This annotated bibliography is designed to assist teachers of English and social studies in improving the self-image of pupils of immigrant parents and grandparents and to nurture mutual understanding of cultural and ethnic diversities. It includes writings on every major white ethnic group represented in the United States. In most cases, only works originally written in English have been included; fiction and nonfiction titles by and about the ethnic American form the bulk of the references. The entries are listed under the following headings: the immigrant experience (non-fiction); ethnic literature (Anthologies); and the literature of eleven specific ethnic groups. The availability of each book, both in hard-bound and paperback, is indicated. (LL)
The Story That Has Not Been Told
Since the late nineteen-sixties, teachers have helped pupils to look at the experiences of Afro-Americans, Asian-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, and American Indians in a more positive light. In books, films, and plays the contributions of these groups to American life are beginning to be recognized. Other ethnic Americans, however, have not as yet been adequately represented by the material taught in secondary school classrooms. In fact, the heritage and culture of white ethnic Americans are conspicuously absent from school anthologies, curricula guides, and book lists. Just as black and Puerto Rican studies, for example, have provided a context of pride and identity for blacks and Puerto Ricans and understanding for whites, so the study of white ethnic cultures can reinforce pride in a heritage, loyalty to a group, and understanding of others.

There is no dearth of good materials from which to choose. White ethnic-Americans, writers of the first, second, third--even the fourth generation, continue to record the experiences of their respective groups. Until recently, however, their accounts of the immigrant story were read by few. The picture is changing rapidly. No longer under the yoke of poverty and illiteracy, white ethnic-Americans
are, in increasing numbers, finding time and strength to study freely and to write for other reasons than to supply their daily bread and to insure themselves shelter for the night. With pride and confidence, the descendants of impoverished immigrants are learning to look backward to their heritage and forward to their future.

The search is not without anguish. White ethnic writers need to belong sufficiently to the American scene to have something to say to Americans. at the same time not losing sight of their ethnic past. Thus they are faced with the enduring problem of reconciling or integrating the distinct elements of their national past and the cultural pluralism of the world in which they live. Only ethnic writers of quality are able to strike a balance. Consider William Saroyan, an Armenian-Americans, who declares his Armenian heritage against an American backdrop, whether he uses Armenian subjects or not. The intangible evidence of his Armenian-ness, however, gives his writing its distinctive flavor. And so it is with others.

Jerre Mangione, an Italian-American author, articulates some of the difficulties of the ethnic writer. In response to questions raised in
an interview on the writing of Mount Allegro, Mangione pointed to the ethnic writer of the second generation as best able to fuse the two civilizations, European and American, "not in terms of a melting pot with its somewhat mournful implication of uniformity, but rather in terms of an orchestra in which each group, like an orchestra choir, contributes its special tone to the rich ensemble of the whole." The first generation writer can rarely reconcile the disparate elements to record ethnic experiences with success; he is not Americanized enough. The third generation ethnic may be too assimilated to capture his immigrant past; he must first rediscover it.

Notwithstanding these difficulties of the writer's craft, largely overcome these days, the deficiency remains: the immigrant experience, and that of his descendants, is a story that remains to be told in America's secondary schools. To meet this lack, the author has prepared an annotated bibliography on white ethnic studies (which follows on pp. 5-30) to assist teachers of English and social studies in secondary schools in improving the self-image of pupils of immigrant parents and grandparents, and in furthering mutual understanding of cultural and ethnic diversities. It is

his objective that teachers, made sensitive to the needs of such pupils, will use representative ethnic literature to uncover the many positive contributions of diverse groups, and to counteract the stigma attached to pupils who demonstrate "odd differences" or "strange ways." If the rich and pluralistic roots of America's past are to prevail, then the literature that best explores the relationship of ethnic groups to American society as a whole should be taught in English classrooms. It is time that the experiences of all the children of all of the people become a reality for all in America's classrooms without condescension or pity. The story must be told without stereotypes, sentimentality, or hyperbole. It can be told without using material that exploits differences, fans ethnic discontent, or blinds pupils to their common aspirations for a better life together. Handled properly, ethnic studies increases self-perception and understanding of others; it should not be used as a pretext to pull people apart. America wants no less for her children.
Selective Bibliography: White Ethnic Studies

The titles listed on the following pages are, by necessity, but a sampling of what is available in the field of ethnic studies, a field that is growing so rapidly that this bibliography becomes less comprehensive and more selective with each passing day. Some material is included on the immigrant experience as told by historians and sociologists; a few anthologies are mentioned. The majority of the titles, however, is literature: the immigrant story—its beginnings, political and socioeconomic development, and recent ethnic awareness and resurgence. Some effort has been made to include writings on every white ethnic group represented in the United States. Obviously, omissions remain, and justice may seem uneven to those who peruse these pages. It must be said though that the case for the contributions of the white ethnic is still being made.

