CYBORGS is intended as a discussion and sharing forum for South Asian writers. Issues pertaining to "South Asian women" and identity are encouraged. To subscribe, send the message *subscribe sa-cyborgs* to MAJORDOMO@ JEFFERSON.VILLABE.VIRGINIA.EDU

SPIDERWOMANSUMMIT mailing list hopes to "create an inclusive conference" centering on women and technology, with the ideal of "coming up with a humanistic and inclusive vision of the role of technology in our lives in the next century." Send the message *subscribe* (with your email address if you'd like) to: SPIDERWOMANSUMMIT-REQUEST@AMAZONCITY.COM

WEBWOMEN-GRAPHICS offers discussion/sharing of information about creation and/or manipulation of computer graphics: design, rendering, photo-manipulation, optimizing graphics for web work, and more. To subscribe, send the one-word message *subscribe* (in the Subject line, not the body!) to WEBWOMEN-GRAPHICS-REQUEST@ NIESTU.COM

WIN (Women in Neuroscience) connects more than 600 women neuroscientists around the world and is affiliated with the Society for Neuroscience. To subscribe, contact Ivy Dunn at IDUNN@P300.CPL.UIUC.EDU

WITCH (Women in [the] Computing History) wants to become a "repository for women's own stories throughout the history of computing," supplementing both women's history and the general history of computing. Place the single word *subscribe* in the Subject header, then send to WITCH-REQUEST@NIESTU.COM (leave the body blank).

WOMEN_DISCUSS is concerned with the technical, social, political, and cultural issues surrounding women in technology. To subscribe, send the message subscribe women_discuss to MAJORDOMO@CONCORDIA.CA

WOMENS-HEALTH is intended "for women, physicians, and medical providers to discuss topics related to women's physical and emotional health and well being." Send the message subscribe womens-health firstname lastname to LISTPROC@OBGYN.NET.

WOMEN-WRITING-CULTURE, open to anyone, centers on women ethnographers/anthropologists, famous and otherwise, and the problems of "writing culture" or writing "against culture." More information may be found on the Spoon mailing lists site. To subscribe, send the message subscribe women-writing-culture to MAJORDOMO@ JEFFERSON.VILLAGE.VIRGINIA.EDU

WEBSITES

AFRICAN WOMEN GLOBAL NETWORK

(AWOGNet) is a "global organization that networks all men and women, organizations, institutions and indigenous national organizations within Africa, whose activities are targeted towards the improvement of the living conditions of women and children in Africa." Website address is: http://www.osu.edu/org/awognet/

The ASSAULT PREVENTION INFORMATION NET-WORK (APIN) offers links to sites on martial arts, self-defense, email lists, books and videos, and stories of successful self-defense strategies. Their address: http://galaxy.einet.net:80/galaxy/Community/Safety/Assault-Prevention/apin/APINintro.html

ASTARTE SHELL PRESS is a feminist publisher "committed to publishing books reflecting feminist perspectives on spirituality, social justice, personal growth and women's stories." Based in Portland, Oregon, U.S., their Web address is: http://www.astarteshell.com/

AVIVA is a UK-based Internet magazine that "provides free monthly listings of women's groups and events worldwide" and seeks contributions from all in the categories of courses, resources, events, groups, and classified ads. You can find them at: http://www.aviva.org/

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF JEWISH WOMEN'S RE-SOURCES, compiled by Tsiporah Wexler-Pashkoff, is a regularly updated and quite substantial listing divided into topical groupings. Address: http://aleph.lib.ohio-state.edu/www/jewomen.html

CHILDBIRTH.ORG offers a host of links to articles, essays, and pregnancy/birth-related sites on such topics as birth stories, cesarean, labor, infertility, episiotomy, feeding, and more. Address: http://www.childbirth.org/

DISABILITY COOL'S WOMEN'S STUFF Web page carries three articles ("ProChoice and Disabled," "Understanding Violence Against Disabled Women," and "Resources for Women"). The address: http://www.geocities.com/HotSprings/7319/woman.htm

DISABLED WOMEN'S NETWORK (DAWN) of Ontario includes a newsletter, statistics on disabled women in Canada, and links to resources on health care and parenting, particularly for disabled women considering pregnancy. DAWN's address: http://www3.sympatico.ca/odell/dawnpage.htm

D.Y.K.E., a British website for lesbians, offers a "literary webzine," a limited guide to lesbian gathering places around the world, a bulletin board, essays of interest, "news" (a very broad category!), and links to other sites. Their address is: http://www.users.dircon.co.uk/~fan/

FEMINISM AND WOMEN'S STUDIES website at Carnegie Mellon University is made up of links to "women's studies and feminist works, particularly focusing on issues of sex, gender, sexual identity and sexuality in cultural practices." From the text of the Equal Rights Amendment and the Seneca Falls Declaration to writings on "Pornography and Damage" by Damien Byers and "Feminist Use of Cyberspace" by Ellen Balka, there's lots of information. Address: http://english-www.hss.cmu.edu/feminism/ See also/gender, the Gender & Sexuality page.

Kim Goforth's FEMINIST LAW STUDENT WEBSITE is aging (not updated since September 1996 and some of its links no longer connect), and difficult to read (black background), but there's still much good information on law resources, organizations, and topics of general interest. Address is: http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/2995/

FEMINISTA! is described as "the online journal of feminist construction" and includes literature, social commentary, philosophy, and humor, plus a weekly Web review. See the current issue at: http://www.feminista.com/

GENDER IN THE WEST: A BIBLIOGRAPHY by Catherine J. Lavender of the University of Colorado-Boulder is a very thorough listing of mostly older resources (and some publications up to about 1990), listed alphabetically by author. Address: http://frank.mtsu.edu/~kmiddlet/history/women/reviews/genderwest-rev.txt

The GENDER INN is a searchable database of more than 5,000 feminist records on feminist theory, feminist literary criticism, and gender studies, focused on English and American literature. Though searchable in both German and English, searches in English retrieve English titles only, while using German words to search the German version brings up both English and German titles. Locate the site at: http://www.uni-koeln.de/phil-fak/englisch/datenbank/e index.htm

GIRLS' ATTITUDES, SELF-EXPECTATIONS, AND PERFORMANCE IN MATH is an annotated bibliography by Michelle Maraffi that groups listed resources under Students' Attitudes and Beliefs, Teachers' Attitudes, Parents' Attitudes, and Teaching Style. The bibliography may be found at: http://forum.swarthmore.edu/~sarah/ Discussion.Sessions/biblio.attitudes.html

The GRACE HOPPER CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN COMPUTING is on again this year, set for September 19-21 in San Jose, California. For information on sponsors, registration, Grace Murray Hopper, scholarships, and more, see the website at: http://www.sdsc.edu/Hopper/

grrowl! is into its second volume as an online 'zine, with fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and the editor's (Amelia E. Wilson) comments. To check out the latest issue, see this address: http://www.nrrdgrrl.com/grrowl/

HEARTLAND BOOKS offers "The catalog for lesbians who love to read." Based in Winthrop, Washington, this mail-order business provides a listing of books, music, and videos that may be ordered by mail or fax. Their address: http://balsam.methow.com/~heartlan/

HER HOUSE HOME PAGE carries information about this "all-women, all-volunteer parnership of DC Habitat for Humanity," with links to resources on other Habitat projects, domestic violence, homeless and housing issues, and more. Address: http://www.herhouse.org/house.htm

INTERMOUNTAIN WOMAN is a new periodical whose website offers recent tables of contents as well as sample articles, fiction, and poetry. Free trial issues are available. Their address: http://www.marsweb.com/imwoman/offer.htm

The INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF UNIVER-SITY WOMEN, based in Geneva, Switzerland, has a website including the history of the organization, its programming and projects, upcoming conferences, reports, and newsletters about its activities. Web address is: http://www.plantagenet.com/~lmcleod/ifuw/ifuw1.htm

JOURNEYWOMAN's website features a free subscription to its monthly email newsletter (the print magazine itself is available by paid subscription) woman-friendly sites, stories of women's travel, advice on eco-traveling, tips on what to wear where, go-alone trips, and more. Address is: http://www2.journeywoman.com/journeywoman/

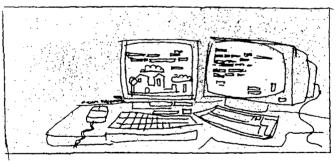
LADIES' HOME JOURNAL has a website with information about the magazine, how to order, plus highlights of the current issue on such topics as parenting stories, health and psychology, wildlife-friendly gardens, beauty and fashion. The address is: http://www.lhj.com/

The LADYSLIPPER MUSIC website offers what the distributor describes as "the world's most comprehensive catalog and resource guide of music by women." Women musicians, writers, performers, and composers are featured on or in hundreds of tapes, video recordings, songbooks, and music-related books. Visitors with sound equipment and software can listen to music before ordering. Web address is: http://www.ladyslipper.org/

LAUGHLINES PRESS, publisher of such women's humor titles as *Butches of Madison County* and *Men! Ha!*, is the project of Roz Warren. On their website you can find books, videos, jewelry, and more. Address is: http://www.outbooks.com/laughlines/

LIZST provides a searchable listing of more than 17,000 active mailing lists on the Internet (or look over categories such as arts, education, politics, religion). Searching for "women" locates more than 280 lists. Address: http://www.liszt.com:80/

MARLENE McDANIEL, a founder of Women's Wire news and entertainment service for women, is interviewed in this RealAudio segment by Sam Tucker. If you have sound card, modem, and RealAudio, you can hear the interview at: http://www.webactive.com/webactive/sotw/womwire.html



Miriam Greenwald

The MARGARET SANGER PAPERS PROJECT has set up a Web presence partially to counter some of the negative materials about Sanger already on the Internet. Included are a Sanger biography, a list of her publications, numerous secondary sources, and more. Address: http://www.nyu.edu/projects/sanger/index.html

The MEDIEVAL FEMINIST INDEX covers journal articles (from 300 journals), book reviews, and essays in books (but not books by single authors) on "women, gender,

and sexuality" during the period 450 - 1500 C.E. Updated regularly, it currently includes more than 1,000 entries. Address: http://www.haverford.edu/library/reference/mschaus/mfi/mfi.html

MENOPAUSE is the title of Atlanta Reproductive Health Centre's Web page on the variety of questions surrounding this midlife transition. Information on Estrogen Replacement Therapy, osteoporosis, breast cancer, and links to other resources, including news groups and newsletters, fill this website. Address: http://www.ivf.com/meno.html

The MILITARY SEXUAL SLAVERY home page carries material from the Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Service by Japan. News articles, background papers, writings by some of the women themselves, and other resources make up the page, which is available in either English or Korean. Address: http://witness.peacenet.or.kr/

The MILLION WOMEN MARCH scheduled for October 25, 1997 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S., has a brief information page, seeking volunteers and requesting donations, available at: http://www.timesx2.com/million/women.html

MODEM GRRLS is a wild, eclectic collection of links to everything from Women's Wire to Charlotte Perkins Gilman's *Herland* (via the Gutenburg Project), Barbie, the Feminist University Network, and "Muses" such as Tracy Chapman and Joan Osborne. Address:http://www.gnofn.org/~jbourg/grrls/

THE MS. FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN website includes several pages of information on the Foundation's projects related to health and safety, economic development, and girls' issues, including the annual "Take Our Daughters to Work Day." Their address is: http://www.ms.foundation.org/

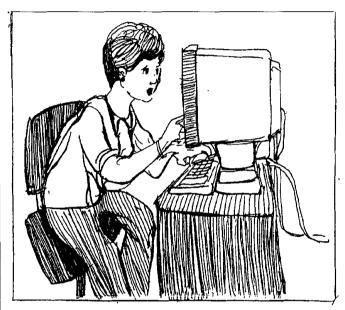
MUSICAL SITES, one of CYBERGRRL WEB GUIDE's categories, offers links to a variety of other musical websites, from MTV's top 20 to Ella Fitzgerald to Leonard Bernstein to Classics on the Net and more. The address: http://www.cybergrrl.com/planet/web/music.html

N. PARADOXA describes itself as "an international online feminist journal." Soon to Web-publish its fourth issue, this journal maintains an archive of articles from previous issues as well as regularly updated lists of art-related books and reviews, magazines on women's art, and links to women's art on the net. The address:http://web.ukonline.co.uk/members/n.paradoxa/index.htm

NETNOIR'S "SPOTLIGHT" series for Women's History Month, 1996, features information about four African American women: Rosa Parks, Mary Reynolds, Celia (a slave), and Ida B. Wells. Brief sketches of a number of other

Black women follow. Web address: http://www.netnoir.com/spotlight/women/

NETWORK, the newsletter of the Canadian Women's Health Network, appears quarterly in both English and French, online and in print. Among the topics covered are the breast cancer gene, Herstreet (Montreal's resource for homeless women), and Abby Hoffman, Director of Canada's Women's Health Bureau. To find the newsletter, try: http://www.cwhn.ca/network/welcome.html



Miriam Greenwald

The NETWORK OF EAST-WEST WOMEN (NEWW) now has a Web page with links to its projects, publications, and other resources on women in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union; to women's organizations in the area it offers free Web space and help in developing a Web presence. This "international communication network" also carries on a discussion list. Available through September 22, 1997, the address:http://www.igc.apc.org/neww/

The NEW YORK TIMES WOMEN'S HEALTH website includes "original features, archival NYT content, licensed material from The Harvard Guide to Women's Health and The New Our Bodies Ourselves, [plus The AMWA Women's Complete Healthbook] and a database of resources for further study." Address is: http://www.nytimes.com/women/(available only until September 22).

