

## Reference Shelf

### Tidewater Virginia Families



By Virginia L. H. Davis

Covering an extraordinary 375 years, this book sets forth the genealogical history of some forty families who have their roots in Tidewater Virginia, families whose very history mirrors the social development of Virginia itself. No American history or Virginiana collection should be without it.

0-8063-1283-1. 8 1/2 x 11. 730 pp., indexed, cloth. 1990. \$75.00

### Genealogy Classics: Low in Stock!

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0-8063-0955-5. 5 vols. 4,740 pp., illus., indexed, cloth. 1982. \$225.00

### The Compendium of American Genealogy

By Frederick A. Virkus

The *Compendium* contains the lineage records of the first families of America, with records extending over eight or nine generations from the earliest-known immigrant ancestor to the then (1925-1942) living subject.

"One of the finest reference sources in American genealogy. It is a major source of information on immigrants to America before 1750."—P. W. Filby, ALA/RASD Distinguished Reference Librarian.

0-8063-1171-1. 7 vols. 6,283 pp., illus., indexed, cloth. (1925-1942), reissued 1987. \$325.00

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## REFERENCE

some users might prefer the smaller format of *The New Atlas* (8 3/8" x 11 1/2") to that of its predecessor (16 1/2" x 12 1/2"). But basically the *Historical Atlas* contains all that *The New Atlas* has and more. It costs more (\$95), but the additional \$30 purchases a bigger, more detailed, and much more lavish atlas; the difference seems well worth the extra expense.—Paul H. Thomas, *Hoover Inst. Lib., Stanford, Cal.*

### Friz, Richard. *The Official® Identification and Price Guide to Toy Trains.*

House of Collectibles, dist. by Ballantine. 1990. 402p. illus. bibliog. index.

ISBN 0-87637-804-1. pap. \$12.95. REF

This entertaining introduction to collecting toy trains contains a great deal of useful information on a very popular hobby. It includes extensive historical data on toy train manufacturers and discussions of the joys and pitfalls of collecting; recent auction results and the collector values of a wide range of equipment, particularly from the major American toy train companies—Lionel, American Flyer, Ives, and Marx; and helpful lists of auctioneers, associations, magazines, and so on. The book also has problems. Explanations of some important concepts are muddled, the chapter structure leads to repeated coverage of the same material, price listings for the individual items are incomplete, and the text is riddled with errors of fact. Better coverage of much the same material at a similar price is available in Dallas J. Mallerich's *Greenberg's American Toy Trains from 1900 with Current Values* (Greenberg, 1990).—Frederick A. Schlipf, *Urbana Free Lib. & GSLIS, Univ. of Illinois*

### Jackson, Guida M. *Women Who Ruled.*

ABC-Clio. 1990. 300p. permanent paper. illus. bibliog. LC 89-28282. ISBN 0-87436-560-0. \$39.50. REF

Jackson provides the most extensive source to date covering women rulers, de facto rulers, and constitutional monarchs. About 350 biographical sketches, from Egypt's Meryet-Net (31st century B.C.) to Nicaragua's new president, Violeta Chamorro, are included. Scope, criteria for selection, and special problems are discussed in the preface; a useful overview by continent comprises the introduction; and a chronology lists each ruler by century. Narratives, arranged alphabetically by name, range from a paragraph to 1 1/2 pages, depending on the ruler's importance and availability of historical information. Sources are extensively and meticulously documented in the notes and bibliography. A well-researched and readable text, this is recommended for academic, public, and school library reference collections. For more on this topic libraries may also want to consider Olga Opfell's *Queens, Empresses, Grand Duchesses and Regents* (LJ 5/1/89).—Stanley P. Hodge, *Ball State Univ. Lib., Muncie, Ind.*

### The Lactation Consultant's Topical Review and Bibliography of the Literature on Breastfeeding.

La Leche League Internat. 1990. 188p. ed. by Mary-Margaret Coates. index. LC 90-61943. ISBN 0-912500-39-5. pap. \$25.95. REF

Intended as a resource guide and review tool for practitioners, as well as candidates for the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners exam, this book offers an overview of 45 topics dealing with human lactation. (One chapter on automobile safety clearly doesn't belong.) Chapters provide a brief review of the subject, citations to books and articles, and the names of such other sources of material as organizations and associations. Most chapters include a "study guide," which consists of a list of questions; answers or cross references to the literature, however, are not provided. The editor has also neglected to provide a key to the abbreviations of journal titles, and the list of journals cited is incomplete. Large or specialized collections lacking reference materials in the area may wish to consider.—Mary Hemmings, *Univ. of Calgary Law Lib., Alberta*

Langman, Larry & David Ebner.

### *Encyclopedia of American Spy Films.*

Garland. (Reference Library of the Humanities, Vol. 1187). 1990. 352p. permanent paper. illus. LC 90-3577. ISBN 0-8240-5533-0. \$49.95. REF

This latest spy genre compendium lacks the critical acumen of Leonard Rubinstein's *The Great Spy Films* (Citadel, 1979) and the sheer scope of James R. Parish and Michael R. Pitts's *The Great Spy Pictures* (Scarescrow, 1974). Alphabetical entries include roughly 1000 film titles (sparse credits: director and cast, synopsis/review) intermixed with movements, organizations, historical/filmic characters. These latter discussions are more interesting than the mundane ones for the individual films but are somewhat awkwardly arranged, necessitating copious use of the appendixes. Somewhat inconsistent and very limiting, this covers only American films, although some international coproductions are included. Thus, alas, no James Bond or Harry Palmer. A second edition should more usefully be expanded to English-language movies.—David Bartholomew, *NYPL*

### Lepre, J.P. *The Egyptian Pyramids:*

#### *A Comprehensive, Illustrated Reference.*

McFarland & Co. Dec. 1990. c.360p. permanent paper. illus. bibliog. index. LC 89-43623. ISBN 0-89950-461-2. \$49.95. REF

Lepre, who has spent 15 years studying the pyramids through written sources and on-site investigation, is not an Egyptologist. His renditions of Egyptian chronology, kings, hieroglyphics, and other staples of the study of ancient Egypt are pieced to-

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