

SOURCES

The Encyclopedia of the Spanish-American and Philippine-American Wars: A Political, Social and Military History. Ed. by Spencer C. Tucker. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-Clio, 2009. 3 vols. alkaline \$295.00 (ISBN 978-1-85109-951-1).

Two related conflicts, the Spanish-American and Philippine-American Wars, helped catapult the United States to world prominence. What began as a conflict for Cuban independence resulted in a brief war with Spain, a three-year battle in the Philippines, and the establishment of the United States as a colonial power. Senior fellow of military history at ABC-Clio and retired Virginia Military Institute military history professor Spencer C. Tucker served as the volume editor for this three-volume encyclopedia. Volumes 1 and 2 contain encyclopedia entries, maps, chronology, and so on, and volume 3 is solely devoted to primary source documents.

This comprehensive work seeks to explore not only the military history surrounding these wars, but also to delve deeply into the related social and political events during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Tucker's edition strides for breadth and accomplishes this with noteworthy success. However, the extraordinary range of this multivolume set leads to an inclusion of a number of scarcely related entries. The entry on Henry Flick Clay is linked to the Spanish-American and Philippine-American Wars only by noting that coke (fuel derived from coal), the material from which Clay made his initial fortune, was in demand during that time. However, such tangential entries constitute only a small percentage of this work. Numerous entries seamlessly tie together the two wars and relevant people, events, and movements, such as the entry on Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, which notes that Congress imposed a one-cent tax per phone call to pay for the Spanish-American War.

Although the many entries found within these volumes give near equal coverage to the social, political, and military influences during both wars, such treatment cannot be found in the introduction. While acknowledging the world beyond military affairs, the introduction gives scant treatment to the social and political forces surrounding the two wars and focuses primarily on military campaigns. As such, the introduction provides an inadequate overview of the social and political consequences of the Spanish-American and Philippine-American Wars and fails to provide a context for the abundance of nonmilitary entries found within the edition.

A military-focused introduction and a few peripheral entries, however, should not detract from the importance of this truly comprehensive encyclopedia. Adding to the list of encyclopedia entries, the final volume contains a well-selected and varied collection of primary documents that contains treaties and excerpts representing many different views of historical figures and groups of diverse backgrounds, each beginning with an introductory paragraph. In comparison to the much shorter and less comprehensive *Encyclopedia of the Spanish-American and Philippine-American Wars* (ABC-Clio, 2001)

authored by Jerry Keenan, which focuses primarily on military matters while providing some limited background on political affairs of the time, Tucker's multivolume set provides a more thorough treatment of both wars in a larger historical context. This work is recommended for large public libraries and all academic libraries, especially ones with strong collections in the Gilded Age/Progressive Era or military history.—*Joseph A. Hurley, Data Services Librarian, Georgia State University Library, Atlanta, Georgia*

Great Events from History: Modern Scandals. Ed. by Carl L. Bankston. Great Events from History. Pasadena, Calif.: Salem, 2009. 3 vols. alkaline \$295 (ISBN 978-1-58764-468-8).

While this latest entry in Salem Press's Great Events from History series may hold limited appeal because of its narrow scope, it is nonetheless an excellent addition to the series. Covering important events from 1904 to the present, *Modern Scandals* has appeal not only as a research tool, but possibly as a browsing title for curious readers.

The three-volume set includes almost four hundred scandals from the past century, almost all of which are covered in 1,600-word entries (five entries receive lengthier treatment) and arranged chronologically. The entries are well structured, listing not only a summary of the event, but also key players and extensive further reading lists. These reading lists will come in handy for students needing further information and for whom the entries in this volume act as an introduction. Written by 190 mostly American scholars, the entries are clear, concise, and written in a manner that assumes no previous knowledge of a topic by reader.

The publishers take pains to explain what constitutes a scandal and how choices were made for these volumes. Some inclusions or exclusions could be debated no matter how decisions are made, but a quick check by this reviewer of several scandals showed that all had been considered, from the sensational (e.g., Prince Charles' affair with Camilla Parker-Bowles, the Menendez brothers) to the world-altering (e.g., the recent meltdown of American markets, Watergate). The entries include events that occurred up to 2008, so this volume is very current.

While scandals from around the world are included, about 60 percent of the entries focus on North America, which could be seen as both a strength and weakness. Someone hoping to find a great deal about scandals in African countries may be disappointed that only major issues like the Mau Mau rebellion atrocities are covered, but it's also likely that the focus on North American scandals will prove more valuable to students than would a more balanced approach. It should also be noted that the United Kingdom and France receive a great deal of coverage.

The editors have done an outstanding job of making entries and subjects easy to find through the use of multiple indexes. Not only are there lists of events arranged both chronologically and alphabetically, but there are also geographical,