NOTABLE WOMEN is a searchable gopher database of more than five hundred women. Each entry includes name, date and place of birth (and death), occupation, and a brief description. To locate the database: gopher://gopher.emc. maricopa.edu:70/00/library/notablewomen/notable.formated

OVERCOMING ENDOMETRIOSIS is the title of a page put up by the Atlanta Reproductive Health Centre, offering links to institutional information, a FAQ, an "image gallery," a case study, personal endometriosis-related Web pages, and more. Address: http://www.ivf.com/endohtml. html

RADIANCE, "the magazine for large women," has a Web page with information about the magazine and sample articles, as well as travel and advertising options. The address is: http://www.radiancemagazine.com/index.html

READING WOMAN, an outgrowth of a quarterly print publication of the same name, offers an online listing of some "good reads" with short descriptions and excerpts instead of lengthy reviews. You can find this site at: http://www.readingwoman.com/hist.html

A RESOURCE GUIDE FOR WOMEN COMPUTING PROFESSIONALS, maintained by Kishau N. Smith, carries links to business/professional resources, professional literature, multimedia/Web resources, women in business, and conferences and seminars of interest. The address: http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Park/9417/index.html

RUSSIAN FEMINISM RESOURCES: WOMEN AND RUSSIA LINKS IN ENGLISH carries topical groupings of Web links connected to a variety of types and sizes of websites. Among the subject areas: arts, health, activism, lesbian, academic. Their address: http://www.geocities.com:80/Athens/2533/russfem1.html

The SEXUAL ASSAULT INFORMATION PAGE is an extensive directory of links to all types of resources on the Web, under thirty-six categories including child sexual abuse, date rape, memory, men's resources, prevention, Rohypnol, sexual harassment, and survivors. Regularly updated. Address: http://www.cs.utk.edu/~bartley/saInfoPage.html

SMART GIRL's website ("Where girls like you find out what's hot and what's not") has been "under construction" for awhile but is slowly growing. The most promising section seems to be the reviews of videos, music, computer games, books, magazines, and websites. The Bulletin Board isn't up yet, but the Speak Out chat department offers stories of "My Shining Moment." Address: http://www.smartgirl.com/pages/index.html

The SOCIAL SCIENCE INFORMATION GATEWAY includes a number of links to feminist resources. At the home page (http://www.sosig.ac.uk:80/welcome.html) select Browse, then Feminism. Links to resources on ecofeminism, women in Islam, the National Organization for Women, and more are available.

THE SOCIETY FOR WOMEN IN PHILOSOPHY now has a web page, though very much "in progress," with plans

to include bibliographies, syllabi, articles, members' home pages, and more. The address is: http://www.uh.edu/~cfreelan/SWIP/

TAPPING THE TALENT encourages young women to move into science, engineering, and technology for better business and career opportunities. Seven case studies offer suggestions for employers in attracting girls into science education. Address: http://info.lboro.ac.uk/orgs/opp2000/tapping.htm

The TIBETAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION website, though not recently updated, nonetheless carries important information about the history and struggles of Tibetan women, both in-country and in exile, through various links. Their Web address: http://www.grannyg.bc.ca/tibet/tibet.html

UNCOMMON LEGACY is an international foundation offering scholarships to lesbian students. Their website, with information on guidelines for application, suggestions for giving, and a newsletter of projects and related news, is found at: http://www.uncommonlegacy.org/

ViVa: A CURRENT BIBLIOGRAPHY OF WOMEN'S HISTORY IN HISTORICAL AND WOMEN'S STUD-IES JOURNALS is comprised of selections (in English, German, French, and Dutch) from more than sixty European and U.S. periodicals. Categories are General/Theory, Antiquity and Middle Ages, Early Modern, 19th Century, and 20th Century. The address is: http://www.iisg.nl/~womhist/index.html

VOICES FROM THE GAPS: WOMEN WRITERS OF COLOR IN THE U.S. is a growing offering from the University of Minnesota that includes web pages on seventeen writers, with biographical and bibliographic information lists, other relevant Internet sources, and some audio and image files. Address: http://www-engl.cla.umn.edu/lkd/vfg/VFGhome/

VOTES FOR WOMEN: Selections from the National American Woman Suffrage Association Collection, 1848-1921, is a searchable listing from the Library of Congress Rare Book and Special Collections Division that also allows browsing by subject and author. The entire NAWSA collection includes 167 "books, pamphlets and other artifacts documenting the suffrage campaign." Web address: http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/naw/nawshom.html

WILD WOMEN ADVENTURES offers encouragement (and excuses) as well as plans for trips to the far corners of the world. Upcoming excursions will travel to Nayarit, Mexico, Nepal, and Bodego Bay, California. Address of the company is: http://www.wildwomenadv.com/wwcom.html

A WOMAN'S SPIRIT: THE GLOBAL WOMAN'S BOOKSTORE & MARKETPLACE, run by Mary

Pietrowski, has a searchable database of some 400,000 titles available for order, plus reader reviews and some links to corporate sites. The store's address is: http://www.womanspirit.com/

WOMEN & ENVIRONMENTS MAGAZINE has a Web presence with subscription information, announcements, sample articles, and an introduction to staff. See their page at: http://www.web.apc.org/~weed/hot.html

WOMEN IN CINEMA includes annotated listings of and links to a variety of resources on women in film, from anthologies to biographical sources, filmographies, and reviews. Address: http://poe.acc.virginia.edu/~pm9k/libsci/womFilm,html

WOMEN IN MATH offers information about women in the field of mathematics, including biographies of one hundred women mathematicians, a bibliography of related publications (some with abstracts), employment and grant information, and links to other sites on the topic. Address: http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~wmnmath/

WOMEN IN PUBLISHING's London organizers offer "networking, training and mutual support" to women in publishing and related trades. The website includes an online tutorial on electronic publishing. Address: http://www.cyberiacafe.net/wip/

WOMEN IN SPORTS, while not nearly as comprehensive as WWW Women's Sports Page, offers a number of brief biographies (and some photos) or Web links to personal pages of women athletes, many of whom seem to be parachute jumpers. Address: http://www.makeithappen.com/wis/

WOMEN IN THE MARTIAL ARTS has a web page (part of the Assault Prevention Information Network) that includes membership information, links to related pages, and a listing of books, organizations, instructors, and other resources for women interested in martial arts. Their address: http://galaxy.tradewave.com/editors/weiss/WomenMA.html

WOMEN, INK., a project of the Women's International Tribune Centre, has a web page listing its catalog of publications in support of development. Searchable via thirty subject catagories, the books come from seventy publishers all over the world. Address: http://www.womenink.org/

WOMEN TO WORSHIP is a home page featuring "links to sites lauding the lives and accomplishments of [36] notable women in the fields of music, literature, television, activism, painting, and the performance arts," including Nanci Griffith, Judy Collins, Alice Walker, Annie Sprinkle, and Emma Goldman. Address: http://www.netins.net/showcase/slake/women.html

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL NEWS GATHERING SERVICE (WINGS) is available via Real Audio (downloadable for free) for those with sound cards and speakers. Sample interviews on Navajo relocation and the Israeli women's movement are among the offerings. Web address: http://www.wings.org/audio.html

WOMEN'S ISSUES IN 3RD WORLD COUNTRIES is a site added to on a regular basis by site mistress Cecil Marie Cancel, with information on Latin America, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. The site also includes links to some relevant online periodicals and women's organizations. Address: http://women3rdworld.miningco.com/

WORLDNET WOMEN is a website/magazine created by South African women for women. The most recent issue (April 1997) offers material in departments such as Body, Style, Work, Networking, Money, R&R, and Astrology. Find them at: http://africa.cis.co.za/women/index.html

WSSLINKS (the Web links offered by the Women's Studies Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries [ACRL]) includes women's studies resources in these subject areas: archives, art and film, culture, education, health, history, lesbians, philosophy, politics, and science/technology. The address: http://www.library.yale.edu/wss/

OTHER ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

ECHO is a woman-friendly virtual community established by Stacy Horn about ten years ago after she had tried several careers and wound up taking an advanced degree in telecommunications. She gave women free accounts for the first year of the online community to encourage their participation. According to a recent article in MS. magazine, about forty percent of current subscribers are female, a relatively high percentage for chatlines.

WOMEN_LEARNING is a time-limited Web conference hosted by the Canadian Congress for Learning Opportunities for Women (CCLOW) on the topic of "the impact of new information and communications technologies on learning opportunities for women." Open only from July 7 until August 31 at CCLOW's website (http://www.nald.ca/cclow.htm), the conference seeks the input of users for shaping CCLOW's strategies for the fall and beyond.

FOR THOSE OF US WHO USE COMPUTERS on a daily basis and complain about their various faults, a recent article in *Women & Performance* ("The Public Forum" by Patti Whaley in v.9, no.1, 1997, p.230) reminds us of some sobering facts:

- * 95 percent of all Internet users are in Europe and North America;
- * 80 percent of the world still has no basic telecommunications facilities;
- * two/thirds of the people in the world have never made a telephone call.

New Reference Works in Women's Studies

AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN

Darlene Clark Hine, ed., FACTS ON FILE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF BLACK WOMEN IN AMERICA. New York: Facts on File, 1997. 11v. indexes. \$295.00 for set, ISBN 0-8160-3424-9; individual volumes \$29.95; CD-ROM (requires Windows 3.1 or higher, 8 MB main memory and 1 MB disk space), \$295.00, ISBN 0-8160-3544-X; discount for purchase of both print and CD-ROM. Examined: Law and Government volume.

Based on the excellent Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia [BWA] (Carlson, 1993), also edited by Hine, this work is aimed at high school students. Each volume covers individual women and organizations in one of eleven broad topical areas: literature, music, business and professions, education, law/government, science/health/medicine, social activism, religion, arts, sports, and women from the "early years, 1617-1899." Each begins with an introductory essay combining material from the relevant thematic articles in BWA, adds a chronology of events representative of the topic of that volume, and provides a contents list of the full set, by volume, for cross-checking women active in more than one area of interest. The same photographs are used in both resources. The CD-ROM combines access to all 950 women and 100 institutions, the introductory essays, chronologies, and other ancillary material, and adds audio and

video versions of speeches, performances, and oral histories.

The articles appear to be verbatim or lightly edited from their format in BWA, except for the deletion of the scholarly bibliographies accompanying the original articles. A short bibliography of general books on Black women and books related to the topic of the volume is provided instead. As in BWA, each entry is signed by its contributing author. Besides the articles from BWA, Facts on File added many new articles on women merely mentioned in BWA's thematic articles or absent entirely. Thirty of the seventy-three biographies in the Law and Government volume, for example, are new (fortyone percent), many highlighting women who came to prominence since the publication of BWA. These include Lani Guinier, law professor and Clinton nominee (though the nomination was later withdrawn) for head of the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department and successful appointee as Secretary of Labor, Alexis Herman. Other women featured in this volume include lawyer-educator-activist Mary Frances Berry, legislator-educator-orator Barbara Jordan, and federal judge Constance Baker Motley; composite articles focus on congresswomen, judges, the Black Women Mayors' Caucus, and the National Political Congress of Black Women.

Because of the new material, school libraries holding BWA may want to consider this encyclopedia anyway, particularly the CD-ROM

version, which adds the multimedia dimension as well. Specialized libraries may wish to acquire single volumes related to their areas.

AGING

Helen Rippier Wheeler, WOMEN & AGING: A GUIDE TO THE LITERATURE. Boulder, CO: Lynne Rienner, 1997. 259p. index. \$65.00, ISBN 1-55587-661-7.

