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laborated with Ricketts on *Between Pacific Tides* (1939), the seminal handbook documenting the Pacific littoral (now in its fifth edition with Stanford University Press). It was wonderful to see Sitka, knowing it was a place Ricketts visited and wrote about.

Back in California, I am furthering my research with regular trips to Stanford University's archives and visits with Ed Jr. Coming at a time of growing interest in Ricketts's scientific and philosophical work, this volume will give grounding to his eclectic interests.

BIBLIOGRAPHER FINDS RESEARCH ON STEINBECK FASCINATING

GRETA MANVILLE

From the early years of John Steinbeck's success, scholarly interest has resulted in a number of worthy critical bibliographies, but only a few have been annotated. Those have been on specific works or selections, usually related to a particular focus, and have rarely included more than a hundred citations.

My Steinbeck Fellowship, granted during the 2002–03 academic year, was to update an annotated critical bibliography begun thirty years ago by Martha Heasley Cox. After founding the Steinbeck Research Center at San Jose State University in the early 1970s, Professor Cox began compiling and carefully annotating an impressive amount of scholarship. During the mid-1970s, as a graduate assistant to Professor Cox for two years, I joined the effort to locate and annotate hundreds of essays and articles on Steinbeck. Research took me to Stanford, UC-Berkeley, and even to New York City where Dr. Cox obtained access to Viking Press's extensive files. We spent days at the New York Public Library and at the Lincoln Center Library, locating articles not easily obtained in those years before the Internet. When we returned to California, the work for the bibliography was nearly complete and Professor Matthew Bruccoli had approved the co-authored work for publication by the University of Pittsburgh Press as part of a companion series of secondary bibliographies for American authors.

Publication, regrettably, was postponed before the work was finished. After completing the MA requirements, I returned to a career in corporate management. Dr. Cox's early

retirement drew her away from the world of Steinbeck to other satisfying tasks, among them serving on the jury for the annual Commonwealth Club of California book awards.

What began in 2002 as a “do-able” update on the work of the 1970s is not only more extensive than I envisioned but also more fascinating than I anticipated. Reading Steinbeck’s colorful remarks about critics as well as the polarity of criticism written about him never becomes tedious. The range of interest by scholars and the news media seems limitless. During this fellowship, I have been absorbed in locating and annotating several thousand essays and articles that were written during the intervening years since my last experience with the bibliography. The 50-year anniversaries of *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Cannery Row*, as well as Steinbeck’s 2002 centenary, brought an explosion of articles in journals and newspapers to add to the respectable number of book-length studies. I have been fortunate to have access to the vast collection of critical material at San Jose State’s Steinbeck Center to add to the base of essays published in *Steinbeck Studies* (begun as the *Steinbeck Newsletter* in 1987) at San Jose State University and in *Steinbeck Quarterly*, published at Ball State University from 1968 until 1993. I am concluding the effort from my home in Arizona, thanks to the excellent resources available through interlibrary loans and the Internet.

Perhaps the most rewarding aspect of my research has been to find that interest in Steinbeck continues to grow—and in new directions. New books and articles abound relating Steinbeck’s interests, philosophies, and background to present-day concerns, not the least of them being the current world and domestic crises. The following examples are by no means the entire listing of bibliographic entries for 2002–03, but suggest the range of interest taking place in the world of Steinbeck studies.

Biographical

The 2002 year-long celebration of Steinbeck’s centennial year drew increased attention to Steinbeck and his family. When Sag Harbor arranged for a local postal event, Leo Ebersole noted the event in *Newsday*, 28 August 2002 (A: 25), “Author’s Mark of Distinction: Postal Honor for Steinbeck.” When the California Council for the Humanities sponsored its first statewide reading, “California Reads *The Grapes of*

