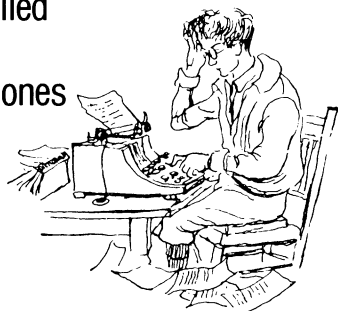


# THE SOURCE

edited  
and compiled  
by  
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## Vital reference work

REFERENCE staff in major research libraries often comment on the parallel between social and economic conditions and the flavour of the work reference librarians are asked to carry out by their clients. Nowhere was this more dramatically illustrated than at the Leningrad Public Library, and here the situation is described by Harrison Salisbury in *The Siege of Leningrad* (London: Secker and Warburg, 1969):

'The library never closed. In the basement the main catalogue had been set up adjacent to a small public reading room. Almost every day one or two hundred persons could be found there, sitting in fur hats and overcoats, huddled over books, reading by the light of small oil lamps. The librarians sent books to the hospitals. They answered a thousand questions put to them by the military and civil authorities: How could Leningrad make matches? How could flint and steel lighters be manufactured? What materials were needed for candles? Was there any way of making yeast, edible wood, artificial vitamins? How do you make soup? The librarians found recipes for candles in old works of the 18th century'.

(I am indebted to John Wright, State Library of New South Wales, for drawing this passage to my attention.)

## On the map

*THE GLOBE* is the journal of the Australian Map Curators Circle and usually contains articles of interest to those with even a vague penchant for maps.

In a recent issue (no 12, 1980) there is a fascinating paper by J.R.V. Prescott on the use and misuse of maps as evidence in boundary disputes, with a number of notorious examples. Also in this issue are some papers from a recent New Zealand conference, information on the International Cartographic Association, reviews and details of developments in map cataloguing.

*The Globe*, which is produced irregularly, but professionally, is available gratis to members of the Australian Map Curators Circle. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in maps, and costs \$10.00 per year for individuals and \$15.00 per year for institutions. Subscriptions should be sent to Mr J. Lines, Treasurer, AMCC, 9 Fortune Street, Box Hill, Vic 3128. (ISSN 0311-3930).

## Cataloguer's nightmare

*THE Australia 1788-1988: a bicentennial history* project has already generated some useful preliminary material, although, in the words of one of the project's editors, it is something of a 'cataloguer's nightmare'.

The aim of the project, you may remember, is to present a number of 'slices' of Australian history and a number of reference volumes dealing with the first 200 years of white settlement as a whole.

The 1838 team produces *The Push from the bush* (no 1 May 1978 - ; ISSN 0155-8633).

Then there is *Australia 1888* (no 1 February 1979 - ; ISSN 0157-2385). *Australia 1938-1988* (no 1 June 1978 - no 3 September 1979; ISSN 0156-3238) has now split into *Australia 1938* (no 1 February 1980 - ; ISSN 0157-096X) and *Australia 1939-1988* (not yet sighted).

There is also a bulletin of the Reference Section of the project, the first of which is *Australian historical bibliography* (no 1 January 1980 - ; ISSN 0158 1481). Other titles to be published in this series include *Australian historical geography* and *Australian historical statistics*. Finally the project as a whole publishes a *Newsletter* (no 1 August 1979 - ; no ISSN).

These items are certainly worth the trouble cataloguing - those with a bibliographical content especially. Further information about the project's publications can be obtained from Dr Stephen Foster, Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University, PO Box 4, Canberra, ACT 2600.

## What's in a name?

IF aliases, epithets, cognomens, sobriquets and pseudonyms cause you problems (I have enough trouble with my real name), you may find Gale Research's *Pseudonyms and nicknames dictionary* useful.

This 627-page work gives 21,443 assumed names used by 17,129 real people, we are told. It covers authors, entertainers and athletes mainly, although some politicians, military leaders, underworld figures and religious leaders are also given. The emphasis is on 20th century figures.

This work is also useful for providing dates of birth and/or death, nationality and occupation. There are also references to other sources which may provide further biographical information. There are main entries under real names, with cross references from assumed names.