Aging is definitely a feminist issue. By age 85, some 250 women for every 100 men are still alive to continue the aging process. Yet, according to Wheeler's introduction, elderly men have been much more studied than elderly women, and men constitute most of the "representative" subjects in aging-related research. Even the term "gerontology" is man-centered, since it comes from the Greek term geront, meaning "old man." Because researchers like to study populations where knowledge already exists, the problem tends to be self-perpetuating. Women & Aging redresses this to some extent by pointing out studies on women that do exist, concentrating on the period from 1980-1992. For earlier citations, Wheeler suggests The Older Woman in 20th-Century America: A Selected Annotated Bibliography, by Audrey Borenstein (Garland, 1982), The Mature Woman in America: A Selected Annotated Bibliography 1979-1982, by Eleanor Frances Dolan and Dorothy M. Gropp (National Council on Aging, 1984), and other works listed in her

chapter "Women's Studies and the Aging of Females: Locating Additional Sources."

Wheeler divides the material into broad fields, such as "Psychological Perspectives on Women's Aging" and "Creativity and Productivity." Those subjects are subdivided into more specific topics, including "Sandwich Generation," "Dementia," and "Androgyny" for the former and "The Arts," "Humor," and "Religion/ Spirituality/Theology" for the latter. Two chapters cover biographical and creative writing by and about aging women. The first surveys diaries, journals, letters, memoirs, and other personal narratives published during the period, and the second covers fiction and poetry. Both chapters are annotated, which will help readers identify novels, short stories, and other writings with a theme of aging. An overall subject index adds access by ethnicity, stage of aging (such as midlife), and cross-cutting topics (such as motherhood). Citations come from books, articles, and dissertations.

This is a very fine work. The only disappointment is its cutoff date of 1992, five years before publication. Whether this was due to the author, publisher, or some combination is not addressed. One hopes that Wheeler is continuing to collect citations for a second edition, and that the gap between coverage and publication date will be much narrower.

ALMANACS

Louise Bernikow, in association with the National Women's History Project, THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S ALMANAC: AN INSPIRING AND IRREVERENT WOMEN'S HISTORY. New York: Berkley Books, 1997. 388p. \$29.95, ISBN 0-425-15686-9; pap., \$16.95, ISBN 0-425-15616-8.

A good almanac should, above all, be fun to poke around in. The reader should be drawn into the text through memorable photographs, catchy headings, and amusing quotations. The

writing should crackle. In the case of a feminist almanac, each page should deliver a "click experience," the reader bursting with pride at the accomplishment of an iconoclast or burning with anger when a woman was denied her due. The American Women's Almanac not only meets these expectations, but also delivers on a goal of its own -- to be an inclusive tale of American women's history, recalling the experiences of ordinary women.

Nine topical chapters examine spheres of women's lives, from the influence of attitudes toward the female body and the equally problematic female mind, to domestic life, work, and women's art and entertainment. The chapter on politics starts with the decisive role of Native American women in tribal councils, and visits suffrage, civil rights, and women's liberation, before concluding with a series of statements reminding readers "how the women's movement changed the world." Young people may be surprised to learn that before 1965 married women could not establish credit in their own names, rape charges required a corroborating witness, newspapers carried sexsegregated help-wanted ads, working women who became pregnant could be fired, few women were in law or medical schools, and he and man were universally used terms applying to all humankind.

The flavor of the book comes through the marvelous illustrations and quotations. My favorite photograph is of Ann Simonton wearing a thirty-pound dress made of bologna slices and hotdogs, protesting the Miss California Beauty Contest in 1982. Best quotation? How about Babe Didrikson Zaharias' answer to the question, "Is there anything you don't play?" "Yeah," Zaharias said. "Dolls."

Bernikow asks for suggestions for a second edition. I'd like to see more treatment of the inner life of women – examples of women whose contributions lie in religious and spiritual life. Women's studies as a field could use more than a single reference to the founding of the National Women's

Studies Association (1977) on a time line. Perhaps the entertainers chapter could be shortened to make room for these topics.

All-in-all, Berkinow presents a witty celebration of American women's history.

BOOK REVIEWS

Helen MacLam, ed., CHOICE REVIEWS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES 1990-1996. Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries, American Library Association, 1997. 442p. index. ISBN 0-8389-7881-9.

Suppose a benefactor has just come forward offering a sizable sum to augment your library's collection of women's studies books. You accept, of course, but how do you know what to buy? New Books on Women & Feminism lists over 3,000 new titles a year, but your benefactor isn't that generous. As a first step, you download all thirty topical Core Lists in Women's Studies from the website of the University of Wisconsin Women's Studies Librarian's Office (http:// www.library.wisc.edu/libraries/ WomensStudies/core/coremain.htm), but you want a bit more description of some of the titles to determine if they are appropriate to your campus, and are curious what other works have been published in the last several years. Where do you look next? Choice Reviews in Women's Studies is the perfect solution. Over 2,000 reviews, originally published in Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries, are reprinted here, arranged by subject and indexed by name, title, and additional topics. Sure, you could look back through each monthly issue of Choice, or use Choice CD-ROM if available, but either way you'd lose the convenient browsability by subject possible in this merged work.

Other uses for this book? When colleagues or committees inquire about the output in feminist research, this is an excellent resource to turn to. It is a little harder to use to capture women's

studies as an interdisciplinary field, however. The Knowledge Explosion, which assesses feminist scholarship in many disciplines and thematically across fields, and Women's Studies in the 1990s: Doing Things Differently? are listed in the Education section of the Social and Behavioral Sciences, but Women's Studies Graduates: The First Generation is in Sociology and Feminist Methods in Social Research is in the History, Research, Theory section. The indexes do nothing to pull together such related works.

The reviews themselves are written by hundreds of faculty members, librarians, and independent scholars. They follow a set format but exercise great latitude in their judgments.

DIRECTORIES

Elizabeth A. Olson, ed., BIG BOOK OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN: THE DIRECTORY OF WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS.
Chicago: J.G. Ferguson, 1997. 455p. index, ISBN 0-89434-183-9.

Women applying to college or graduate school or investigating careers often seek information on financial aid specifically for women. Various guides exist to help them, in particular the well-researched Directory of Financial Aids for Women, by Gail Schlachter (issued biennially by Reference Service Press and likely to be found in libraries), or they might buy Dollars for College: The Quick Guide to Financial Aid for Women in All Fields, by Elizabeth A. Olson (Garrett Park Press, 1995). Others in need of contact information for women's organizations and programs have several options, including library resources such as Women's Information Directory, edited by Shawn Brenner (Gale Research, 1993), and NWO: A Directory of National Women's Organizations, compiled by Paulette P. Tulloch (National Council for Research on Women, 1992), or a handy paperback, The Women's Information

Exchange National Directory, compiled by Deborah Brecher and Jill Lippitt (Avon, 1994). The Big Book of Opportunities for Women, also by Dollars for College author Olson, updates two prior Garrett Park Press (now Ferguson?) publications, The Directory of Special Opportunities for Women (1981) and Women's Organizations: A National Directory (1986), both by Martha Merrill Doss, combining both types of information into a single volume.

About three-fourths of the book is devoted to financial aid programs. The listings are arranged by discipline, followed by general financial aid programs and those targeting athletes or students with disabilities. Short annotations spell out the requirements. In the business section, for example, an entry for Red Onion Restaurants Corporation reveals that women preparing for a career in food services or hotel and restaurant management are eligible for scholarships of \$500, with applications due in April. More lucrative in the age of \$20,000 annual tuition charges at private universities is the \$7,000 Mary Isabel Sibley Fellowship available from Phi Beta Kappa for female students in French or Greek language or history. However, insufficient information is provided to ascertain at what stage a student might apply. Are incoming freshmen eligible? Are these for undergraduate majors or those planning graduate work? The Schlacter Directory of Financial Aids for Women, while silent on Red Onion, provides important additional information on the Sibley Fellowship. It is for women either already holding a doctorate or having fulfilled all the requirements for the doctorate except the dissertation. A student using any directory should write for detailed information before getting her hopes up too far. The "General Financial Aids" section mostly lists scholarships limited to particular colleges or locales, although not by subject.

Directory information is divided into sections listing organizations of minority women, services for displaced

homemakers, state commissions on women, women's colleges, women's studies programs, national professional and trade organizations, and research centers. A last section lists women's periodicals and other directories. These sections are not annotated. Only 250 of the over 600 women's studies programs are listed, and some errors have crept into the various listings. "Women Make Movies" appears as a periodical (it is a distributor of women's films), as does Wisconsin Woman, which, regrettably, ceased seven years ago, and NWSA Journal is attributed to the National Women's Sociological Association (!) rather than the National Women's Studies Association.

Perhaps the Big Book is trying to include too much in one volume to do sufficient justice to either of its two functions. More welcome would be either a more detailed guide to financial aid or an up-to-date directory describing the organizations' purposes, programs, or publications in a way that directly highlights information of use to students exploring careers.

ENCYCLOPEDIAS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Sheila Keenan, SCHOLASTIC ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES. New York: Scholastic Reference, 1996. 206p. index. ISBN 0-590-22792-0.

Biographies of prominent women are a popular feature of children's literature today. Women astronauts, athletes, scientists, writers, political leaders, and occasional troublemakers all have full books. Chelsea House, for example, has a series of forty-one American Women of Achievement biographies for grades five and up on Betty Friedan, Althea Gibson, Emma Goldman, and even Edith Wharton. Whether it's Elizabeth Cady Stanton or Oprah Winfrey you are after, there's likely to be a juvenile biography available. A biographical reference work for middle school readers, however, is harder to come by. The

Scholastic Encyclopedia fills that gap with brief biographies of 217 women and sidebars on 43 more.

The book is divided into six chronological chapters, each with an introductory overview. There's an excellent representation of women with a variety of endeavors and ethnic and racial backgrounds, and sidebars enlarge on matters raised in the biographical sketches. Two-tone color illustrations enhance just about every page. The terminology is de-gendered (Bette Davis is an actor, Louise Nevelson a sculptor, etc.).

This book should find its way into school libraries, particularly those still relying on old editions of general encyclopedias for basic reference.

GIRLS' BOOKS

Kathleen Odean, *GREAT BOOKS FOR GIRLS*. New York: Ballantine Books, 1997. 420p. indexes. pap., \$12.95, ISBN 0-345-40484-X.

Based on the high number of requests we get for "Brave, Active, and Resourceful Females in Picture Books," a bibliography by Claudia Morrow in our "Wisconsin Bibliographies in Women's Studies" series, there is an audience eager for guidance in finding such books. I'm also often asked for suggestions on good books for school-aged children. I've been referring people to Gender Positive! A Teachers' and Librarians' Guide to Nonstereotyped Children's Literature K-8, by Patricia L. Roberts, Nancy L. Cecil, and Sharon Alexander (McFarland, 1993) for some excellent choices for beginning readers through middle-schoolers. As good as it is, however, Gender Positive! contains only about two hundred titles for this entire age span and is not as likely to be available in bookstores as is Great Books for Girls, published in paperback by a trade publisher. Great Books for Girls describes more than six hundred books that can inspire girls and show boys examples of females who are strong, plucky, competent, and occasionally naughty. As author

Kathleen Odean discovered in her years as a school librarian, gender stereotyping persists. In too many children's books "boys go exploring, girls stick close to home," she says, and "even when gender makes no difference to the plot, the 'default setting' is male" (p.5). She selected books where female characters solved problems, had adventures, took risks, got dirty, and liked snakes and insects. She looked for fictional mothers who support their daughters' strengths and who are good role models. Books are included from many cultures and ethnicities, and Heather Had Two Mommies, by Leslea Newman (Alyson Wonderland, 1989) is at least one title I spotted with lesbian characters.

Some of the books rounded up by Odean sound very appealing. I like the description of Marge's Diner, by Gail Gibbons (Crowell, 1989), for ages 4-8. Marge owns and operates her diner, and both women and men work for her. She's shown doing all her tasks, from serving food to making a night deposit at the bank. Marge is a small businesswoman appreciated by family and employees. Odean calls her a "neglected species" in children's books. Bel-Air Bambi and the Mall Rats, by Richard Peck (Delacorte, 1993), for ages ten to twelve, features a twelve-year-old, Hollywood-wise bully fighter, her clever mother, and gun-toting grandmother. Who could ask for more?

Great Books for Girls is divided into logical sections: picture books, folktales, and books for beginning, middle, and older readers (subdivided by fiction, biography, and occasional other categories). Odean also provides a useful section on resources for parents that includes tips on keeping up with children's book publishing and reading aloud, ideas on empowering daughters, and annotated suggestions of books for children about sex and for parents about raising daughters. Only books in print at the time she was compiling her material are described in the main section of the book, although Odean includes a list of out-of-print titles in an appendix as well.

Each annotation highlights the traits of female characters, summarizes the plot, and offers a succinct evaluation. *Great Books for Girls* should be handy in all feminist bookstores and is a must purchase for school and public libraries.