Wrath,” Julian Guthrie announced the project with fanfare in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, 8 June 2002 (A: 21, 22), “State Hits the Books: Country’s Most Ambitious Reading Effort Opens with Steinbeck’s Classic ‘Grapes of Wrath.’” Not to be outdone in the fall reading program, Fresno Californians drew the attention of David Kipen, who reported for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, 28 September 2002 (D: 3) in “The Grapes, and Doughnuts, of Wrath” that the Fresno Krispy Kreme 24-hour Read-a-Thon would allow Fresnoans to read the novel aloud straight through. He included an anecdote about Steinbeck and doughnuts. (During Steinbeck’s regular stop at a Monterey diner for morning coffee and doughnuts, he looked so shabby that the waitress would slip him day-old free doughnuts. When he eventually learned of this, he is reputed to have remarked, “Geez, I was wondering why the donuts were so stale here.” Kipen’s source: the waitress’s son’s website.) On the other side of the continent, Margo Hammond in “A Visit to Steinbeck Country” in the St. Petersburg, Florida, *Times*, 18 August 2002, commented that while his hometown, Salinas, still harbors the ambivalence of pride and resentment toward its “favorite son,” it speaks to the power of his words that his works still evoke intense reactions. Beginning in February, The Monterey Bay Aquarium mounted a “pocket exhibit” that featured Steinbeck and Ed Ricketts and included replicas of *The Western Flyer* and Ricketts’s laboratory on Cannery Row, as reported by David Perlman in “Of Tides and Men,” *San Francisco Chronicle*, 22 February 2002 (A: 21, 22).

With the 2002 publication of son Thomas Steinbeck’s collection of short stories, *Down to a Soundless Sea*, international reviews and interviews reflected on his famous father’s penchant for storytelling. Sadly, not long after the celebratory year ended, Steinbeck’s widow, Elaine, died in April 2003. Obituaries from newspapers worldwide focused on her marriage to the author and her devotion to promoting his prominence following his death, as well as on the honors bestowed upon Elaine for her theater work.

Book-Length Studies, Literary Articles

Beyond Boundaries: Rereading John Steinbeck, edited by Susan Shillinglaw and Kevin Hearle (U of Alabama P, 2002), is a collection of 23 essays by both new and familiar critical

voices that seeks to answer whether Steinbeck has been “boxed in critically,” making his place in literature uncertain. The essays consider the man and his work from aspects of his versatility, world citizenship, gender relationships, and lifelong interest in science. The volume includes a bibliography of principal collections and publications by and about Steinbeck. *Steinbeck and the Arthurian Tradition*, Vol. 2 of the *Steinbeck Yearbook* (Mellen, 2002), edited by Barbara A. Heavilin, comprises ten essays considered by the editor to be among the best studies of the impact of the Arthurian legend on Steinbeck’s writing. With one exception, the essays have been reprinted from the *Steinbeck Monograph Series* and the *Steinbeck Quarterly*; three reviews of recent scholarly publications are also included. Katharine A. Rodger’s biographical essay introducing *Renaissance Man of Cannery Row: The Life and Letters of Edward F. Ricketts* (U of Alabama P, 2002), which she edited, sets in context Ricketts’s previously unpublished letters and provides illuminating insight into the thoughts and activities of Steinbeck’s most cherished friend. Though *America and Americans and Selected Nonfiction* (New York: Viking, 2002), edited by Susan Shillinglaw and Jackson J. Benson, is a primary work, the editors’ Introduction points out that the short, nonfiction pieces are “curiously modern and relevant.” Steinbeck’s essays are organized thematically, and each section is prefaced by a brief introduction that discusses his life, travels, ideas, and projects. Andrew E. Mathis’s *The King Arthur Myth in Modern American Literature* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2002) contains two chapters covering Steinbeck’s early novels and later work, plus significant mention of his wartime reporting. David Wyatt’s “Steinbeck’s Light” in *Southern Review* 38.2 [2002]: 399–412 points out the functions of light and dark imagery in Steinbeck’s writing, with particular emphasis on *In Dubious Battle*. No book-length studies dedicated entirely to Steinbeck have appeared as yet in 2003.

