

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the decade or so since I began this book, I have incurred numerous personal and professional debts. It is an honor to discharge them, first by recording my gratitude to everyone listed below, and second by absolving them all from blame in regard to errors, oversights or defects in the catalogue.

Steinbeck's Reading would have been nothing more than a good idea had it not been for several people: Elaine Steinbeck, first and foremost, for her gracious permission to examine her husband's unpublished work, to quote from his writings, and for her aid and advice; the late Elizabeth Otis Kiser, Steinbeck's literary agent, for her sustained interest, advice and information; Patricia Myrer, President of McIntosh and Otis, for continued publication permission; and Adam Marsh, Director of Ohio University's Research Institute, whose committees awarded me a Research Grant (1976–1977) and a Baker Fund Award (1978–1979), which in turn made possible a Faculty Development Sabbatical (1979).

Many of the entries in this book were gained from personal correspondence and personal or telephone interviews with people knowledgeable about Steinbeck's intellectual habits. Besides the indispensable guidance of Elizabeth Otis and the late Annie Laurie Williams, I am grateful to Richard Albee for adding to Steinbeck's reading in the 1930s; Professor Jackson J. Benson for sharing material (with Elaine Steinbeck's permission) from his forthcoming authorized biography and for several stimulating conversations in 1981 and 1982; Mrs. William B. Brown for numerous additions and confirmations; Joel W. Hedgpeth and Edward Ricketts, Jr., for one of the key documents, Edward F. Ricketts' "Personal Inventory of Books"; Chase Horton for a memorable interview in 1979 and for granting access to another key document, a notebook of Steinbeck's Arthurian research;

Carlton Sheffield for generosity matched only by his enthusiasm and humility; and the late Gwyndolyn Steinbeck for two interviews in 1971. Also, Webster Street and Nelson Valjean shared important materials and advice, as did members of Steinbeck's family, Elizabeth Ainsworth and David Heyler. His former Stanford classmates, Robert Cathcart and A. Grove Day, were extremely informative, as were his friends and associates, Nathaniel Benchley, Joseph Campbell, Ellwood Graham, Mrs. Joseph Henry Jackson, Herbert Kline, Burgess Meredith, George Robinson, Virginia Scardigli and Mrs. Eugène Vinaver. A special note of thanks goes to Gerry G. Gilmar, S.S. Marquis DeBoleyn, for his interest and generosity.

I owe a long overdue thanks to Deborah Benson Covington for making me aware of the resources available from book collectors and book sellers, particularly the exemplary Steinbeck collections of Harry Valentine and Preston Beyer. Although Valentine's collection has since been sold, I had the privilege of working with it in 1979. Pres Beyer has been, beyond all the referential amenities performed in my behalf, an inspirational guide to this project. Many of the books Steinbeck owned were advertised in the catalogues of Bradford Morrow, the Jenkins Book Company, Phillips Books, Michail Druck's Orchard Hill Associates, Randall House, James M. Dourgarian, Glenn Horowitz, Northwest Book Auction, Serendipity Books and Donald Cortum (brought to my attention by Richard Pryor)—they freely shared resources and answered questions, as did Maurice Dunbar and Arthur Gold. Frequent private queries as well as two public requests for information—one in the *New York Times Book Review* (1979) and one in *Steinbeck Quarterly* (1980)—brought to light numerous books Steinbeck owned.

A substantial portion of the entries in this book were gleaned from my investigation of Steinbeck's unpublished manuscripts, notebooks, ledgers and correspondence. I can neither do justice to the abundance of the major Steinbeck collections nor adequately thank the curators and their staffs for help and permission to quote from materials in their possession. Dr. Martha Heasley Cox, former Director of the Steinbeck Research Center, San Jose State University, maintained a long tradition of generous support, enthusiasm and hospitality; Ellen S. Dunlap, Re-