HEALTH

PLANNED PARENTHOOD WOMEN'S HEALTH ENCYCLOPE-DIA. New York: Crown Trade Paperbacks, 1996. 438p. index. \$22.00, ISBN 517-88823-8.

News to this reviewer is that Planned Parenthood is both the oldest and largest provider of health care to women in the United States, as the Introduction claims. More than 120 alphabetic entries from abortion to yoga can "serve as your primary resource for practical preventive health-care information." Having looked this encyclopedia over thoroughly, I am inclined to agree.

Its 438 pages, including four appendices and index, seem slim compared to the much heftier *Harvard Guide to Women's Health* with its 718 pages. Yet the coverage seems more than adequate. Many cross-references follow the main entry, as do listings of organizations providing additional information. A comfortable size for handling, this volume uses straightforward language and has a pleasing design with large, clear type. Highlighted and set off in shaded boxes are different aspects of the subject, or other special information.

Although each entry emphasizes women's concerns, the subject matter in many instances is of the same importance to men. The "Death and dying" entry offers a clear expression of both sides of the current debate on caretaking at death. Since women are usually the primary caretakers of people at the end of life, their role is emphasized and their own health in a difficult period addressed, but the content is as useful to men.

Abortion, aging, premenstrual syndrome, sexual orientation are all fully examined in an impartial way – facts without fury. The abortion controversy, for example, is highlighted in a sidebar, with reference to the heated debate since the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. Partial birth abortion, the latest controversy, is not mentioned. Premenstrual syndrome (PMS) is well-covered, including symptoms, causes, treatment, and suggestions for preventing or alleviating it.

Aging and sexual orientation, two other subjects much discussed in the media, are given full and factual treatment. Their entries might serve as an introduction to these controversial subjects for interested adolescents. The all-important addresses for obtaining more information follow the entry.

Appendix A, Medical Language, is a glossary of complex medical terms; in Appendix B, on Medical Testing, I was pleased to find the meaning of CAT Scan (computerized axial tomography) for a procedure I was to undergo that day; Appendix C is a bibliography, and Appendix D a listing of all the available Planned Parenthood publications, with purchasing information.



Miriam Greenwald

A short introductory history of Planned Parenthood and Appendix D are two ways of bringing Planned Parenthood to the attention of the reading public that might not know of it (hard to believe), or to underline its many services for those who do.

LAW

Kathleen A. O'Shea & Beverly R. Fletcher, comps., *FEMALE OF-FENDERS: AN ANNOTATED BIB-LIOGRAPHY*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1997. 264p. indexes. \$79.50, ISBN 0-313-29228-0.

The compilers of this bibliography, both of whom have worked with women in prisons, state that it took them awhile to convince an editor such a bibliography was even needed, since the computer does such a miraculous job of retrieving titles easily and fast. In fact, they write, this interdisciplinary bibliography – which includes titles from social work, psychology, sociology, law, education, history, crime, health, literature, and medicine took them over two years to compile. Regrettably, they say, many additional titles from radio and TV talk shows, video, documentaries, even drama on women offenders had to be omitted.

Eight chapters altogether, plus subject and author indexes, make up this work. Each chapter's subheading points out related topics to look for. The brief annotations do not reflect an opinion. The arrangement of the chapters does, as the Foreword suggests, make titles "more accessible to educators, researchers, and students as well as to practitioners who daily face the profound human service needs of these women at all ages and in a variety of settings" (p.x).

Jean Harris, the highly educated school administrator convicted in the sensational murder of her lover, "diet doctor" Herman Tarnower, has three articles cited from professional journals about her own work with other inmates and about rehabilitation issues.

Chapter 7, Political Prisoners: Personal Accounts and Official Reports, is an effective roundup of women's writings about prison experiences in all the danger spots and rogue countries of the world, including prisons of the United States.

Chapter 8 is a bibliography of bibliographies, listing articles on all aspects of women offenders, their crimes, and the criminal justice system.

In their selections, the compilers point out, "female offenders and particularly women of color are shown to have fewer opportunities for educational, vocational and health programs than their male counterparts."

Throughout, their selections show how systems have been designed largely for men, with the needs of women forced to fit into them.

The compilers consider this bibliography a work-in-progress and urge users to write them about inevitable errors. They also ask for additional listings for a planned update.

[Carolyn Wilson, Associate Editor in the Office of the Women's Studies Librarian, reviewed both books above.]

LITERATURE

Friederike Eigler and Susanne Kord, eds. THE FEMINIST ENCYCLO-PEDIA OF GERMAN LITERA-TURE. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1997. 676p. index. \$99.50, ISBN 0-313-29313-9.

A reference work that expands intellectual horizons while providing fascinating reading is a boon, and the present compilation's success on both counts is reason enough to recommend it to anyone interested in German literature and/or women's studies. Its uniqueness lies in its extensive reassessment of the field of Germanistik (used here in the larger sense of German studies rather than literature or philology alone) to highlight women's influences on and

contributions to the field's many and various facets.

For this effort the editors, Georgetown University scholars, recruited contributors through the Women in German convention and newsletter, assembling a group of over one hundred experts in literature, film, history, women's studies, and related areas. Instead of focusing only on women authors, they favored a topicoriented approach, consulting existing literary and women's studies reference works for possible headings. The five hundred signed entries, arranged in a single alphabetical sequence, thus include literary periods and genres, critical theories, concepts, historical events, and organizations and archives relevant to women's studies. Ranging from very broad (e.g., Feminist Theory, GDR Literature, Psychoanalysis) to quite specific (Abortion, Goddess, Father-Daughter Relationship), most cover at least a page and provide historical context along with useful examples. Each entry is also followed by its own brief bibliography of secondary sources. Treatments of traditional periods such as Classicism or Romanticism and familiar genres, concepts and figures - Novella, Bildungsroman, Poststructuralism, Mannweib, to name a few - always emphasize both the image of women found therein and, more importantly, women's own creative contributions to the particular topic or period. Certain writers and works important to the feminist movement have their own entries, but these were kept to a minimum because of availability in other reference works. An Appendix of Names facilitates locating the numerous names embedded in topical entries by listing authors and other named persons with all entries in which they appear. A name/title/ subject index further enhances access.

The number of individual contributors results in style differences, but editors have done a good job of keeping entries coherent, informative, and consistent. Scholars on all levels will find here a traditionally-formatted literary encyclopedia with nontraditional content that does an impressive job of documenting the "rest of the story," the long-neglected role of women in a prolific literary heritage.

[Willa Schmidt, a Reference Librarian at University of Wisconsin-Madison's Memorial Library, reviewed this title.]

Kathleen Wheeler, *A GUIDE TO TWENTIETH-CENTURY WOMEN NOVELISTS*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1997. 442p. index. \$74.95, ISBN 0-631-16493-6.

Wheeler has two intentions for this guide: to introduce the reader to a variety of women novelists and to offer a clear idea of the development of the twentieth-century novel. Her 135 essays on women novelists writing in English concentrate on analyzing the narrative forms, stylistic techniques, and other characteristics of the novelists as well as providing basic biographical and bibliographic information. To make the interrelationships and development issues clearer, she groups the writers in four chronological periods: realism/early modernism, 1895-1925; high modernism/experimentations/continuing development of the socio-moral novel, 1918-1945; neo-realism/post-war novel/early post-modernist innovations, 1944-1975; and further internationalism/diversification and experimentation, 1970-1995. Each period is introduced by two essays, one on the forms and the other on the writers. Wheeler uses the term "Englishes" rather than a singular English language to emphasize the variant flavors of English around the world. While most of the novelists are British or American, writers from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the Caribbean, and elsewhere are also represented.

In addition to the sections noted above, Wheeler provides a chapter describing more women writers worldwide, a bibliographic pathfinder on research resources, and an extensive bibliography of general resources and works on her 135 authors. One wonders at the choice of placing the bibliographies on individual authors in a separate section rather than with the essays on the authors themselves.

Wheeler's sentences are long and complicated. Here's a typical example, in the essay on A.S. Byatt: "While both The Shadow of a Sun and The Game seem to represent an artistically interesting if painful process of turning autobiographical experience into fiction, according to fairly conventional methods, Byatt's later novels appear to concentrate more upon self-conscious experimentation, beginning with The Virgin in the Garden, with its stylistic achievements of complexity, erudition and density of language, allusion to the literary tradition, and alternating narrative perspectives" (p. 257).

Interrelating twentieth-century women novelists and the development of the novel over the course of the century is a huge undertaking. Wheeler is to be commended for successfully explaining those interconnections to the interested reader.

Katharina M. Wilson, Paul Schlueter, and June Schlueter, eds., WOMEN WRITERS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND EUROPE: AN ENCYCLOPE-DIA. New York: Garland, 1997. 571p. indexes. \$95.00, ISBN 0-8153-2343-3.

I feel cheated by this book. The concept of a one-volume, illustrated biographical encyclopedia of historical and current British and Continental women writers is a good one. Those authors wrote in all genres and many languages, across time and place, yet they all share female identity, which influences how they approach their

work and how it is viewed. A onevolume work is useful to reach for, especially when you are not certain of the country of origin or residence of an author, but need basic biographical and analytical information. Yet this book has a serious defect. It is not a truly new work. While the editors are identified on the back cover as editors of prior Garland compilations (Wilson did Encyclopedia of Continental Women Writers, 1991, and the Schlueters, Encyclopedia of British Women Writers, 1988), nowhere is it stated that the actual entries are reprinted from those works with minor editing changes at most. As far as I could determine from representative comparisons, there are no new articles in Women Writers. The original, signed essays are creditable, and the earlier works received well-deserved plaudits from Feminist Collections and others as useful literary reference works on women writers. However, the essays have not been updated to include plot summaries or analysis of works published by contemporary authors since issuance of the earlier compilations. For example, the entry for Anita Brookner ends with discussion of her 1985 novel Family and Friends (she's published at least ten more since then), and Hélène Cixous' work on writer Clarice Lispecter is not covered. The essay on Jane Austen ignores the intense interest in her in the 1990s (as witnessed by the number of movies made from her novels, as well as a heavily used website with hypertext versions of her works). The essays do not take into consideration literary criticism published on any of the authors, living or deceased, in the interim. These are serious flaws. Only the list of published works by each contemporary author shows updating (through 1995). A partial solace to the absence of analysis of more recent writings and criticism might have been offered if the bibliographies about each author and her writings had been

updated. But Women Writers eliminated this category entirely!

For all these reasons, I cannot recommend the book in this format, especially to libraries and individuals that already own the prior reference works. Wait for an actual updating of the entries.

MUSIC

Sylvia Glickman and Martha Furman Schleifer, eds., WOMEN COMPOSERS: MUSIC THROUGH THE AGES. New York: G.K. Hall/ Simon & Schuster Macmillan, 1996-. Eventual 12-volume set; published to date, v.1. Composers Born Before 1599, index, \$100, ISBN 0-8161-0926-5; and v.2. Composers Born 1600-1699, index, \$100, ISBN 0-8161-0563-4. Examined: v.2.

This series offers biographical information about women composers, descriptions of each of their compositions, and bibliographical citations to books, articles, discographies, and manuscripts. It also does more, providing words and translations of their songs and actual scores for their music, ready for classroom and performance uses (performance parts require additional scores).

Sixteen composers are featured in volume two. Most are Italians, including singer/composer Francesca Campana, Venetians Barbara Strozzi and Antonia Bembo, and several women who became nuns. Others come from France (harpsichordist Elizabeth-Claude Jacquet de la Guerre), Germany (Princess Sophie Elisabeth, Duchess of Brunswick and Luneburg), and England (Mary Harvey, Lady Dering, the first woman in England to publish music in her own name).

The eighteenth and nineteenth centuries will take up three volumes each (divided by genre – instrumental, vocal, and mixed). The twentieth will get four, for the three genres available in the earlier centuries plus a volume solely on experimental music. This is

truly a resource for music teachers, musicians, and everyone else interested in reclaiming the works of women composers.

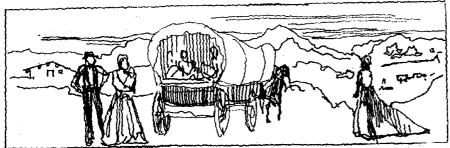
MUSLIM WOMEN

Michelle R. Kimball and Barbara R. von Schlegell, *MUSLIM WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD: A BIBLIOGRAPHY*. Boulder, CO:

Lynne Rienner Publishers, 1997. 309p. index. ISBN 1-55587-680-3.

