

Rudolf Glanz. *The German Jew in America.*

Hebrew Union College Press (Cincinnati, 1969), 192 pp.

(*Bibliographica Judaica* Number 1)

Rudolf Glanz is a name familiar to many readers of this journal, his reputation resting upon numerous contributions to the history of the German Jew in America, the products of years of research and wide familiarity with quantities of obscure publications. In a manner worthy of emulation, he has fashioned a very individual bibliography on a theme sadly neglected, a by-product of his more formal historical studies. The user is given access to the scholar's card index file rather than to a fully articulated bibliography. In the present instance, this is clearly worthy of applause. Dr. Glanz has read through innumerable books, periodicals and pamphlets, on topics sometimes rather distant from German-Jewish history (on the surface at any rate) but whenever a relevant passage was found, even if only a page or two, it was conscientiously noted. In this manner, numerous American state, county and local histories are analyzed especially for biographical data on German-American Jews.

This volume is the first of a new bibliographical series, *Bibliographica Judaica*, issued by the Library of Hebrew Union College (Cincinnati)--Jewish Institute of Religion, and edited by Herbert C. Zafren. The generally high standards of both production and content that characterize the *Studies in Bibliography and Booklore*, published by the same institution, have been maintained.

Only the generation of immigrants born in German speaking countries are considered, native born descendants are excluded. Arrangement and scope are best described in the author's own works:

This bibliography covers, German-Jewish life in America against the broad background of the historic German-American community. It touches upon all the points which give meaning and color to the life of German Jews in this country. It is organized into five main groups: Immigration and acculturation to general American life(I-III); life within the cultural milieu of the Germans in America (IV); Independent life as a Jewish group(V); biographies of German Jews (VI-VII); assessments of the group by others, especially in comparison with the achievements of other immigrant groups (VIII-IX). (p. xi).

To further facilitate use, there are appended two indexes of personal names and one of place names.

As a tiller in neighboring fields, I feel an honest and strong personal enthusiasm for this bibliography. Dr. Glanz's scholarly achievement should encourage and stimulate students of American Jewish as well as German-American history and culture. A source of dissatisfaction--and this reflects on the available literature rather more than on the bibliography --is the difficulty or impossibility of getting to the more specific topic: e.g., Jews in particular occupations, German-Jewish journalism, etc. The deliberately broad categories of classification and absence of subject indexing are barriers to easy access. For a dry run, I turned my attention to the topic of relations between German Jews and other German Americans (including anti- and philosemitism); there was no direct approach. To the scattered entries bearing on this subject one

might add the travel experiences (with a pedlar from New Orleans) of P.W.G. Wagner, *Wanderungen eines Heimathlosen in Nord Amerika* (Reading, Pa., 1844). Pertinent here (and also to section IX--"The image of the German Jew in literature, popular humor and folklore") is a note on Theodor Griesinger (see no. 569), whose *Lebende Bilder aus Amerika* (Stuttgart, 1858) were read in the U.S. from 1874 through 1900 in the New York edition of Salomon Zickel--*Leben und Treiben in Amerika*, with a number of intentional omissions such as the hostile sketch, "Der Chathamstreetjude in Newyork." Additional comments on the anti-semitism of some German-American writers (including Willibald Winckler) can be found in G. Condoyannis' Columbia University dissertation, "German American Prose Fiction," not noted by Dr. Glanz.

Since there seems to be little material on organized anti-semitism among Germans in America, it may be of interest to note that the *Deutsch-amerikanische Buchdruckerzeitung* for April and May, 1896, contains information on the activities of ex-Reichstag member Hermann Ahlwardt in the U.S., his publication in Brooklyn of a weekly, *Der Anti-Semit* (not listed in Arndt-Olson) and his reported purchase of the Hobokener *Abendpost*.

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