# A SURVEY OF CURRENT LITERATURE

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TODAY THERE ARE MORE THAN 1,700 daily newspapers in the United States, many of which have circulations of several hundred thousand. Yet once a particular day's news is superseded by the next, what remains is available only to the few who are willing to search reel after reel of microfilm for that elusive article someone vaguely remembers seeing somewhere. Few of America's dailies publish indices or have anything resembling a comprehensive clipping service.

For those who are interested in what is being written about Mormons and Mormonism in newspapers, the means are now available to retrieve stories that in the past would have been lost. Linda Thatcher, a librarian with the Utah Historical Society, has compiled what is perhaps a first in Mormon bibliographic studies using the monthly clipping scrapbooks of the Church's Public Communications Department and several other sources. Although most of the newspapers cited may be relatively obscure, the care with which many of the articles have been written makes their reading worth-while. These writings represent an important and frequently overlooked aspect of the popular perception of Mormons.

Not included (with one lone exception), are the numerous articles which have appeared in the weekly *Church News* section of the *Deseret News*. Also beyond the scope of this bibliography, but nevertheless of significance, is A. J. Simmonds' weekly historical column "Looking Back" in the Logan, Utah *Herald Journal*.

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