

Aids and Suggestions Regarding the Teaching of Indiana History

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Obtaining suitable books, pamphlets, maps, and other materials for use in the study and teaching of Indiana history has long been a serious problem for students and teachers alike. Although the need for such material remains substantial, improvement has been made in recent years in both the quantity and quality of available items. Perhaps a concise statement about where and how materials concerning Indiana history can be obtained will be especially useful to teachers and librarians. This statement, however, principally concerns items suitable for use at the seventh- or eighth-grade level. Both teachers and librarians should be able to obtain significant help, at modest cost, from the following sources:

(1) Both individual and library membership is available in the Indiana Historical Society for \$5 per calendar year. Annual membership results in the receipt of the monthly *Indiana History Bulletin*, at least one book about Indiana history, and four quarterly issues of the *Indiana Magazine of History*. Correspondence concerning membership should be addressed to the Indiana Historical Society, State Library and Historical Building, Indianapolis 4, Indiana.

(2) Various pamphlets, leaflets, maps, and films regarding Indiana history are available from the Indiana Historical Bureau. Most of this material is free (except for postage) to teachers of Indiana history; however, responses cannot be made to requests from individual students. Correspondence concerning these materials should be addressed to the Indiana Historical Bureau, State Library and Historical Building, Indianapolis 4, Indiana.

(3) During the fall of 1961 the Indiana Department of Public Instruction published a *Handbook on Indiana History*, which had been especially prepared to aid teachers of Indiana history. This handbook offers general comment about basic topics, indicates principal items for possible emphasis, suggests books and pamphlets for reference use and library acquisition, and lists audio-visual aids. Available to both teachers and librarians, this pamphlet may be obtained without charge from the Indiana Department of Public Instruction, State Capitol Building, Indianapolis, Indiana. (It can also be obtained from the Indiana Historical Bureau.)

(4) *How Indiana Became a State*, a collection of documents concerning Indiana's transition through the territorial status to statehood in 1816, is now at the printer. Sponsored by the Indiana Sesquicentennial Commission, this booklet will be available to teachers and librarians by November, 1962. Copies of *How Indiana Became a State* may be obtained free from the Indiana Sesquicentennial Commission, Ballantine Hall 731, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana. (It can also be obtained from the Indiana Historical Bureau.)

(5) Earlier this year the Indiana Civil War Centennial Commission published a pamphlet entitled *The Impact of the Civil War on Indiana*, which is available to teachers or librarians by writing to the Indiana Civil War Centennial Commission, State Library and Historical Building, Indianapolis 4, Indiana. (It can also be obtained from the Indiana Historical Bureau.)

(6) Of particular value in teaching Indiana history, especially at the junior- and senior-high levels, is a book of documents on Indiana history published in 1956 under the title, *Readings in Indiana History*. Paperbound copies of this item may be secured from the Indiana Historical Bureau at \$2 each. Duplicate copies of *Readings in Indiana History* should be included on the shelves of every library.

(7) A series of filmstrips concerning important periods and topics in Indiana history has been prepared under the direction of Professor Richard Caldemeyer, History Department, Ball State Teachers College, Muncie, Indiana. Six of these filmstrips, covering Indiana history through the pioneer era, have already been completed and are ready for distribution along with a manual for use by teachers. Six additional filmstrips and an accompanying manual are nearing completion. Correspondence regarding costs and content for these filmstrips should be addressed to Professor Caldemeyer.

Any listing of aids for and suggestions to teachers of Indiana history has important limitations. Since such a list is always incomplete, considerable knowledge and understanding on the part of individual teachers is essential to effective teaching of Indiana history. Capable and resourceful teachers and librarians will manage to find a variety of additional books, pamphlets, maps, films, and the like for use in teaching Indiana history as well as relevant material about the local area in which students live.