Scientific, Holistic

Smithsonian’s January, 2002, issue published Bill Gilbert’s “Prince of Tides: Before ‘Ecology’ Became a Buzzword, John Steinbeck Preached That Man Is Related to the Whole Thing” (95–98). Donna Seaman wrote “Many Shades of Green, or Ecofiction Is in the Eye of the Reader” for *TriQuarterly* 113 [2002]: 9–28, an approach to ecocriticism and to Steinbeck’s

ecological awareness found in *The Grapes of Wrath*. Aaron E. Hirsh published “The Scientific Method” in *American Scholar* (72.3: [2003]: 125–30) on the interaction and evolution of proteins, and he relates research undertaken in the Sea of Cortez to the work Steinbeck describes in *The Log from the Sea of Cortez*. Robert R. M. Verchick published “Steinbeck’s Holism: Science, Literature, and Environmental Law” in *Stanford Environmental Law Journal* (22.1 [2003]: 3–54), a discussion of Steinbeck’s contributions to ecological understanding. Several other scientific articles have appeared as well in 2003 explaining reasons for the disappearance of sardines from the ocean at Monterey.

Educational Aids

During both 2002 and 2003, several books and articles designed to help teachers implement Steinbeck curriculum reached publication. Cathy Ringstaff and Judith Haymore Sandholtz wrote “Out-of-Field Assignments: Case Studies of Two Beginning Teachers” for *Teachers College Record* (104.4 [2002]: 812–41), which uses comparative case methodology to investigate how two first-year high-school teachers taught *Cannery Row*. Susan Shillinglaw and Harold Augenbraum’s *How to Organize a Steinbeck Book or Film Discussion Group* booklet (jointly published by San Jose State University and the Mercantile Library of New York, 2002) helps readers in discussion groups reach their own conclusions about Steinbeck, his world, and his interpreters with useful suggestions for organizing a group, background information on Steinbeck’s individual works, a selected bibliography of primary and secondary material, and a filmography. For *Christianity Today* (22 April [2002]: 72–75), Mark Storer in “The Good News According to Twain, Steinbeck, and Dickens: My Road to Faith Was Paved with Great Literature” tells of teaching *The Grapes of Wrath* in his high-school classes as one of the books that led him to find God.

Bibliography

Robert B. Harmon, a bibliographer well-known to Steinbeck scholars, has published many useful Steinbeck bibliographies on a range of subjects. His latest publication, *John Steinbeck in Academia: An Introductory Survey of Dissertations, Theses, and Other Works Completed at Academic Institutions, 1940–2002* (San Jose: Dibco, 2002), contains, in addition to alphabetic listing by

authors, chapters arranged by subject with a discussion of trends; a chronological perspective illuminating years when Steinbeck research was most productive; institutional distribution listings; foreign dissertations; a summary of articles suggesting areas for scholarly investigation; and a title index.

There are, of course, many more books and articles written about Steinbeck during these two years. Here, I haven't tried to touch on the subjects of the continuing battle over censorship, the impact of Oprah Winfrey's selection of *East of Eden* for her book club, or reviews of plays being staged not only in this country but in Europe as well. With the war in the Middle East, renewed interest worldwide in Steinbeck's wartime reporting has resulted in several excellent essays on *Bombs Away* and *Once There Was a War*. Caroline Kennedy's *A Patriot's America* (New York: Hyperion, 2003), includes in a section entitled "Work, Opportunity, and Invention" an excerpt from *The Grapes of Wrath*, which I feel certain would have pleased John Steinbeck. Bibliographic work is intense and time-consuming, but I find it a great pleasure to research and write about a distinguished author I have admired and respected for a lifetime.

THE SEA OF CORTEZ: SAILING WITH THE SPIRITS OF JOHN STEINBECK AND EDWARD F. RICKETTS ON A NEW VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY AROUND BAJA CALIFORNIA

JON CHRISTENSEN

Steinbeck Fellow and Hopkins Marine Station Biologist Plan to Retrace Steinbeck/Ricketts Expedition in Spring 2004
Students can follow the voyage on the Web

In the spring of 1940, John Steinbeck and his friend, marine biologist Edward Ricketts, embarked on a voyage they had long dreamed of making together, and not a season too soon. As the storms of war engulfed Europe and the Far East, threatening to bring the United States into World War II, they sailed on the *Western Flyer*, a sardine fishing boat, from Monterey Bay south around Baja California to the Sea of Cortez.

Their goal was to collect samples of the creatures living in the intertidal zone along what was then a little explored coast-