Book Review. Encyclopedia of Asian History

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whether the group recognizes “pairing” (a
agreement by two members on oppo-
site sides of a given issue to refrain from
voting on that issue).

Individual entries include a brief biog-
rophy of each member (the addition of
ms served in Congress and/or the Sen-
ate would have been useful) and a list of
voting scores and ratings. Biographic
etches give birth date, religion, educa-
tion, occupation, military service (if appli-
able), political background prior to enter-
ing Congress, and election records. An
appendix lists members of Congress and
Senate by state from the eighteenth Con-
gress (1789–91) through the eightyninth
Congress (1947–49) through the eighty-ninth
Congress (1947–49) through the eighty-ninth
Congress (1947–49). Typography in the introduc-
tion, body of the work, and appendix is
far and easy to read.

Unlike other voting record compila-
tions, the Directory of Congressional Vot-
ing Scores and Interest Group Ratings is a subjec-
tive work where judgments have been
made by the various groups providing the
ing. Although the cost may deter some
libraries from purchasing it, this Di-
ory is essential for academic and public
libraries and will enhance collections deal-

ing with public affairs. High school librari-
s may also wish to consider the direc-
try as an acquisition.—Sue Kam, Library
sultan, Los Angeles, California.

covering Nature with Young People: An
Annotated Bibliography and Selection
Guide. Comp. by Carolyn M. Johnson.
99.95 (ISBN 0-313-23823-5). LC 87-
697.

This bibliography of science materials
be an invaluable resource for persons
work with children: librarians, teach-
parents, youth group and camp pro-
directors. It is far more extensive
comprehensive than other science se-
ctions aids, such as The Museum of Science
Industry Basic List of Children’s Science
ks, 1973–1984 (ALA, 1985) and
andy Saul’s Fine Science Fair: An Illustrated
le and Catalog of Toys, Books, and Activi-
tor Kids (Harper, 1986).

Johnson’s work lists fiction and nonfic-
books and media for all ages through
early years of college but concentrates
materials for use by and with young
people ages eight to sixteen. Many materi-
als are seldom found cited in other sources:
educational, recreational, and travel pro-
gams; organizations and associations;
contests and awards; activity books; calen-
dars; coloring books; designs, patterns,
and stencils; and computer programs. It
even includes periodical articles and book
chapters on nature.

Unlike most science bibliographies,
which emphasize the scientific approach,
this one primarily attempts to provide
“educational and enjoyable experiences
for young people exploring nature.” Items
are briefly annotated and are listed by type
and format, with materials for educators
and parents listed separately from those for
children. It is not clear how the items were
chosen or the years covered, but the selec-
tion is far more extensive than in other sci-
ence bibliographies. Prolific authors are
represented by only a few books; it is sug-
gested that other books by these authors
should be examined. The appendixes in-
clude an example of a pathfinder, a
publishers/producers/distributors code
list, and additional significant items that
were located too late to include in the main
body of the book. There are four indexes:
authors, compilers, composers, and illus-
trators; titles; subjects; and types of media
items.

Although the book is expensive, it is rec-
commended for any library serving science
students and educators.—Marilyn H. Kar-
enbrock, Graduate School of Library and Infor-
mation Science, University of Tennessee, Knox-
ville.

Encyclopedia of Asian History. Prep. un-
der the auspices of the Asia Society. Ed.
by Ainalie T. Embree. New York:
Scribner, 1988. 4v. $325 (ISBN 0-684-
18619-5).

The Encyclopedia, intended to make the
highest level of contemporary scholarship on
Asia available to a nonspecialist audience,
focuses on topics dealing with politi-
cal, social, intellectual, and economic
movements that have produced Asian civil-
izations. The geographic areas covered
are Iran and Central Asia, China, Japan,
Korea, South Asia, and Southeast Asia.
More than 160 photographs, line draw-
ings, and illustrations, as well as 63 maps
supplement the text.

Articles vary in length, depending upon
the importance of the topic. All articles
were prepared by scholars and are signed.
Most include references that permit read-
ers to pursue topics of interest in more
depth. These references are confined to
English-language works likely to be acces-
sible to the nonspecialist. Journal articles
are cited only when books of equal value
do not exist.

The final volume includes several spe-
cialized lists and indexes. A topical outline
provides a conceptual overview of topics
covered. A detailed subject index and an
extensive system of cross-references within
each article enhances the value of the
work.

The editors are sensitive to the difficult-
of translating many words from Asian
languages. As a result, the Encyclopedia’s
system conforms with that used in scholar-
ly works and modern history. For Chi-
inese words, the Pinyin rather than the
Wade-Giles system of transliteration is
used. To assist the nonspecialist, the Ency-
lopedia includes a Wade-Giles/Pinyin con-
version table. The editors have generally
included cross-references from the Wade-
Giles form, if well known, to the Pinyin
form. However, cross-references should
have been edited with more care, because
there is no reference from Chou Enlai to
Zhou Enlai. Nonspecialists, for whom this
work is intended, might well conclude that
this major twentieth-century Chinese
statesman is not included in the Ency-
lopedia!

This is an excellent, very authoritative
encyclopaedia on Asian civilization. It will
be invaluable in reference work and help-
ful, as well, to students beginning research
on Asian topics.—Jo Bell Whitlatch, Associ-
ate Library Director, Access and Bibliographic
Services, San Jose State University, California.

Federal Public Policy on Aging since 1960:
An Annotated Bibliography. Comp. by
William E. Oriol. New York: Green-
wood, 1987. 127p. Bibliographies and
Indexes in Gerontology, no. 5. $35.

This is the fifth bibliographic guide on
aspects of aging published by Greenwood
Press. Oriol’s bibliography cites repre-
sentative literature, selected from among
the vast quantity of material produced
from 1960 through 1986. The compiler