

Government Publications Grapevine: Briefs

by Michael Harrington

The most significant event of 1979 for those interested in Australian government publications was the December launching of *Australian official publications*, edited by D.H. Borchardt (Melbourne: Longman Cheshire, ISBN 0 582 71461, \$14.95; ISBN 0 582 71444 3 Paperback, \$10.50).

The book deals with the workings of government and government publications at federal, state and local levels. There are chapters about production and distribution, bibliographic control and access. One chapter is devoted to a brief discussion of Australian law reports; another section deals with legislation. More detail on both subjects is given in another noteworthy 1979 publication, *Legal research, materials and methods*, by Enid Campbell (who wrote the chapter on federal and state government in *Australian official publications*) E.J. Glasson and Ann Lahore (2nd ed. Sydney: Law Book Co. ISBN 0 455 19853 5, \$18.50; ISBN 0 455 19918 3 Paperback, \$12.50). The books complement each other. I would regard them as essential reference works.

YET another 1979 release, *Government publications of Australia: a list of lists*, compiled by the Sub-Committee on Government Publications of the Victorian Regional Committee of the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services (2nd ed. Melbourne: Library Council of Victoria, 328 Swanston Street Melbourne 3000, ISBN 0 909962 26 X, \$4.50), should also be regarded in the same light.

Standard as well as obscure bibliographies are listed in this edition as are all known directories to government administrations. Many entries are annotated. A review has appeared in *Australian Academic and Research Libraries*, v10, no4; December 1979; p270. The compilers are currently working on a first supplement to update and correct entries. This is due for release mid-1980.

LAST year saw the transformation of *Rupert newsletter* into the quarterly *Rupert Public Interest Movement Journal*, no 1; November 1979. It is now the official periodical of the Rupert Public Interest Movement. This movement seeks to isolate issues which are of public interest and aims to educate its members and interest public in ways they can more efficiently take part in the decision-making processes relating to them. It is a 'non-party political non-profit association'.

The *Journal's* first issue included a prospectus. Anyone interested in the movement or in taking out a subscription should contact the movement at PO Box 346, Dickson, ACT 2602.

ALTERNATIVELY, you may care to join an interest group on government publications that Ted Strehlow of Melbourne State College has proposed should be set up. He sees the group as having two aims. The first is to share knowledge and experience among librarians who are either in charge of a government publications collection, or those who are involved in acquiring government material or explaining them to library users. The second is to identify problem areas and to lobby for change. Ted Strehlow can be contacted at Melbourne State College ERC, 757 Swanston Street, Carlton, Vic 3053, telephone (03) 341 8315.

THE State Library of Victoria's *Victorian government publications* will include some new features in 1980. Bills will be listed under the house of parliament responsible; annual reports will be analysed for special items. The most important addition will be the listing of issues of the *Victoria government gazette* which include registers of products and workers in certain occupations. These are normally required to be published by statute either annually or when the Minister requires. Their inclusion in *VGP* should provide quick access to the latest list published.

1980 is also the year of the LAA Government Publications Workshop. The workshop, which will travel Australia, is intended to be an introductory course in Australian federal and state publications. Each session will last two days and will include lectures and practical periods. Publicity should start appearing soon.

RIVERINA LIBRARIES ON THE MOVE

THE Riverina College Library is moving from the south campus building to a new purpose-built Stage 1 building on the north campus. This is the main campus where most lectures have been held since 1976.

The Riverina Community Library Service is also going to a new home. It will be moving from the cramped premises under the Wagga City Council Chambers to the former Coles building in Gurwood Street.

Register of Bibliographies

ATTENTION is drawn to the existence of a Register of Bibliographies in Progress maintained at La Trobe University Library on behalf of the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services (AACOBS).

AACOBS is the only organisation representing library, information and archives resources at the national level. It is therefore interested in, among other things, the development of bibliographic awareness among scholars in all fields, and particularly in areas of specific Australian relevance.

The AACOBS Working Party on Bibliography is concerned that there should be a minimum of duplication of efforts among scholars and to this end maintains a Register of Bibliographies in Progress. Lists of such work are published from time to time in *ANSOL news*, an occasional newsletter issued by the Australian National Social Science Library, Canberra.

AACOBS would be grateful if all who are engaged in bibliographic work related to Australia were to write to Mr John Thawley, at La Trobe University Library, Bundoora, Victoria, 3083, and ask for a copy of the form used to maintain the Register of Bibliographic Work in Progress.

Mapping committee

THE Anglo-American Cataloguing Committee for Cartographic Materials, representing the national libraries of Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States as well as the map library associations in these countries, held its first meeting in Ottawa, Canada, on 1-5 October 1979.

The national libraries of Australia and New Zealand, which were unable to send representatives, have subsequently been invited to join the Committee.

Mrs Dorothy Prescott, Chief Map Librarian at the National Library, has been invited to represent the National Library and the Australian Map Curators Circle on the Committee.

The Committee has been set up expressly to represent collective map cataloguing expertise in the Anglo-American community with the intent of making a major impact on the interpretation of AACR 2 for cartographic materials. One of its first tasks will be the production of a manual for this purpose.

It is hoped that the manual will be published in January 1981. Further inquiries may be addressed to Mrs Dorothy Prescott, Map Collection, National Library of Australia, Canberra ACT 2600. Telephone: (062) 62 1280.

Bookmark '80

BLUEY AND CURLEY, Alex Gurney's inseparable mates of the Second AIF. This strip is from the 1942 annual. The illustration is from *Bookmark '80*, the Australian Library Promotion Council's annual Diary and Directory . . . for readers and writers, libraries and librarians, publishers and booksellers. Available now from the ALPC at \$13.00 (plus \$2.00 postage).