With almost three thousand citations, this work has promise as a comprehensive bibliography on all aspects of Muslim women's lives around the world. One strength is its annotated section of some fifty most highly recommended titles, based on a national survey of scholars or included for their originality, perceptivenes, or reflection of an increasing awareness of the subject. This section will nicely fulfill its intent of helping instructors choose course readings. The bibliography proper, however, will be more difficult for the uninitiated to sort out. It consists of one continuous list of citations only, arranged alphabetically by last name of author (with various provisions made for the filing elements of Arab names). The only way a reader can locate books and articles on a particular country, topic, or personage is through the subject index, but there's no way to evaluate the relative importance of various works on the same subject without annotations. This is disappointing in a book on a subject of such global importance and interest, but in which many instructors are not well-versed. One expects more from a \$75.00 price tag.

Nevertheless, judicious use of the subject index leads to citations ranging from feminist literature in Algeria to milk-kinship in the Arab world, sex differentiation in Baghdadi Arabic, employment of Turkish immigrants in Australia, and the poetry of Forugh Farrokhzad. Let's hope the authors will give us more annotations next time.



Miriam Greenwald

NORTHWEST WOMEN

Karen J. Blair, NORTHWEST WOMEN: AN ANNOTATED BIBLI-OGRAPHY OF SOURCES ON THE HISTORY OF OREGON AND WASHINGTON WOMEN, 1787-1970. Pullman, WA: Washington State University Press, 1997. 134p. index. \$32.95, ISBN 0-87422-145-5.

Regional women's history is coming into its own. Here in Madison, we've just had a conference on "Women of the Midwest: History and Sources" sponsored by Women's Studies Outreach and featuring a feast of topics from Midwestern women's clubs to educating rural women. Southern women have received a great deal of attention, particularly their relationship to slavery, the plantation system, and the Civil War (for example, Within the Plantation Household: Black and White women of the Old South, by Elizabeth Fox-Genovese, 1988; Discovering the Women in Slavery: Emancipating Perspectives on the American Past, edited by Patricia Morton, 1996; and Mothers of Invention: Women of the Slaveholding South in the American Civil War, by Drew Gilpin Faust, 1996). The history of women in the Pacific Northwest is also being written, but until historian Karen Blair assembled this annotated bibliography, there was no reference tool describing the material.

Blair collected 722 citations to books and articles on women in Oregon and Washington since 1787, the beginning of the written record when Euro-American traders came to the region to obtain Indian goods. She found material on the contributions of prominent individual women, such as Berthe Landes, the first woman mayor of a large American city (Seattle), Socialist orator and participant in the 1909 Spokane Free Speech Movement Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, and Piute interpreter Sarah Winnemucca. Coverage runs through 1960s activism by mother of eight Carla Annette Chotzen against nuclear arms testing, and by Jeri Ware, who dealt with African American issues through the Negro Labor Council and Central Area School Council in Seattle. Blair also lists diaries and memoirs of pioneer women published in academic editions with historical analysis.

This is a very thorough compilation. Not only are there citations to material wholly on women, but also to general histories for which Blair calls attention to women discussed in the texts. The index will be very helpful to researchers interested in the experiences of Native American women (over ninety Indian nations are listed), missionaries, Japanese-American women during their internment in World War II, and many other topics. Northwest Women is a model of how to prepare such a bibliography.

SPORTS

Victoria Sherrow, *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WOMEN AND SPORTS*. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 1996. 382p. index. \$60.00, ISBN 0-87436-826-X.

The field of women and sports has inspired comparatively few reference

works. Ruth Sparhawk published a chronology American Women in Sport, 1887-1987 (Scarecrow, 1989), Janet Woolum wrote short biographies of Outstanding Women Athletes (Oryx, 1992), and Helen Lenskyj and Mary L. Remley compiled bibliographies (Lenskyj's is Women, Sport and Physical Activity, Government of Canada, 1991; Remley's, Women in Sport from G.K. Hall, 1991) of interest to the academic community. There has not, however, been a general-purpose encyclopedia covering individual women athletes, the history of women in various sports, special concerns of women athletics, and "firsts" and other facts of interest. Encyclopedia of Women and Sports fills this niche quite competently; however, libraries on tight budgets may wish to hold off and compare this title to similar works forthcoming in Fall 1997 from Oryx, Facts on File, and Holt.

The entries in Encyclopedia of Women and Sports are concise without feeling compressed. The facial expressions in photographs of athletes at work reveal their determination to succeed. Entries for individual athletes review their accomplishments yet do not gloss over problems the athletes encountered. Tennis star Jennifer Capriati, for example, was charged with possession of marijuana in 1994. Swimmer Diana Nyad completed many grueling swims, including twenty-eight miles circling Manhattan Island in waters containing dead rats and trash, but also made some unsuccessful attempts to swim from Florida to Cuba or across the English Channel. The Nyad article is typical of one problem I have with the entries. Many of the athletes leave the public eye in their twenties, and the articles give short shrift to the rest of their lives. What do they do thereafter? In Nyad's case, the events described occurred in the 1970s. What has she done since? Did she complete the Ph.D. program in comparative literature that the article says she entered in 1973? Although bibliographic references are listed at the end of her entry, these, too, are from the 1970s.

One of the issues for women's sports has been unequal treatment in the mainstream media. The entry for Sports Illustrated discusses this issue, noting praise of the magazine for increasing its coverage of women's sports, yet ongoing criticism for its annual swimsuit issue. The entry also summarizes a recent study by Madeleine Blais, who examined the covers of SI weekly issues from February 1993 to February 1994. Blais found women on only six covers, and each appeared for reasons other than athletic prowess (Nancy Kerrigan, for example, when she was clubbed in the knee). Another issue for women and sports has been gender equity in school athletics. An entry for Title IX (of the Educational Amendments Act of 1972) addresses the problem, but the entry is sorely incomplete. There is no mention of the court cases and Office of Civil Rights regulations interpreting the Act in the 1980s and 1990s.

Encyclopedia of Women and Sports also contains an introductory overview, a time line through 1996, and a bibliography. This may be the encyclopedia on women and sports for you – or you may wish to first examine Encyclopedia of Women & Sport in America, ed. by Carole Oglesby, et al., (Oryx Press), Women in Sports A-Z by Frank Coffey (Facts on File), and Women's Sports Encyclopedia, by Robert J. Markel (Henry Holt & Co.), all due out by the end of 1997.

WOMEN'S "FIRSTS"

Caroline Zilboorg, ed., *WOMEN'S FIRSTS*. Detroit: Gale Research, 1996. 564p. index. \$44.95, ISBN 0-7876-0151-9.

This is the second work in the 1990s chronicling firsts for women, following The Book of Women's Firsts: Break-Through Achievements of Almost 1,000 American Women, by Phyllis J. Read and Bernard L. Witlieb (Random House, 1992). Zilboorg's improves on the first by providing source information for each fact

presented (with full citation in a bibliography at the end of the book), and by using subject/chronological arrangement rather than alphabetical, so that a chronological march of firsts in a particular field can be easily recognized. There are fifteen subject area chapters, from activism to health, literature, military, and science, further subdivided by endeavor. The film section in the arts chapter, for example, begins in 1896 when the first producer/director (male or female), Alice Guy, showed her movie La Fée au Choux for the first time. The annotation is careful to state "she may also have been the first person to bring a fictional film to the screen," indicating that one or more of the four sources given must express some uncertainty as to who was actually first. This section continues for fourteen pages of facts and photographs, through 1990, when film editor Margaret Booth became the first woman to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Cinema Editors, and Ruby Oliver was the first Black woman to direct, write, produce, and sing in a 35 mm. film (Love Your Mama). Both 1990 firsts were culled from Ally Acker's Reel Women: Pioneers of the Cinema 1896 to the Present (Continuum, 1991). While many of the firsts are for American women, there is good coverage of women from other countries, too.

Women's Firsts can also be used as a book of days, because it contains a "calendar of firsts" cross-referenced to the page for each entry. A composite chronology ("index by year") lists all firsts included, and an extensive subject index encompasses nationality and place.

Because of its source citations, Women's Firsts serves as an index to material on hundreds of women in many other books. Like all works based on other secondary sources, however, problems may arise when those sources are not subject-specific or authoritative themselves. A case in point is the entry for Beruriah, called "the first and only woman mentioned

in the Talmud." This is wrong. Other women are named in the Talmud, and an entire chunk of the corpus is laws concerning women. The sources listed are Judy Chicago's *The Dinner Party* (Anchor, 1979) and *The Timetables of Women's History*, by Karen Greenspan (Simon & Schuster, 1994). No scholar would rely on either as a source of reliable information on women in the Talmud. Where accuracy is crucial, check the sources cited, then evaluate those sources.

WOMEN'S ISSUES

Margaret McFadden, ed., *[READY REFERENCE,] WOMEN'S ISSUES.*Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1997. 3v. \$270 (prepublication price \$225 to July 1, 1997), ISBN 0-89356-765-5.

The purpose of a "ready reference" work is to bring together facts and other basic information on a subject in an easily grasped format so that the look-up time is minimal, and, one hopes, the answer found quickly. With a topic as broad as "women's issues," the temptation must have been great to subdivide coverage into smaller chunks, but luckily for the time-starved user, McFadden chose a simple single alphabetical arrangement across the entire set. Likewise, a unified subject index at the end of the third volume provides efficient entreé to persons, concepts, and events at the sub-entry level; plus cross-references and aspects of themes discussed in different contexts. The 696 entries cover significant U.S. court cases and legislation, workplace matters, health/ sexuality/reproductive rights, media images, violence against women, the salience of race and ethnicity, sports, literature, education, and notable women and organizations. Each volume repeats a "List of Entries by Category" for those who wish to find all the articles on one of these subjects. Black-and-white photographs (some with rather low resolution) appear throughout, and there are some charts.

Head notes listing "relevant issues" (broad concepts) and "significance" start each entry. The "relevant issues" for the Combahee River Collective, for example, are civil rights, race and ethnicity, sex and gender, social reform, and women's history, while its "significance" is stated as: "This group of black feminists challenges multiple sources of oppression, including racial, sexual, heterosexual, and class oppression" (v.1, p.171). In the case of personages, the "relevant issues" change to "areas of achievement," which remain broad (K.D. Lang's are arts and entertainment, sex and gender [v.2, p.494]). The topic is next explained in more detail, and longer entries have subheadings. The entries end with crossreferences to other articles in Women's Issues, and longer, signed entries add bibliographies (for articles over 1,250 words), some annotated (when articles run to 2,500 words or more.)

The third volume adds several appendices, including state-by-state listings of "Landmarks, Monuments and Historic Sites" and "Educational Institutions With Programs in Women's Studies" (with several errors in how Wisconsin programs are portrayed: University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and UW-Milwaukee offer minors, or certificates, not majors in women's studies, and minors at nine other UW campuses are not listed at all.) "Museums, Archives, and Research Centers" and "Significant Organizations and Societies" are listed by interest category. Being up-to-date with this type of directory information is always tricky. The National Council for Research on Women moved some time ago from the address listed here, and many of the museums have websites that should have been provided. Some of the libraries mentioned are of dubious distinctiveness in this context (M.I.T.'s Humanities Library), yet others of value are ignored (the Cairns Collection of American Women Writers at University of Wisconsin-Madison). "Significant Supreme Court Decisions Affecting Women" and a "Time Line" by date, followed by a

topical bibliography and an annotated filmography of feature-length movies with significant female characters, complete the set.

This three-volume work delivers what it promises: quick facts and background information on topics affecting North American women in the 1990s.

BRIEFLY NOTED

Joan Nordquist, *FEMINISM WORLDWIDE: A BIBLIOGRAPHY*. Santa Cruz: Reference and Research Services, 1996. 64p. (Contemporary social issues: a bibliographic series, no.44). \$15.00, ISBN 0-937855-86-3.

Joan Nordquist, FRENCH FEMI-NIST THEORY III: LUCE IRIGARAY AND HELENE CIXOUS: A BIBLIOGRAPHY. Santa Cruz: Reference and Research Services, 1996. 71p. (Social theory: a bibliographic series, no.44). \$15.00, ISBN 0-937855-87-1.

Joan Nordquist, JULIA KRISTEVA II: A BIBLIOGRAPHY. Santa Cruz: Reference and Research Services, 1995. 76p. (Social theory: a bibliographic series, no.39). \$15.00, ISBN 0-937855-77-4.

Nordquist continues her work of charting feminist issues and theory in three new bibliographies. Feminism Worldwide covers the women's movements and feminism outside the United States. Section topics include international feminism, Europe, England, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, Third World, Latin America. Middle East, Africa, and Asia. Some sections list only books; others include periodical articles, chapters in anthologies, and more. While most of the listings could be picked up readily from library catalogs and databases, this bibliography can be a quick checklist for librarians or instructors teaching global feminism. Julia Kristeva II and French Feminist Theory III revisit English-language

material by or about the theorists previously surveyed in 1989 and 1990 Nordquist bibliographies, updating the citations into 1995 and 1996, respectively. Much has been published about Irigaray, Cixous, and Kristeva in the interim in women's studies periodicals, philosophical and literary anthologies, dissertations, and elsewhere. It is useful to have the citations pulled together from various disciplines and contexts.

