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Sociological Novels Reviewed in *Sociology and Social Research, 1925-1958*

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The bibliographic record reveals the novel as a distinctive and frequently used format for sociological inquiry and exposition. From 1925 to 1958, the pages of Sociology and Social Research identified and reviewed 140 examples of sociological novels. A bibliography of these novels is provided here, annotated with citations for the reviews in Sociology and Social Research. This “library” of sociological novels is a useful resource for research on American culture, student projects, and (not unimportantly) recreational reading that combines business with pleasure.

Under the editorship of Emory S. Bogardus, Sociology and Social Research routinely opened its pages to reviews of alternative forms of sociological expression. Instructively, Bogardus merged his interest in quantitative social measurement with a commitment to literature as a form of sociological exploration. In particular, he explored “social distances” in a variety of literary works, including novels.

1 Sociological Origins, Volume 5, No. 1, Fall 2006: 54-59. All rights reserved.


Melvin J. Vincent wrote the lion’s share of these reviews, and Emory S. Bogardus contributed several additional critiques. Other reviewers included: Read Bain, John H. Burna, Doris Cleage, Virginia Elmquist, D.W. Hamilton, Cecil Evva Larsen, Edward C. McDonagh, Martin H. Neumeyer, John E. Nordskog, and N.N. Puckett.

Several of the works cited in the bibliography below have become classics and are readily available. The bibliography also notes many lesser known works still available in used book stores across the country. Virtually all of the listed titles can be obtained through interlibrary loan. It is hoped you will find this bibliography a useful resource — one to which you will add your own updates.

LIST OF NOVELS REVIEWED IN SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL RESEARCH

Note: The volume and page number location of each review as it appears in Sociology and Social Research follows in square brackets after each entry.


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The Naked and the Dead. New York: Rinehart. [S&SR 33: 404].


Wait the Withering Rain. Fort Worth, Texas: Leo Potishman Foundation. [S&SR 38: 65].


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