In most cases, only works originally written in English have been included; titles, fiction and nonfiction, about and by the ethnic American form the bulk of the references. Since this bibliography has been prepared to assist teachers of English and Social Studies in secondary schools to improve the self-image of pupils of immigrant parents or grandparents, most references are concerned largely with America and the American scene. Ethnic-American writers living abroad or writing abroad have been mentioned only where these authors identify themselves at some time with America or with the ethnic-American experience.

The entries are divided as follows: The Immigrant Experience: Nonfiction; Ethnic Literature: Anthologies; Literature of Specific Ethnic Groups, arranged alphabetically.

Each entry is starred once or twice, indicating "in print or "paper. A few titles are starred three times, indicating their availability in popular drama anthologies. For the addresses of publishers, readers are recommended to Books in Print and Paperbound Books in Print.

In a few cases, titles of books no longer in print have been included because of their importance as references or because they present a unique picture of some aspect of the immigrant experience.
The Immigrant Experience: NonFiction

These are general accounts of the immigrant story, recounting immigration from all parts of the world, especially Europe. For discussion of the problems, contributions, and situations of specific immigrant groups, consult the third and last division of this bibliography, "Literature of Specific Ethnic Groups."


An account of immigration from all parts of the world with emphasis on the melting pot theory.


The classic study of hyphenated Americans with a scholarly account of their problems, successes, and contributions.


Very useful background to the causes, motives, reasons, and justifications of white ethnicity; Father Greeley contends that differences should be encouraged, indeed that America is enriched by them.


Together these companion pieces give a scholarly overview of the immigrant and his children, emphasizing the need for ethnic identity.


*In Print
**Paper
Ethnic Literature: Anthologies


Includes analogous experiences of white and brown ghettos; varied spectrum of voices; problems of apartness stressed; especially suitable for junior high through senior high school.


Highly recommended, especially for Mexican-American literature.


A structured anthology based on the premise of inevitable merger of ethnic groups into the cultural mainstream; for mature students; includes, among others, Mario Puzo, William Saroyan, Jo Pagano, Max Lerner, Philip Roth, John Logan, Ole Rolvaag.


"Newly discovered" minorities treated together with "old standbys".

*In Print
**paper
Literature Dealing with the Armenian-American Experience


An extremely useful account of the many literary contributions of Armenian-American authors, including annotations, literary criticism, and biographical material.


A novel of immigrant life that portrays a totally unlovable woman, a mother, who professes tenderness toward her children.


A humorous account of an "odd" family (in the pattern of "You Can't Take It with You") doing unpredictable things, a family of irrepressible optimists.


An anthology of poems.


An anthology of three plays.


An anthology of short stories.


An anthology of three plays.


A play in three acts, done unconventionally without plot or sustained story line.

Three generations of an Armenian-American family are depicted; the grandson becomes a successful architect.


Story of the Armenian massacres, a biographical account

**Literature Dealing with the Dutch-American Experience**


An account of a Dutch family that settled in Michigan.


An account of a Dutch settlement near Chicago; a schoolteacher marries a Dutch farmer who dies early in their marriage; book is an interplay of Dutch and non-Dutch mores coming into conflict.

**Literature Dealing with the German-American Experience**


Especially good for junior high school students, this is an account of Scotch and German settlers in Nebraska. (Reprint edition)


Child of pious German immigrants, Jennie nevertheless falls prey to pleasure-loving son of an enterprising Irishman.


An account of the conflict within an immigrant German father who is unwilling to give up his loyalty to his native country and to adapt himself wholeheartedly to America; his conflict is reflected in the conflicts of his wife and children who are torn between the two countries all their lives.

*In Print  
**Paper


An excellent account of a German immigrant boy's life in America; written with the same sensitivity given by Richter to Indian-white relationships, in *Light in the Forest.*


Through the eyes of a German-American boy, the reactions of people of a small Illinois town to World War II are seen.


Immigrant Irish and German in Brooklyn (circa. 1900).
By the author of *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn.*


Story of Viennese-born Lisa, her daughter and her daughter's five children.


Presents the Schwietert family, German immigrant family, undergoing the painful process of Americanization in a small Iowa town.


The story of a young Austrian immigrant and the steel industry, Pittsburg, 1919.
Literature Dealing with the Greek-American Experience


A valuable guide with a useful listing of Greek-American authors and their works of fiction.


