

SOURCES

of books and websites; and an impressive, in-depth 59-page index to related names, terms, events, theories and concepts.

While the alphabetically arranged articles are written at varying levels of academic sophistication, readers will find them generally informative, concise and clearly written. Each is signed and the list of contributors with institutional affiliations appears near the front of Vol. 1. Entries are written by 96 different contributors: 51 American, 32 foreign, 10 self-identified as “independent scholars,” and 3 with a corporate affiliation. Unfortunately, because neither academic rank nor their degree is specified, it is not possible to determine whether contributors’ credentials include the PhD or in what field their terminal degree is in.

Most large university libraries will have two-to-three shelves of books on the topic of business cycle theory. However, because they are typically written for economists, most readers will find them packed with arcane statistical formulas, sophisticated mathematical analyses and numerous consumption, supply and demand curves, all to illustrate the various principles and theories proposed in the text. Few, if any, will offer the articulate, understandable narrative historical overview offered by this set. Indeed, it is likely that only the expensive new second edition of *The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics* (Palgrave Macmillan; 2nd ed., 2008) and the widely held *Business Cycles and Depressions: An Encyclopedia* (Garland, 1997)—now nearly 15 years old—will offer any significant additional reference resource coverage.

The editor, Dr. James Ciment, brings many years of experience to this set. A prolific reference book producer whose firm (East River Books) provides publisher M.E. Sharpe with a steady stream of subject encyclopedias, he is commended for providing yet another excellent resource. Highly recommended for public and undergraduate collections of academic libraries.—*R. Neil Scott, Professor and User Services Librarian, James E. Walker Library, Middle Tennessee State University*

The Civil War Naval Encyclopedia. Ed. by Spencer C. Tucker. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-Clio, 2011. 2 vols. acid free \$180 (ISBN 978-1-59884-338-5). E-book available (978-1-59884-339-2), call for pricing.

On this sesquicentennial of the Civil War, *The Civil War Naval Encyclopedia* provides a summary of Civil War naval subject matter that appears to be the first encyclopedia to be published on this specific topic. The editor, Spencer C. Tucker, is a noted scholar on this topic having previously published works relating to the Civil War and/or the Navy such as: *Handbook of 19th Century Naval Warfare* (Naval Institute Press, 2000), *Naval Warfare: An International Encyclopedia* (ABC-Clio, 2002), *A Short History of the Civil War at Sea* (SR Books, 2001), and *Blue & Gray Navies, The Civil War Afloat* (US Naval Institute Press, 2006).

There have been several books written about the Navy and the Civil War, most notably, Tony Gibbons’s *Warships and Naval Battles of the Civil War* (Popular Culture Ink, 1990), Ivan Musicant’s *Divided Waters: The Naval History of the Civil*

War (Book Sales, 2000), and Jayne E. Blair’s *The Essential Civil War: A Handbook to the Battles, Armies, Navies and Commanders* (McFarland, 2006). What sets Tucker’s, *The Civil War Naval Encyclopedia*, apart is that it combines many of the issues that are covered in these other publications into an easy to navigate, two-volume set.

Included in these volumes are entries on important battles, campaigns, conflicts, strategies of the North and South, ships (including “individual ship engagements”), submarines, torpedoes, significant people (including naval officers, constructors, and government officials), weapons systems, and maps.

The arrangement of the encyclopedia is characteristic of most. There is an alphabetical list of entries at the front of the book which includes all categories. A categorical index in the back of the book is useful for looking up entries on specific categories. The categories listed are: “Individuals,” “Events,” “Groups & Organizations,” “Places,” “Ideas & Movements,” “Technologies, Objects & Artifacts,” “Agreements, Reports and Other Documents,” and “Miscellaneous.” A brief 6-page overview by Tucker introduces the user to the work. Some of the more interesting entries of the book include: “African American Sailors,” “Food and Drink aboard Ship,” “Balloons,” “Shipboard Life,” “Confederate Naval Strategy,” and “Union Naval Strategy.” Black and white photographs, maps and illustrations accompany several entries.

Colleges or Universities with programs related to the military and/or American history/politics will find this work useful as a starting point toward more in-depth research on a specific topic or for a broad understanding of naval issues as they pertain to the American Civil War. The fact that the entries are listed alphabetically as a whole and not by their categories can be seen as a drawback, however, the categorical index does a good job of providing the user with a listing by topic. Overall, *The Civil War Encyclopedia* provides an inclusive history of Civil War naval affairs. Public libraries may also consider purchasing, especially if the price of the e-book is more affordable than the print version.—*Rachael Elrod, Reference/Instruction Librarian & Archivist, The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, Charleston*

Encyclopedia of African American Music. Ed. by Emmett G. Price III. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2011. 3 vols. acid free \$280 (ISBN 978-0-313-34199-1). E-book available (978-0-313-34200-4), call for pricing.

The *Encyclopedia of African American Music* aims to present the music of the African Diaspora through the lens of its development and impact within the United States. The goal of Price and his associate editors is a “comprehensive reference source” that “extends beyond the traditional chronological and biographical approach that is common to works in this genre” (xxxix). They support that goal by taking a more encyclopedic approach, providing articles on broader musical topics in addition to biographical entries. For example, there are entries on African American concert music, Black-owned music publishing companies, and African American music