Katharine Joan Phenix, SUBJECT GUIDE TO WOMEN OF THE WORLD. Lanham: Scarecrow Press, 1996. 516p. \$79.00, ISBN 0-8108-3190-2.

This volume is a subject index to two prior reference works compiled by Norma Olin Ireland: Index to Women of the World From Ancient to Modern Times: Biographies and Portraits (1970) and its Supplement (1988). The earlier works are themselves indexes to biographical information on over 24,000 women covered in collective biographies and special magazine supplements. The arrangement of the Index and Supplement are entirely alphabetical by last name of the individual. The new volume provides subject access to listings for the women. It is now possible, for example, to look up "Government officials, Ecuadorian" or women named "Mothers of the Year." A geographic index lists women from countries outside the United States: American women associated with particular states are listed in the main index (sixty-three percent of the women are Americans).

Ideally, all three books would be issued on a CD-ROM so that any access point – name, occupation, home state, or associated endeavor – could be entered and the citations to the collective works retrieved. The publisher ought to explore this option. Better yet would be a product that included the full texts of the 945 biographical volumes indexed in the 1970 work, the 380 in the supplement,

and an updating for the intervening ten years, but that would be considerably more daunting for a publisher to attempt.

Doris Weatherford, MILESTONES: A CHRONOLOGY OF AMERICAN WOMEN'S HISTORY. New York: Facts on File, 1997. 394p. index. \$45.00, ISBN 0-8160-3200-9.

Milestones is the latest entry into the crowded field of chronologies of women's history. Weatherford is wellqualified to prepare a chronology on American women's history, since she previously published an encyclopedia, American Women's History (1994) and monographs on immigrant women in America and American women during World War II. *Milestones* is arranged in chronological chapters representing women's history (for example, "Feminism in the Victorian Age, 1877-1899" and "The Counterculture Years and the Revival of Feminism, 1961-1980.") Facts presented concentrate on politics, work, sports, literary achievements, entertainment, and feminism. Entries for a particular year seem to follow a random order, and the exact date of most events is not provided.

The first fact revealed in *Milestones* is that in 1492 Christopher Columbus used his father-in-law's maps that had been carefully preserved by his mother-in-law, Isabel Moniz.

Other early events include the arrival of women colonists and the 1621 courtship and marriage of Priscilla Mullins to John Alden, immortalized in a poem (by whom? Weatherford doesn't say...) two centuries later. Weatherford points out that the romantic legend belies the reality. Priscilla was an orphan who bore at least eleven children and died in such obscurity that the date is unknown. The last entries are for 1995.

No sources are given for the individual entries, but the information presumably comes from the material listed in a selected bibliography at the end of the book.

◆◆P. H.W. (except as noted)

PERIODICAL NOTES

New and Newly Discovered Periodicals

[Eds. note: In v.18, no.2, our Winter 1997 issue of Feminist Collections, we noted in this column that the Journal of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Identity seemed somewhat short on content by and about women, based on the sample issue in hand. Thanks to editor Warren J. Blumenfeld, we have been able to examine the contents of other issues and are happy to report that in most issues, particularly v.2, no.2, April 1997, articles and reviews by and about lesbians and bisexual women appear more frequently.]

BOOKWOMEN 1996- . Eds.: Mollie Hoben, Glenda Martin. 6/yr. \$24. Single copy: \$5. Center for Feminist Reading, Minnesota Women's Press, Inc., 771 Raymond Ave., St. Paul, MN 55114; email: womenpress@aol.com. (Issue examined: v.1, no.2, December 1996-January 1997)

The offspring of a women's press, this easy-to-handle compilation brings together brief stories of readers and their books, writers and their work, and in the issue we examined, a collector seeking elusive items. Stories from readers are encouraged, and news from book groups ("Coyotes" are profiled in this issue) and online observers is included. A list of "books and writers mentioned in this issue" concludes the twenty-seven-page magazine.

COLLEGE WOMAN 1997- . Ed.: Kristine Remer. Single copy: \$1. Kristine Remer, St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN 55057; email: remer@stolaf.edu. (Issue examined: first issue, April [1997])

Remer has put together something she calls "a conversation between college women" (subtitle) so that "college women from all over the U.S., the world, could discuss, vent, share, reflect, and grow together. Its thirty-three slick-paper pages appear in groupings on Self-Reflection, Relationships, Health, Response, and Fiction. Included are tips on getting into professional school, experiences from a semester abroad, a complaint against the diet industry, and a reflection on understanding our sexuality. Most writers are from St. Olaf College.

THE DOULA 1987?-. Ed./Publ.: Michele Winkler. 4/yr. \$15. Outside U.S., add \$15 (Canada and Mexico, \$5) in U.S. funds. Single copy: \$4. P.O. Box 71, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-0071. (Issue examined: no.32, Spring 1995)

The subtitle, "Mothers Sharing Information, Stories, & Support," well describes the content of this thirty-nine-page digest of information. Among the topics in the sample issue: gardening with children, choosing birth support

services, nursing infants and toddlers, homeschooling, and mothering sons, also some poetry, reflections, and a book review.

MUM: MOTHER'S UNDERGROUND MAGAZINE
1992?- Ed./publisher: Flora Calabrese. 3/yr. \$18;
Canada/Mexico: \$25; Airmail overseas: \$30. Single copy:
\$7. 3922 N. Ridgeway, Chicago, IL 60618. (Issues examined: no.15; no.17, 1997)

The mix of fiction, essays, poetry, interviews, and artwork make this magazine an interesting "link between our cultural and personal experience of the Feminine and the archetypal lore and wisdom of the Goddess" (p.3). One sample issue focuses on anger, the other on breasts, and each offers forty- to fifty-plus pages largely centered around the theme.

PART TIME MOM 1997. Ed.: Melanie Cole. 2/yr. (1997); 4/yr. thereaafter. \$2 to get on mailing list. Blue Sage Publishing Group, 1307 Ridgemont Dr., Austin, TX 78723. Email: bluesagepb@aol.com. (Issue examined: v.1, no.1, June 1997)

Subtitled "A Newsletter for Noncustodial Mothers," this four-page publication offers the stories of women dealing with loss of custody and activists battling for legal changes. A discussion of media stereotypes of noncustodial mothers, a description of emotional battering in a relationship, and a listing of resources are also part of the issue.

SIGHTS! 1997- . Ed.: Alice Erickson. 9/yr. (Sept. - May). \$25. 5109 Spring Court, Madison, WI 53705. Email: sights@midplains.net . (Issue examined: v.1, no.1, September 1997)

Begun in response to "an absence of publications that address young women's professional goals" (p.1), this newsletter offers eight pages that include interviews with a high school student, a college student (plus a review of her college), a woman starting out in a career, and someone well into her working life; future issues promise this ongoing format. An "Open Forum" offers a book review and personal travel experience, and the editor seeks input from readers about what they'd like to see.

WOMONSPEAK 1996- . Ed.: Lee. 4/yr.? P.O. Box 559, Franklinville, NJ 08322; email: Womongathr@aol.com. (Issue examined: v.1, no.2, Winter 1996-97)

The unnumbered, newsprint-type pages of this spirituality-oriented magazine carry news of and for the Womongathering community, organized into such departments as Transformations (spiritual practices transforming daily lives), Womyn Creating (various types of self-expression), Womyn Circling (what local groups are doing, how they formed), and Marketplace (lots of ads!).

Special Issues of Periodicals

FOCUS ON LEARNING PROBLEMS IN MATHEMAT-

ICS v.18, nos.1-3, Winter, Spring, Summer 1996: "Gender and Mathematics: Multiple Voices." Guest ed.: Lyn Taylor. Subscriptions: \$30 (indiv. membership); \$45 (inst. membership); outside North America, add \$10 postage. Single copy: \$9. Center for Teaching/Learning of Mathematics, P.O. Box 3149, Framingham, MA 01701.

Within this special issue's more than 180 pages are these and other articles: "Women and Mathematics: Avenues of Connections" (Charlene Morrow); "Emerging from the Past: Reclaiming the Mathematician Within" (Nancy Austin); "Thoughts on Gender, Fractions, and Toys" (Suzanne K. Damarin); "Meta Analysis and Quantitative Gender Differences: Reconciliation" (Lynn Friedman); "Expanding the Horizons of Young Women with Worthwhile Mathematical Tasks" (Edie Kort); and "Sharing Voices of Experience in Mathematics and Science: Beginning a Mentorship Program for Middle School Girls" (Stacey E. Marlow, Michael P. Marlow).

THE HIGH SCHOOL JOURNAL v.79, no.3, February/ March 1996: "Feminism, Gender Studies, Secondary and Other Schooling." Guest ed.: Lynda Stone. Subscriptions: \$20 (indiv.); \$26 (indiv., outside U.S.); \$24 (inst.); \$30 (inst., outside U.S.). Single copy: \$6 (\$7.50 outside U.S.). ISSN 0018-1498/86. University of North Carolina Press, Box 2288, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

Produced by the University of North Carolina's School of Education, this special issue includes: "Womanism and Me: An (Un)Caged Black Bird Sings for Freedom" (Dianne Smith); "Intentional Silence and Communication in a Democratic Society: The Viewpoint of One Asian American" (Valerie Ooka Pang); "Space Invaders: Desire and Threat in the Schooling of Girls" (Victoria Foster); "Educating the Resistance" (Lyn Mikel Brown); "Girls in Mathematics and Science: Constructivism as a Feminist Perspective" (Judith Meece, Gail Jones); "Women's History and the Subject 'Care'" (Geert ten Dam, Monique Volman); and more.

INDIANA JOURNAL OF GLOBAL LEGAL STUDIES

v.4, no.1, Fall 1996: "Feminism and Globalization: The Impact of the Global Economy on Women and Feminist Theory." Eds.: Alfred C. Aman, Jr., Jost Delbrück. Subscriptions: \$35; outside U.S., \$40 (surface), \$45 (air). Indiana University School of Law - Bloomington, 211 South Indiana Ave., Bloomington, IN 47405-1001.

Partial contents: "Toward a Feminist Analytics of the Global Economy" (Saskia Sassen); "Implications of Global Polarization for Feminist Work" (Gracia Clark); "Stop Stomping on the Rest of Us: Retrieving Publicness from the Privatization of the Globe" (Zillah Eisenstein); "Strategic Sisterhood or Sisters in Solidarity? Questions of

Communitarianism and Citizenship in Asia" (Aihwa Ong); "As the World (Or Dare I Say the Globe) Turns: Feminism and Transnationalism" (Fedwa Malti-Douglas).

THE INTERNATIONAL HISTORY REVIEW v.19, no.1, February 1997: "Twentieth-Century Women in Wartime." Ed.: Edward Ingram. Subscriptions: \$35 (indiv.); \$102 (inst.); outside Canada, pay in US\$. ISSN 0707-5332. Terence J. Ollerhead, International History Review, EAA 2015, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6, Canada. (Issue examined)

Partial contents: "Feminists, Nationalists, and Soldiers: Women in the Fight for Polish Independence" (Robert M. Ponichtera); "Gender, Class, and Patriotism: Women's Paramilitary Units in First World War Britain" (Krisztina Robert); "Mothers, Marraines, and Prostitutes: Morale and Morality in First World War France" (Susan R. Grayzel); "Feminism and Nationalism in China's War of Resistance against Japan" (Pan Yihong); and "Gender, Generation, and Race in American Shipyards in the Second World War" (Deborah Hirshfield).

ISRAEL SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH v.12, no.1, 1997: "Feminist Theory and Research: Israeli Institutions and Society." Guest eds.: Dlila Amir, Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui, Rachel Giora, Erela Shadmi. Subscriptions: \$15 (indiv.); \$25 (inst.). Single copy: \$10 (indiv.); \$15 (inst.). ISSN 0334-133X. The Humphrey Institute for Social Research, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, P.O. Box 653, Beer-Sheva, Israel 84105. (Issue examined)

Partial contents, derived from a 1995 conference (v.12, no.2 will include more conference papers): "Women in Israel: The Politics of Citizenship as a Non-Issue" (Sylvie Fogiel-Bijaoui); "The Oppression of Women by Other Women: Relations and Struggle between Mizrahi and Ashkenazi Women in Israel" (Henriette Dahan-Kalev); "Wife Abuse: A Method of Social Control" (Nadera Shalhoub-Kevorkian); "Elite Educational Institutions and the Recruitment of Women into National Elite Positions in Israel" (Beverly Mizrachi); and "Gendering Military Service in the Israeli Defense Forces" (Dafna N. Izraeli).