Includes biographies of Michael Anagnos, Angelo Patri, among others. (Reprint edition: Crowell, 1968)


Collection of short stories.


Account of life in the Greek-American community, Chicago, from 1919-1954.


A collection of short stories on Greek-American life.


A comprehensive history of Greek-American life, including an excellent account of Greek-American contributions and a fine bibliography.


An adaptation of Saloutos' 1964 scholarly work noted previously.

An account of this outstanding Greek-American who helped further the interests of the blind, written by a friend.


A nostalgic account of a Greek-American family living in an octagonal house in St. Louis at the turn of the century.


Literature Dealing with the Hungarian-American Experience


Biography of the distinguished Hungarian-American, a distinguished newspaper owner. Especially appropriate for junior high school.

Bell, Thomas. *Out of This Furnace*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1941.

An account of an Hungarian immigrant family, its association with the Homestead, Pennsylvania steel industry (1881-1930) and the CIO.


Kemeny, George. *Hundred Poems*. No further bibliographic data available.

Included is a poem about immigrant life, a long poem, "Metalgrinders of Southbend."

*In Print
**Paper

-12-


*** Eagles of Two Continents. St. Louis: American-Hungarian Review.

Story of Hungarian participants in the American Civil War, during the Missouri Campaign.


Molnar was living in the United States when he became world renowned. Most of his plays were originally written in Hungarian and then published in English.


Includes Capek's *R.U.R.* as well.


An account of Cleveland immigrants of Hungarian stock whose lives demonstrate the painful, complex process of assimilation, 1900-1921 setting.

Szecskay, George. *Short Stories.* No further data available.

Short accounts of the love-tragedies in the boarding houses of the immigrants. Further accounts listed in Hungarian.


A novel about Gaspar Broadway, an old immigrant and Americanized, and his New York City adventures.

* In Print

** Paper

-13-
Literature Dealing with the Irish-American Experience


Story of conflicts between Jews and Irish-Catholics in New York's East Side at the turn of the century. (See Jewish-American)

Irish-American family in Manhattan.

Rum Alley and poolroom environment.


A nostalgic, humorous-tragic record of childhood memories spent in Boston's Irish Parish and Money Hole Hill; story of conflicts that arise when immigrants move up the social scale to become "lace curtain" Irish.

Arrival of Irish immigrants in New York and their Americanization.

Dreiser's portrayal of the Irish was mixed: he admired them as vigorous yet criticized them as wilful.

Set in an Irish working class section of Philadelphia and revolves around an Irish wedding.

*In Print
**Paper

Just one in a series of titles by Dunne, featuring the unforgettable Mr. Dooley, satirist and voice of sentiments about the Irish community.


Classic novel of an Irish-American boy in the streets of Chicago; trilogy of growing up white and deprived in urban America.


An arbitrary choice of riches under one cover by one of America's most fertile writers. Any number of excellent novels are well known and readily available; The Great Gatsby, The Young and the Damned, Tender Is the Night.


Logan is a poet who writes about the Irish-American experience.


Interethnic conflict between Italian-American and Irish-American family; book of humor, pathos, understanding. (See Italian-American)


An Irish politician's last hurrah; intimate, sympathetic view of Irish-American culture.


*In Print
**Paper

Just one in a series of titles by O'Neill that touch on, reflect upon, or create the experience of the Irish-American.


One of a growing number of novels dealing with the friction between Jews, Catholics, and Protestants.

Sinclair, Upton. **King Coal.** New York: Macmillan, 1918.

Mary Burke, class-conscious strike leader with a romantic nature; a modern Irish Joan of Arc.

Sugrue, Thomas. **Such Is the Kingdom.** New York: Holt, 1940.

Story of Irish immigrants in rubber factory.


A poor Irishman attains success in New York.


Extremely useful for background, bibliographies, contributions of Irish-Americans.

*In Print

**Paper

*** Available in paper anthologies
Literature Dealing with the Italian-American Experience


See annotation under "Irish-American Experience."

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Play in three acts with obvious references to the Sacco-Vanzetti case of the 1920's.

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Early years of Nino, actually the author, in America; novel-biography shows the gradual adaptation of the customs and traditions of Valenti Angelo's home country to American ways.

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Nostalgic story of poor Italian people, in Philadelphia.

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A fictionalized biography of the life of an Italian painter.

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Play about an Italian-American bachelor, long past marrying age, who eventually marries a schoolteacher, a plain girl not of his heritage.

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History of Ellis Island and of immigration to America.

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In Print

Paper

Available in paper anthologies

Based on his decades of experience as principal of Benjamin Franklin High School, New York City.