*Pseudonyms and nicknames dictionary* (Detroit: Gale Research, 1980) is edited by Jennifer Mossman and costs US\$48.00. It will be available locally from the James Bennett Group. (ISBN 0 8103 0549 6).

## Really economical

OFFERED gratis from the Parliamentary Library in Canberra is Catherine Jones' *Annotated guide to economics serials in the Parliamentary Library*. This 90-page guide is a 'comprehensive' list of economics-related serials published in Australia and overseas and held in that library. Australian Bureau of Statistics publications have been deliberately excluded as they are described in the ABS own annual catalogue.

The useful two to eight-line annotations make this suitable as a selection tool for a library building up its economics serials collection, if that is possible in the present economic climate. No holding statements are given for the serials listed, which is a pity for outside users.

Catherine Jones' *Annotated guide to economics serials in the Parliamentary Library* was published late last year by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Library and is available free. (ISBN 0 642 90739 0).

## For spellbound kids

*CASSETTES kids like* is a list of children's cassettes available for loan from the State Library of Queensland. It lists titles, readers and authors and has an author index, and the collection it covers ranges from the classics (eg Claire Bloom reading Beatrix Potter) to popular (Vincent Price reading tales of witches, ghosts and goblins). Copies of the list are available from the Public Libraries Service, State Library of Queensland, 132 Grey Street, South Brisbane, Qld 4101, phone

(07) 221 8400. (ISBN 0 7244 7982 1).

Incidentally, two cassettes recently issued by the ABC have captured the attention of my own children. The cassettes contain a mixture of traditional and new children's songs, taken from the TV program *Play School* and the radio program *Kindergarten*. Each cassette comes in a smart wallet with a booklet providing the words of some of the less familiar songs. *Hickory dickory* (booklet ISBN 0 642 97588 4) and *Hey diddle diddle* (booklet ISBN 0 642 97596 5) cost \$5.50 each (\$5.00 to schools) and are available from the Australian Broadcasting Commission, GPO Box 487, Sydney NSW 2001.

## Nonsexist and role free

DURING the 1970s the compilers of *Books for today's children* noted an increase in the availability of picture books which reflect wider ranges of lifestyles and more varied images.

Many small and alternative presses began to publish nonsexist and role free children's books, although the compilers, Jeanne Bracken and Sharon Wigutoff, note that 'overall publishers are still paying too little attention to these themes'.

In their 48-page annotated bibliography they list 51 highly recommended, 92 recommended, 28 recommended with some reservations and 21 not recommended titles. All of the items listed have American imprints. There is a title index, an author index and a useful subject index, with headings such as working mothers, adoption, single parents and death and illness.

*Books for today's children: an annotated bibliography of non-stereotyped picture books*, compiled by Jeanne Bracken and Sharon Wigutoff, was published last year in Old Westbury, New York by the Feminist Press. It is distributed locally by Second Back Row Press and costs \$2.95. (ISBN 0 912670 53 3).

## Changes, changes

*ARCHIVES and manuscripts*, which is the journal of the Australian Society of Archivists, now appears in May and November of each year (formerly February and August) and costs \$10.00 per year (formerly \$5.00).

Something that hasn't changed is that there are usually several articles or news items in each issue which will be of interest to the general librarian. In the November 1979 issue, for example, there is an interesting description of a 'typical' archival conservation laboratory and a lengthy and informative paper on the Archives Bill 1978 and the Freedom of Information Bill 1978. The news and reviews sections are also well worth looking at.

*Archives and manuscripts* subscriptions can be arranged with the Secretary, Australian Society of Archivists, PO Box 83, O'Connor, ACT 2601. (ISSN 0157 6895).

## Sydney placenames

TWO little books were published by the University of Sydney in 1978 which outline the origins of some of the placenames around Sydney Harbour. *Lavender Bay to Kissing Point* (ISBN 0 909798 80 X) guides you from just west of the Harbour Bridge, up the Lane Cove River, and up the Parramatta River as far as Ryde Bridge. *Sydney Cove to the Heads* covers points east of the Harbour Bridge, including Middle Harbour (ISBN 0 909798 84 2).

These booklets, which were compiled by Jeremy Steele, bring together information from a number of secondary sources. They seem pretty reliable, and at \$1.25 each are not overpriced. They are distributed by Sound Information Pty Ltd, PO Box 8, Broadway, Sydney 2007.