JOURNAL OF REPRODUCTIVE AND INFANT PSY-CHOLOGY v.13, no.2, April-June 1995: "The Menopause." Guest eds.: Myra S. Hunter, Beth Alder. (See subscription and address information in next entry.)

Partial contents: "A Multifactorial Approach to Complaints During the Climacteric" (Arend T. Veeninga, Floris W. Kraaimaat); "Pog Laus, Tsis Coj Khaub Ncaws Lawm: The Meaning of Menopause in Hmong Women" (Pranee Liamputtong Rice); "Knowledge and Beliefs About Menopause in a General Population Sample of Mid-aged Women" (K. Lih-Mei Liao and Myra S. Hunter); "Caught in the Web: The Social Construction of Menopause as Disease" (Jeanne Daly); "The Continuation of Hormone Replacement Therapy: A Compliance Study of Dutch and Belgian Climacteric Women" (A.P. Visser et al.).

JOURNAL OF REPRODUCTIVE AND INFANT PSY-CHOLOGY v.15, no.2, May 1997: "Post-partum Care and Experiences of Mothering." Guest eds.: Anne Woollett, Paula Nicolson. Subscriptions: £40 (EU and outside EU, indiv.); US\$72 (North Am., indiv.); £128 (EU and outside EU, inst.); US\$214 (North Am., inst.). ISSN 0264-6838. Carfax Publishing, 875-81 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139.

Contents: "Impact of Midwife-managed Care in the Postnatal Period: An Exploration of Psychosocial Outcomes" (N. Shields et al.); "Mothers of Babies Requiring Special Care: Attitudes and Experiences" (M.E. Redshaw); "Maternal Experiences of Preterm Birth and Neonatal Intensive Care" (Tilly Padden, Sheila Glenn); "Positive Experiences of Early Motherhood: Predictive Variables from a Longitudinal Study" (Josephine M. Green, Kostas Kafetsios); "Psychological Tasks for Women and Men in the Post-partum" (Anne Woollett, Mel Parr); "Being a 'Good Mother'" (Stephanie Brown et al); plus editorial on post-partum care.

JOURNAL OF THE SHORT STORY IN ENGLISH/Les Cahiers de la Nouvelle No.27, Autumn 1996: "Gender and Ethnicity in Short Stories by North American Women." Eds.: Corinne H. Dale, J.H.E. Paine. Subscriptions: 170 FF (France); 195 FF (other countries). Payable in French francs by check on a French bank. Single copy: Inquire. ISSN 0294-04422. Presses de l'Université d'Angers, 5, rue Le Nôtre, 49045 Angers Cedex 01 France.

Partial contents: "(Dis)Continuous Narrative: The Articulation of a Chicana Feminist Voice in Sandra Cisneros's *The House on Mango Street*" (D.L. Madsen); "The Transgression of Gender Roles: Hisaye Yamamoto's Disobedient Women" (Veronica C. Wang); "Flight and Arrival" A Study of Padma Hejmadi's Short Story 'Weather Report'" (Lakshmi Holmstrom); "Afrekete Rising: Two Coming-out Stories by African-American Lesbians" (Charlene Ball); and "Reconstructing the Native American Woman": Louise Erdrich's 'Fleur'" (Corinne H. Dale).

LIBRARY TRENDS v.44, no.4, Spring 1996: "Imagination and Scholarship: The Contributions of Women to American Youth Services and Literature." Guest ed.: Karen Patricia Smith. Subscriptions: \$50 (indiv.) +\$7 overseas; \$75 (inst.) +\$7 overseas. Single copy: \$18.50. ISSN 0024-2594. University of Illinois Press, Journals Dept., 1325 S. Oak St., Champaign, IL 61820.

Partial contents: "Female Advocacy and Harmonious Voices: A History of Public Library Services and Publishing for Children in the United States" (Kay E. Vandergrift); "New England Book Women: Their Increasing Influence" (Margaret Bush); "Margaret K. McElderry and the Professional Matriarchy of Children's Books" (Betsy Hearne); "Professional Jurisdiction and ALA Youth Services Women: Of Nightingales, Newberies, Realism, and the Right Books: 1937-1945" (Christine A. Jenkins); "The Pedagogical

Context of Women in Children's Services and Literature Scholarship" (Anne Lundin); and "A Feminist Analysis of the Voices for Advocacy in Young Adult Services" (Jane Anne Hannigan).

NATIONAL FORUM: THE PHI KAPPA PHI JOURNAL v.77, no.2, 1977: "Gender and Equity." Ed.: James P. Kaetz. Subscriptions: \$25 (nonmembers). Single copy: \$6.25. ISSN 0162-1831. The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, Box 16000, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70893.

Contents: "Hens, Eggs, Roosters, Astrological Bodies and Other Problems of Cause and Effect" (Barbara J. Ledeen); "Affirmative Action" (Deborah L. Rhode); "Worth More Than We Earn" (Ida L. Castro); "A Choice of Extent" (Louis M. Guenin); "Sexism and Scientific Research" (Bonnie B. Spanier); "Families and Gender Equity" (Scott Coltrane); and "Advertising to the 'Other' Culture" (Barbara Stern).

THE NEW INTERNATIONALIST no.240, February 1993: "Girls and Girlhood." Issue ed.: Maggie Black. Subscriptions: [In U.S.] \$36 (indiv.); \$60 (inst.). ISSN 0305-9529. EBSCO Publishing, 10 Estes St., P.O. Box 682, Ipswich, MA 01938. [For price/address in other countries, call/write for information.]

Contents: "Girls and Girlhood: Time We Were Noticed" (Maggie Black); "The Unwanted Sex" (Sakuntala Narasimhan); "Maids of All Work" (Judith Ennew); "Going to Grannie's" (Janie Hampton on genital mutilation); "Lolita's Not to Blame" (Roxanne Snider); "Chalking Up Victories" (Shahidul Alam et al. on three initiatives to change girls' access to schooling); plus several short sections of tidbits about portrayal of girls, facts about girls around the world, and other brief articles.

PERSPECTIVES IN MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

v.5, 1995: "Mexican American Women: Changing Images." Ed.: Juan R. García. Subscriptions: \$25 (indiv.); \$35 (inst.). Outside U.S.: \$28 (indiv.); \$44 (inst.). Single copy: \$15. ISSN 0889-8448. ISBN 0-939363-05-4. Mexican American Studies & Research Center, 315 Douglass Bldg, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721.

Partial contents: "Beyond Machismo, La Familia, and Ladies Auxiliaries: A Historiography of Mexican-Origin Women's Participation in Voluntary Associations and Politics in the United States, 1870-1990" (Cynthia E. Orozco); "Faithful Hard-Working Mexican Hands': Mexicana Workers During the Great Depression" (Yolanda Chávez Leyva); "Cooperative Re/Weavings: Artistic Expression and Economic Development in a Northern New Mexican Village" (María Ochoa); and "The Rearguarders Thesis and Latina Elites: A Case Study" (Isidro D. Ortiz).

POSITIONS: EAST ASIA CULTURES CRITIQUE v.5, no.1, Spring 1997: "The Comfort Women: Colonialism, War, and Sex." Guest ed.: Chungmoo Choi. Subscriptions: \$26 (indiv.); \$60 (inst.); \$16 (students). Single issue: \$12 (indiv.); \$20 (inst.). Outside U.S. add \$9 (surface mail) or \$39 (airmail). ISSN 1067-9847; ISBN 0-8223-6464-8. Duke University Press, Journals Division, Box 90660, Durham, NC 27708-0660. Website: http://www.duke.edu/web/dupress/.

Partial contents: "War and Apology: Japan, Asia, the Fiftieth, and After" (Norma Field); "History and Memory: The 'Comfort Women' Controversy" (Hyun Sook Kim); "Japanese Reparations Policies and the 'Comfort Women' Question" (Won Soon Park); "Japanese Colonial Rule and State-Managed Prostitution: Korea's Licensed Prostitutes" (Song Youn-ok); "They Are Our Grandmas" (Dai Sil Kim-Gibson). Artwork by former comfort women, by Japanese artists, and by Korean American artists is included.

SINGAPORE JOURNAL OF TROPICAL GEOGRAPHY

v.17, no.2, December 1996: "Gender and Urban Space in the Tropical World." Guest eds.: Shirlena Huang, Brenda Yeoh. Subscriptions: US\$30 (indiv.); US\$65 (inst.). ISSN 0129-7619. Subscriptions Coordinator, Blackwell Publishers Limited, 108 Cowley Rd., Oxford OX4 1JF UK.

Contents: "The Spaces of Coping: Women and 'Poverty' in Singapore" (Gillian M. Davidson); "Women and the Public Drinking Place: A Case Study of Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria" (James T. Hathaway); "The Negotiation of Space among Sex Workers in Cebu City, the Philippines" (Cathy McIlwaine); "Uprooted Lives: Gender, Violence and Displacement in Colombia" (Donny Meertens, Nora Segura-Escobar); "Urban Agricultural Activities and Women's Strategies in Sustaining Family Livelihoods in Harare, Zimbabwe" (Godfrey D. Mudimu); and "Negotiating Dualisms: Women, Locality and Employment Opportunities in Oaxaca City, Mexico" (Katie D. Willis). All book reviews cover gender-related titles.

THAMYRIS v.3, no.2, Autumn 1996: "Gender in the Middle East: Transnational Connections and Contestations." Guest ed.: Inge Boer. Subscriptions: US\$35 (indiv.); US\$50 (inst.). Single copy: US\$22.50. (Shipping and handling: US\$6; outside Europe, airmail: US\$10). ISSN 1381-1312. Najade Press by, P.O. Box 75933, 1070 AX Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Partial contents: "Veiling, Unveiling and Meanings of 'The Veil'" (Azza M. Karam); "Dumb and Dull: The Disregard for the Intellectual Life of Middle Eastern Women" (Willy Jansen); "Marking Gender and Difference in the Myth of the Nation: 'Bashu,' a Post-Revolutionary Iranian Film" (Nasrin Rahimieh); and "On Appearance and Disappearance: Representing Women in Palestine under the British Mandate" (Annelies Moors); plus four reviews of books on women in the Middle East.

Transitions

HEALTH FORUM FOR MIDLIFE WOMEN is the new name of the Oregon Menopause Network Newsletter, which with the Winter 1997 issue is renumbering along with its new name, starting with Vol. 1, No.1. Still published by the Oregon Menopause Network, the newsletter also has the same address: 1253 SE 32nd Place, Portland, OR 97213.

NWSA JOURNAL is in process of moving. Margaret McFadden replaced Patrocinio Schweickart (University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH) as editor July 1, 1997, so new submissions to the journal should go to Margaret at this address: 109 IG Greer Hall, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608; email: mcfaddenmh@appstate.edu

Anniversaries

BROADSHEET celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary of publication with, most unfortunately, its last issue. The July 1997 issue is intended to help the magazine "go out with a bang, not a whimper," states an editorial letter from the collective. Dwindling subscriptions and staff energy burnout are given credit for the final decision. Address: Womanfile, Inc., P.O. Box 56-147, Aukland, NZ.

FEMINIST BOOKSTORE NEWS, the project of a tireless woman named Carol Seajay who originated and has kept nurturing this wonderfully supportive (and extremely newsy) publication for feminist bookstores and publishers, is celebrating twenty years of publishing with its special May/ June 1997 issue. Contact Carol and staff at P.O. Box 882554, San Francisco, CA 94188.

FEMINIST STUDIES, one of the earliest feminist academic journals, celebrates twenty-five years of publishing "feminist theory, political analysis, research in literature, history, and the social sciences, and creative writing." Claire G. Moses is the editor/manager. The journal's address: Dept. of Women's Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742; email: femstud@umail.umd.edu.

WOMEN & ENVIRONMENTS is celebrating twenty years of publishing on a variety of topics, from development, architecture, rural and urban spaces, construction, and housing issues to technology, work, activism, ecofeminism, community, and daycare. Their twentieth-anniversary issue was v.14, no.4/v.15, no.1, Summer/Fall 1996. Contact them at WE International, 736 Bathurst St., Toronto, ON Canada M5S 2R4; email: weed@web.net.

WOMEN'S STUDIES INTERNATIONAL FORUM has

also been publishing for twenty years, having begun in 1977 under Dale Spender's editorship as Women's Studies International Quarterly. "We are delighted to be receiving more manuscripts than ever, on ever more diverse areas of feminist research and theory," the editors say in the January 1997 editorial. Address: Elsevier Science, Inc., 655 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10010.