Readable account of Dr. Covello's life-long interest in the Italian-American child with respect to family life and school success. His doctoral thesis, in 1944, dwelled on this subject: "Social Background of the Italo-American School Child: A Study of the Southern Italian Family Mores and Their Effect on the School Situation in Italy and America."


An excellent source, just released, of Reports, Texts, Critical Studies, and Related Materials on the Italian-American; there is a very useful section on literary output as well.


An autobiography of this well-known Italo-American, with an introduction by Carl Van Doren. Includes some of D'Angelo's poetry as well.


This autobiographical novel deserves to be reprinted in paperback, having once been a Book-of-the-Month selection. An account of Geremio, an Italian construction worker, who is literally crucified by a fallen building that is structurally defective as a result of the greed of his bosses.


The story of an Italian-American nun who was elevated to sainthood for work in American slums; the only Catholic-American so honored to date.

Based on the lives of the characters of Christ in Concrete; a play.


Series of intimate family sketches.


Autobiography of the well-known, colorful mayor of New York City, emphasizing the years from 1882-1919.


Up-to-date account of Italian-American life from the historical, social, political points of view.


Interethnic conflict between Italian-American and Irish-American family; book of humor, pathos, understanding. (See Irish-American)


Written to bring about a better understanding between the American people and the Italian-Americans, especially the Sicilians; a picture of the average Italian family adjusting to a new land; called by Diana Trilling an Italian Life with Father; a well-ordered series of recollections of Mr. Mangione's Sicilian childhood in Rochester; not really a novel but a work of nonfiction.


Marinacci, Barbara. They Came from Italy. New York: Dodd, Mead, 1967.

In Print

Paper

Musical drama about Italian life in lower Manhattan by the author of such well-known operas as The Consul and The Medium.


Includes biographical accounts of Leonard Covello, Angelo Pellegrini, Constantine Nunzio, Edward Corsi, and Pascal D'Angelo.


An account, in play form, of a young Italian-American boy, Joe Bonaparte, and his dilemma: love of music and need to make money.


Unfortunately not in print, an excellent account of the joys, struggles, sorrows, and antics of the Maccaluccis and Paesanos--Italian immigrant families.


Autobiography of immigrant life to 1921.


Autobiography of Angelo Patri's years as the first Italo-American to head a New York City public school.


Biography of a friend of Jerre Mangione, whose family emigrated to Washington State.


A seminal work that was alone in its field until the 1960's.

An account of an Italian-American family living in the Chelsea district of New York City, from 1928—World War II—by the author of *The Godfather.*


Includes short stories and reprints of these: "A Serendipiter's Journey" (1961) and "The Bridge" (1964) (Reprint edition: New York: Bantam, 1971)


A musical with lyrics by Sheldon Harnick.


An established Italo-American writer who until recently wrote biographies of prominent figures in English and continental literature.
Literature Dealing with the Jewish-American Experience


Compassionate chronicle of American Jewry of Eastern European origin.


Minor classic of Jewish immigration.


Theme of Jewish proletariat in America; younger generation breaking away from matriarchal traditions; Polish-American background.


Story of Moses Herzog, a peripheral Jew, who never comes to grips with his Jewishness; hero suffers as an American intellectual in a country predominantly unintellectual.


Issue of acculturation discussed; moral question of what a good man does in a diverse, urban, competitive society.


An account of Jewish immigrants who settle in Montana.


At thirteen years of age, Anne Frank is forced into hiding by the Nazi occupation of Amsterdam; document of a secret life and Nazi terror; eight Jews live in fear of discovery and death for two years; face almost unbearable conditions yet their lives are a monument to courage, faith, and hope for mankind.

*In Print

*Paper

Russian-Jewish immigrant boy's growing up in America; conflict and misunderstanding between two generations: the boy, so eager to find the American Dream that he changes his name to Gold, later produces a son he doesn't understand, an esthete unconcerned about money.


Shows the other side of the Shylock myth; set in the 1930's, in poor Jewish areas of New York City.


Written by non-Jew about the Jews of the Warsaw revolt; depicts the gradual eroding of the stereotype of the nonmilitant Jew: shows Jews fighting to the end.


The image of the Jew as well as his role as author, from Colonial times to the present; extremely useful reference.


Crisis of Frank Alpine, orphaned Catholic, who must become a Jew to find secure bases for his behavior.


Chiefly accounts of Shapiro, Schwartz, Rosenfeld, Fiedler, Bellow, Malamud, and Roth, who are viewed as concerned with traditional concepts of the Jewish experience. Extremely useful!


Extremely useful survey from early times of Jewish figures in English and especially American drama.
Professor Mangione  
School of Education  
Brooklyn College, CUNY

A look at Jewish tradition as it flourishes in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.