search Librarian, and her staff at the Humanities Research Center, University of Texas at Austin, made my stay there in 1977 extremely productive, and have continued to answer my requests for material; Charles Ryskamp, Director, Herbert Cahoon, Curator of Autograph Manuscripts, and Evelyn Semler, Reading Room Supervisor—all of The Pierpont Morgan Library, New York City—have been extremely courteous and accommodating; Sally Mahoney and Michelle Moore, Stanford University Registrars; Roxanne Nilan and Margaret Coesfeld of Stanford University's Archives; Florian Shasky, Director of Special Collections, Pat Palmer, Carol Rudisell and Sara Timby, Manuscripts Librarians, and especially Susan Riggs, Steinbeck Librarian—all of the Department of Special Collections, Bender Room, Green Library, Stanford University—deserve special praise for their cooperation in 1979, and for their initiative in keeping me supplied with new information during the past three years; Linda Plummer, Steinbeck Librarian, Pauline Pearson, Historical Consultant, and John Gross, Director—all of the Salinas Public Library, Salinas, California—have frequently provided significant services, documents and information; and Estelle Rebec, Head of the Manuscripts Division at the Bancroft Library, University of California at Berkeley, permitted access to Steinbeck's letters. I also thank Edmund Berkeley, Curator of Manuscripts, the Clifton Waller Barrett Library of Alderman Library, University of Virginia at Charlottesville; Kenneth Lohf, Director, Rare Book and Manuscript Library of Butler Library, Columbia University; Juanita Smith, Special Collections Librarian, Alexander Bracken Library, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana; Jessica Miller, Readers' Services, Louisville *Courier-Journal*; Nancy Bressler, Curator of Manuscripts, Seeley Mudd Library, Princeton University; Edwin Kennbeck, Archivist, The Viking Press; and the directors and their assistants at the Berg Collection, New York Public Library; Houghton Library, Harvard University; Ohio State University Library; University of Pennsylvania Library; Bibliographic Service Division and Reading Room, British Library; Beinecke Library at Yale University; and Sterling Library of Yale, where most of the verification of titles took place.

It is also gratifying to acknowledge the help and encourage-

ment I have had from fellow teachers and scholars: Richard Astro (Northeastern University), Frank Bergon (Vassar College), Pascal Covici, Jr. (Southern Methodist University), John Ditsky (University of Windsor), Warren French (Indiana University and Purdue University at Indianapolis), Mark Govoni (Earlham College), Carol Kasperek (Ball State University), Clifford Lewis (University of Lowell), Robin Mitchell (Marquette University), Robert Morsberger (California Polytechnical College, Pomona), Roy Simmonds (Billercay, England), Joseph Waldmeir (Michigan State University), and Nancy Zane (Ohio University, Lancaster). Tetsumaro Hayashi (Ball State University), editor of the *Steinbeck Quarterly*, has been an honored friend and colleague, and deserves special praise.

And these colleagues at Ohio University have taken time to answer questions or provide advice: Noel Barstad, Susan Cowl, Pam Durban, the late Frank B. Fieler, Ray Fitch, Carol Harter, John Hollow, Daniel Keyes, Earl Knies, Lester Marks, Jack Matthews, Dean McWilliams, Paul Murphy, Vance Ramsey, Duane Schneider and Edward Stone. Professors Richard Danner, Barry Thomas and Lois Vines gave generous assistance with translations. In addition, Mrs. Donna Chen, Director of Ohio University's Inter-Library Loan Department at Alden Library, made my work easier than it might have been, as did Margaret Seligman Cook, Warren Werner, John Fallon, and especially James Johnson. Lars Lutton, of Ohio University's Learning Resources Center, photographed most of the illustrations on the shortest possible notice.

The introduction and notes to this book draw directly and indirectly from earlier writings on Steinbeck which appeared as essays, articles, reviews or chapters in *American Studies*, *Journal of Modern Literature*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, *San Jose Studies*, *Steinbeck Quarterly*, *Steinbeck: The Man and His Work*, *A Study Guide to Steinbeck*, *University of Windsor Review*, and as speeches delivered at various Steinbeck conferences in Oregon, California, New York and Indiana between 1971 and 1981. I am grateful for permission to use that material, as I am to Viking Press/Penguin Books, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, and Paul S. Eriksson for permission to quote from Steinbeck's publications. For her patience and en-

couragement, Julia Johnson, Garland editor, has earned my lasting appreciation. Finally, to Neda Mitchell and her staff at Just Your Type, all good things; and to James Davis, Chair, Ohio University English Department, and to Richard Koshel, Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences, many thanks for defraying typing costs.