The WOMEN'S STUDIES QUARTERLY offers a special issue on "The History and Future of Women's Studies, 1997" in two parts in celebration of the journal's twentyfifth anniversary of publishing. Essays from the quarterly's history join with original contributions to examine the development of the field and where it is going. Address: The Feminist Press at CUNY, 311 East 94th St., New York, NY 10128.

WOODSWOMEN, too, has twenty years under its collective belt. The active outdoorswomen who have traveled, written, and put together this news publication will put out a special edition this summer in celebration. Contact them for information about the paper or some of their planned excursions at: 25 West Diamond Lake Rd., Minneapolis, MN 55419.

Ceased Publication

CORRESPONDENCIA no.1, 1987? - no.16, Summer 1994. Woman to Woman/Mujer a Mujer, P.O. Box 12322, San Antonio, TX 78212. (Notice from periodicals section of Wisconsin State Historical Society Library.)

WOMEN'S EDUCATION DES FEMMES v.1, no.1, 1982 v.12, no.4, Winter 1996-1997. Ed.: Christina Starr. CCLOW/CCPEF, 47 Main St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4E 2V6. Email: cclow@web.apc.org. (According to the editor, a new feminist education-centered publication independent of CCLOW will appear within a few months.)

WOMEN'S PHILANTHROPY v.1, no.1, Spring 1993 - v.4, no.3, January 1997. Ed.: Andrea Kaminski. National Network on Women as Philanthropists, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Family Resources Bldg., 439, Madison, WI 53706.

ITEMS OF NOTE

WHAT WOMEN NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DOWNSIZING, a new fact sheet published by the U.S. Department of Labor, Women's Bureau, details the effects of downsizing and displacement on different groups of women workers. It is available on the Women's Bureau website, http://www.dol.gov/dol/wb/ or call 1-800-827-5335 for more information.

INCREASING WOMEN'S PARTICI-PATION IN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS, by

Rona Kluger, has recently been announced by the Institute of International Education. For additional information, contact: IIE Books, P.O. Box 371, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701-0371. Phone: 800-445-0443; fax: 301-953-2838; email: iiebooks @pmds.com.

Sponsored by the Stanley Foundation, BRINGING BEIJING BACK:
LOCAL ACTIONS AND GLOBAL
STRATEGIES delves into the issues and activities of the first national follow-up conference to the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China. This handbook focuses on techniques for organizing around women's issues and promoting women's networks. Contact: Stanley Foundation, 216 Sycamore St., Suite 500, Muscatine, IA 52761. Phone: 319-264-1500; fax: 319-264-0864; email: stanley@stanleyfdn.org

THE BACK-TO-SCHOOL MONEY BOOK 1996-1998: A FINANCIAL GUIDE FOR MIDLIFE AND OLDER WOMEN SEEKING EDUCATION AND TRAINING is an updated version of the 1994 publication from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). For a free copy, include the title and stock number (D16245) in a written request

to: AARP Fulfillment (EEO1059), 601 E St., NW, Washington, DC 20049.

A new publication from D.E.S. Action Canada, A NEW LOOK AT BREAST CANCER: BEYOND EARLY DETECTION, was created to help women gain a better understanding of the options for breast health care. Topics include: recent medical and preventive techniques and women's experiences as patients. It is available in English or French at a cost of \$5.00. To order, contact: D.E.S. Action Canada, 5890 Monkland Ave., Suite 203, Montreal, Quebec H4A 1G2. Phone: 514-482-3204 or 1-800-4821-DES; fax: 514-482-1445.

TELLING OUR STORIES: WOMEN IN SCIENCE, a multimedia educational CD-ROM from McLean Media, profiles the lives and works of eight present women scientists and includes a database of 130 additional women scientists, some from the past. The cost is \$49.94 for the CD-ROM and \$29.95 for the educator's program guide or \$225 for a lab pack consisting of 5 discs and 1 program guide. Ordering information is available from 1-800-4-A-STORY or http://storyline.com; or by contacting Lois McLean at stories@linex.com.

WOMEN IN POLAND (8p.) is the first publication in the series PRO-FILES OF THE WORLD'S WOMEN. Developed by the International Programs Center at the U.S. Bureau of the Census, this series examines the status of women in various countries, focusing on issues of population, marital status, employment, education, and political involvement. The Superintendent of

Documents number is C 3.2:W 84/10. For more information contact your local government documents depository library.

VIVACE PRESS Catalog No. 996 makes available a wide range of musical scores composed and arranged largely by women, from the 18th century to the present. The selections are primarily from European and American composers for the piano, harpsichord, and organ. A limited number of compact discs featuring music by women composers is also available. For a copy of the catalog, contact: Vivace Press, NW 310 Wawawai RD, Pullman, WA 99163-2959. Phone: 1-800-543-5429; email: yordy@vivacepress.com; website: http:/ /www.vivacepress.com.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN AND THE LAW has released seven new legal briefs on Canadian legislation affecting women. Among the titles are "NAWL's Submission on the Pay Equity Act Review" and "Women and the Canada Health and Social Transfer: Ensuring Gender Equity in Federal Welfare Reform." Other publications are also available, including some in French. Write: NAWL, 1 Nicholas St., Suite 604, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 7B7. Phone: 613-241-7570; fax: 613-241-4657.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR CUR-RICULUM TRANSFORMATION RESOURCES ON WOMEN has produced a new series, "Women in the Curriculum." Titles include: "Directory of Curriculum Transformation Projects and Activities in the U.S.," "Introductory Bibliography for Curriculum Transformation," "Getting Started: Planning Curriculum Transformation" (by Elaine Hedges), "Internet Resources on Women: Using Electronic Media in Curriculum Transformation" (by Joan Korenman), and "Funding: Obtaining Money for Curriculum Transformation Projects and Activities" (by Jolie Susan, et al.). "Discipline Analysis Essays" for sixteen disciplines and "CUNY Panels: Rethinking the Disciplines" for seven subject areas complete the series, though additional titles are forthcoming in Fall 1997. Ordering is handled by University Store, Towson State University. For further description, price, and ordering information, contact: National Center for Curriculum Transformation

Resources on Women, LLT 317, Towson State University, 8000 York Road, Baltimore, MD 21252. Phone: 410-830-3944; fax: 410-830-3469; email: ncctrw@towson.edu; website: http://www.towson.edu/ncctrw/.

••A.M.N.

BOOKS RECENTLY RECEIVED

1997.

ABORTION DECISIONS OF THE **UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT:** THE 1970's. Harrison, Maureen & Gilbert, Steve, eds. Excellent Books, 1993. ABORTION DECISIONS OF THE **UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT:** THE 1980's. Harrison, Maureen & Gilbert, Steve, eds. Excellent Books, 1993. ABORTION DECISIONS OF THE **UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT:** THE 1990's. Harrison, Maureen & Gilbert, Steve, eds. Excellent Books, 1993. ABOUT YVONNE. Masini, Donna. Norton, 1997. THE ACTIVIST'S DAUGHTER. Bache, Ellyn. Spinsters Ink, 1997. AFRICAN WOMEN: A MODERN HISTORY. Coquery-Vidrovitch, Catherine; trans. by Beth Gillian Raps. Westview Press/HarperCollins, 1997. THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S ALMA-NAC: AN INSPIRING AND IRREVER-ENT WOMEN'S HISTORY. Bernikow, Louise. Berkley Books, 1997. BEYOND PORTIA: WOMEN, LAW, AND LITERATURE IN THE UNITED STATES. St. Joan, Jacqueline & McElhiney, Annette Bennington, eds. Northeastern University Press, 1997. BEYOND THE DOUBLE BIND: WOMEN AND LEADERSHIP. Jamieson, Kathleen Hall. Oxford University Press,

1997.

BEYOND THE HOME FRONT:

WOMEN'S AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL

WRITING OF THE TWO WORLD

WARS. Klein, Yvonne M., ed. New York
University Press, 1997.

BLOODSONG. Minns, Karen M.C.

Bluestocking Books, 1997.

BRITISH WOMEN WRITERS, 17001850: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRA-

PHY OF THEIR WORKS AND WORKS ABOUT THEM. Horwitz, Barbara J. Scarecrow, 1997. BUILDING BODIES. Moore, Pamela L., ed. Rutgers University Press, 1997. CALL ME CRAZY: STORIES FROM THE MAD MOVEMENT. Shimrat, Irit. Press Gang, 1997. CATALOG OF LITERATURE ON TAPE AND IN BRAILLE. 1993; repr. Womyn's Braille Press, 1996. CHANGING THE GAME: THE STO-RIES OF TENNIS CHAMPIONS ALICE MARBLE & ALTHEA GIBSON. Davidson, Sue. Seal Press, 1997. CHOICE REVIEWS IN WOMEN'S STUDIES, 1990-96. MacLam, Helen, ed. Association of College & Research Libraries, 1997. THE COLLABORATIVE BIBLIOGRA-PHY OF WOMEN IN PHILOSOPHY. Hutchings, Noel & Rumsey, William D., eds. Philosophy Documentation Center, Bowling Green State University, 1997. COMING ON STRONG: WRITING BY NAMIBIAN WOMEN. Orford, Margie & Nicanor, Nepeti, eds. New Namibia Books: distr. African Books Collective Ltd., 1996. (Address: African Books Collective Ltd., The Jam Factory, 27 Park End Street, Oxford OX1 1HU, UK.) THE CONCEPT OF WOMAN. Allen, Sister Prudence. 1985; William B. Eerdmans, 1997. CONSUMING THE ROMANTIC UTOPIA: LOVE AND THE CULTURAL CONTRADICTIONS OF CAPITALISM. Illouz, Eva. University of California Press,

CONTENTED AMONG STRANGERS:

AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE

RURAL GERMAN-SPEAKING WOMEN

NINETEENTH-CENTURY MIDWEST. Pickle, Linda Schelbitzski. University of Illinois Press, 1996. **CONVERSATIONS WITH DVORA: AN** EXPERIMENTAL BIOGRAPHY OF THE FIRST MODERN HEBREW WOMAN WRITER. Lieblich, Amia, ed. by Chana Kronfeld & Naomi Seidman; trans. by Naomi Seidman. University of California Press, 1997. COURTED. Cohen, Celia. Naiad, 1997. COURTYARDS, MARKETS, CITY STREETS: URBAN WOMEN IN AFRICA. Sheldon, Kathleen, ed. Westview Press/HarperCollins, 1996. A CROSS AND A STAR: MEMOIRS OF A JEWISH GIRL IN CHILE. Agosin, Marjorie; trans. by Celeste Kostopulos-Cooperman. Feminist Press at the City University of New York, 1997. CROSS PURPOSES: LESBIANS, FEMINISTS, AND THE LIMITS OF ALLIANCE. Heller, Dana, ed. Indiana University Press, 1997. DAUGHTERS OF CALIBAN: CARIB-BEAN WOMEN IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY. Springfield, Consuelo Lopez, ed. Indiana University Press, 1997. **DETAILS OF FLESH.** Davis, Cortney. Calyx, 1997. DIESEL FUEL: PASSIONATE POETRY. Califia, Pat. Richard Kasak Books/ Masquerade Books, 1997. THE DOMAIN-MATRIX: PERFORM-ING LESBIAN AT THE END OF PRINT CULTURE. Case, Sue-Ellen. Indiana University Press, 1997. THE ENDOMETRIOSIS SOURCE-**BOOK: THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO** CURRENT TREATMENT OPTIONS, THE LATEST RESEARCH, COMMON MYTHS ABOUT THE DISEASE, AND

COPING STRATEGIES - BOTH PHYS-ICAL AND EMOTIONAL. Ballweg, Mary Lou and the Endometriosis Association, comps. Contemporary Books, 1995. THE EROTICS OF TALK: WOMEN'S WRITING AND FEMINIST PARA-DIGMS. Kaplan, Carla. Oxford University Press, 1996.

THE ESCAPE ARTIST: A NOVEL. Katz, Judith. Firebrand, 1997.

THE FEMALE ECONOMY: THE MILLINERY AND DRESSMAKING TRADES, 1860-1930. Gamber, Wendy. University of Illinois Press, 1997.

FEMINISM AND FILM. Humm, Maggie. Indiana University Press, 1997.

FEMINISM AND THE NEW DEMOC-RACY: RE-SITING THE POLITICAL. Dean, Jodi, ed. Sage Publications, 1997. FEMINISM MEETS QUEER THEORY. Weed, Elizabeth & Schor, Naomi, eds. Indiana University Press, 1997.

FEMINISM WORLDWIDE: A BIBLI-OGRAPHY. Nordquist, Joan, comp. Reference and Research Services, 1996. THE FEMINIST ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GERMAN LITERATURE. Eigler. Friederike & Susanne Kord, eds. Green-

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