Anthology of Malamud, including excerpts from The Natural, A New Life, and The Fixer; The Assistant (in toto); his short stories, The Magic Barrel and The Last Mohicans.

A psychological novel of a young Jewish boy's coming of age in a New York slum; difficult for many secondary school students but rewarding for special classes.


Collection of sketches revealing the immigrant hungry of heart and struggling to achieve material and spiritual betterment in America.

*In Print  
**Paper

-24-
Literature Dealing with the Mexican-American Experience


Autobiography of a family's move from Mexico to California and the subsequent story of acculturation.


Historical and social account of the Mexican-American and his problems; angry epic telling of the Chicano movement in America; sensitive optimism and suffering pride emerge; written as an epic poem, a call to revolution; should be used with caution on the secondary school level.


Nonfiction; inside view of a lower-class family and its life in Mexico.


A Puerto Rican's adjustment to New York City life.


Nonfiction; includes an excellent bibliography of references on the Mexican-American.


One of a few anthologies with contemporary literary pieces by Mexican-Americans.

*Spanish-American literature in general and Puerto Rican literature in specific are not intended to be part of this study of material; therefore the omissions.*

*In Print**

**Paper**

Strong, frank, bitter Mexican-American voice from the American West; *Media and Methods* advises "careful handling" if used.


Story set in southern California; focuses on Paul Guevara, high school student, and his problems, that come from reconciling the conflicts of two cultures.


An account of Father Junipero Serra and his missionary work among the Indians in California.

Vasquez, Richard. *Chicano.* One of a very few novels written by a Chicano; recounts the struggles of three generations of Mexican-Americans to become part of the Anglo way of life.

(Insert omission for *Chicano*: New York: Doubleday, 1970.)
Literature Dealing with the Scandinavian-American Experience


A Swedish family migrates to America and settles in New England, where Papa becomes a minister; family life and customs depicted.


Trials of Norwegian settlers in the Red River Valley, North Dakota; traces the process of assimilation--its anguish and joy.


Historical novel. Danish-American.


Collection of short stories about a Norwegian-American immigrant family living in San Francisco; the basis for Van Druten's *I Remember Mama* and the television show of the same name that ran for many years. Especially appropriate for junior high school and lower term senior high school.


One of the better known novels by Garland about Scandinavian-American frontier life on the Dakota prairie.


Scholarly biography of the well-known Norwegian immigrant and writer. (See Rolvaag, Ole, next p.)


Fictionalized biography of a boy from Denmark who rises by luck and strength from poverty and obscurity to power and affluence in the steel industry.

*In Print

**Paper

Historical novel. Swedish immigrants and their settlements in Minnesota.


American saga of the struggle between Norwegian immigrants and the cruel environment of the Western plains in the late nineteenth century; presents the horrors of physical and cultural isolation in a moving, elemental way.


Carries on the theme begun in *Giants*, beginning with the son of Per Hansa and Beret, Peder Victorious.


Swedish immigrant couple in a Wisconsin lumber town.


Story of Peter Grimsen and his life in America after arriving from Denmark; conflict arises between the father and the sons: they want to remain here, he wants to go back to Denmark.

*In Print*

**Paper**
Literature Dealing with the Slavic-American Experience


Autobiography of a Yugoslavian-American author; suitable for junior high school and early high school years.


Story of the Polish immigrants of Chicago's West Side.


Sketches of Bohemian-Americans in the process of Americanization.


Polish-American proletariat comes to America; theme of younger generation breaking away from matriarchal traditions.


Daughter of an American businessman becomes involved with a family of Polish refugees and witnesses the brutality of the Nazis when they march into Budapest, in 1941.


The heroine is the child of parents who have come from Bohemia to wrest a living from the prairie soil.


Bohemian and Swede intermingling on the Nebraska prairie.

* Books noted here overlap in some cases with those placed under the Jewish-American experience. They have been placed in both listings to indicate suitability under either treatment.

** In Print

** Paper

Russian immigrant boy's growing up in America; conflict and misunderstanding between two generations.


Story of the American adventures of a young man from Prague.


Biography of an Yugoslavian-American who contributed much to the electrical engineering field.


An account of the experiences in America of a Russian immigrant; humor and charm abound.


Account of a Lithuanian-American in one of Chicago's infamous packing plants.


Polish immigrants in a small American city.


An account of a laborer's life in the 1920's; the story of a Slav buffeted by a system he does not understand.


Collection of sketches revealing the Slavic immigrant hungry of heart and struggling to achieve material and spiritual betterment in America.

*In Print
**Paper