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The American Flag: An Encyclopedia of the Stars and Stripes in US History, Culture, and Law, by J.R. Vile [Book Review]

Rob Tench
Old Dominion University, ftench@odu.edu

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★ **Vile, John R.** *The American Flag: An Encyclopedia of the Stars and Stripes in U.S. History, Culture, and Law.* ABC-CLIO. 2018. 398p. illus. bibliog. index. ISBN 9781440857881. \$94; ebk. ISBN 9781440857898. HIST

According to Vile (political science, Middle Tennessee State Univ.), America's enthusiasm for the Stars and Stripes and its ubiquity in U.S. culture are fairly unique among the world's nations. Here, a poignant introductory essay lays out how the flag has grown in importance from its colonial origins to the present. Expanding more deeply on the flag's meaning and importance in U.S. history and contemporary life, eight comprehensive essays illustrate the flag's role in American art, music, journalism, and politics. However, the core of this high-quality and informative work is the second part: 200 alphabetically arranged entries on a range of topics from flag etiquette and design to artistic depictions of the flag including poems, speeches, and musical selections. Scholarly references; a time line; a topical list of entries; numerous photographs,

woodcuts, and cartoons; and a bibliography of articles, essays, reports, websites, and book chapters enhance the presentation, making the encyclopedia not only ideal for browsing but also a solid starting point for further study. **VERDICT** A masterly exploration of the American flag, with a potpourri of fun details for anyone with an interest in U.S. history, patriotic symbols, and vexillology.—**Rob Tench, Old Dominion Univ. Libs., Norfolk, VA**

The World of Antebellum America: A Daily Life Encyclopedia. Greenwood. (Daily Life Encyclopedia). 2018. 1034p. ed. by Alexandra Kindell. illus. bibliog. index. ISBN 9781440837104. \$198; ebk. ISBN 9781440837111. HIST

Kindell (*Encyclopedia of Populism in America*) has compiled entries from more than 100 contributors for this two-volume encyclopedia for the publisher's "Daily Life Encyclopedia" series, bridging the gap between *The World of the American Revolution* and *The World of the Civil War, 1815–1860*. The signed entries are arranged under ten

sections, such as "Arts," "Economics and Work," "Family and Gender," and "Politics and Warfare." Entries list "see also" references and further readings. Scant black-and-white illustrations add little to the well-written text. Volume 1 includes a short preface, a brief introduction to each of the sections, and a chronology. Each section offers a lengthier introduction. Volume 2 features relevant primary documents for each section, a bibliography that excludes the further readings, contributors' information, and the general index. Use of the index in Volume 2 is critical, since the arrangement of entries is not alphabetical, and more information is needed in the preface about the choice of titles for the bibliography. Nonetheless, this series provides insight into topics readers may find intriguing. Librarians will want to compare this to Christopher G. Bates's *The Early Republic and Antebellum America: An Encyclopedia of Social, Political, Cultural, and Economic History*. **VERDICT** Recommended for general adult and undergraduate readers.—**Rosanne Cordell, formerly of Northern Illinois Univ., DeKalb**

ereviews

Newspapers, Now and Then

■ *By Grisel Dominguez*

IN AN AGE WHEN INACCURACY disseminates with the click of a mouse, reliable reporting is more vital than ever. These widely varied databases pay tribute to the history of journalism. Gale's American Historical Periodicals and Adam Matthew Digital's American Indian Newspapers consider American and Canadian reporting from the colonial era to the 20th century. Readex's Rand Daily Mail and Twentieth Century Global Perspectives: Propaganda and the Chinese Press explore antiapartheid sentiment in South Africa and the impact of a biased press, respectively. Finally, Adam Matthew Digital's Service Newspapers of World War Two takes users to the front lines, while EBSCO's Atlantic Magazine Archive presents a complete run of the well-known monthly from its inception in 1857 to 2014.

find selections alongside well-known and long-established titles. More than 6,000 periodicals published in the United States and Canada are available, from the *Abbott Courant* to the *Zodiac*. While the majority are in English, additional tongues include German, French, Spanish, Norwegian, Swedish, Welsh, Italian, Portuguese, Armenian, Assamese, Burmese, Dutch, Latin, Tamil, Zulu, and a number of Indigenous languages. The oldest work in the collection is the 1684 *Acta Eruditorum*.

Colonial publications shed light on the rising tension that led to the American Revolution, while titles from the antebellum period reveal growing interest in the development of the nation, industrialization, and westward expansion, as well as regional differences in politics and thought. Others reflect the effects of the Civil War. Later works document the second industrial revolution and the changing face of America—immigration, women's suffrage, World War I, and the impact of the Twenties on music and fashion.

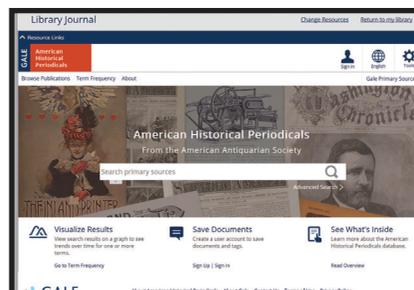
USABILITY The database relies on Gale's typical interface. A basic search option appears on the homepage, along with links to "browse publications" and "explore term frequency."

The advanced search page provides a richer set of features: searching the entire document or by keywords, document ti-

American Historical Periodicals from the American Antiquarian Society Series

Gale;
ow.ly/YEv730n3aCR
Free trial available

CONTENT Exploring the development of the United States from the colonial period to the early 20th century, this resource grants access to the American Antiquarian Society's (AAS) extensive collection of periodicals. Founded in 1812, the AAS holds the "single largest collection" of materials published through 1876, including books,



magazines, pamphlets, broadsides, newspapers, music, and artwork. American Historical Periodicals is comprised of six series; the most recent addition emphasizes the early 20th century, with coverage up to 1923.

Gale presents short-lived and hard-to-

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