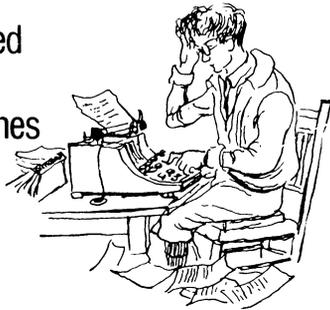# THE SOURCE

edited
and compiled
by
David J. Jones

Grappling with a glossary

Coming to terms with jargon, the lingua hardly franca of most professions, is one of the more challenging tasks of the beginning professional. And this is as true in librarianship as in other vocations, with the relentless coining of acronyms, the unfamiliar use of innocuous terms and the naming of services or techniques. To assist librarians and students of librarianship to find out exactly what particular terms mean, in a concise and inexpensive format, Jennifer Browne has produced *A handbook for librarians*, a nicely presented 61-page booklet.

Intended primarily for Australian students at first degree level, this work gives a brief explanation of terms in a span of up to ten lines or so. There is naturally an emphasis on Australian terms, which were selected 'during the studies undertaken over the past two years (Browne undertook a Grad. Dip. Lib. at Riverina CAE) and from readings of recent publications, including serials'.

Her reading has been thorough, and her digestion of the information and translation into manageable, concise and accurate chunks is to be congratulated. The technique of working from published sources leads inevitably to some lacunae — earnest organisations such as the Office of Library Cooperation or Minterlib which hardly have a high media profile miss out. Historical developments, such as the Free Library Movement, which have not been written about in the sources used by the compiler during the time studied, miss out also. Such is the cleft stick in which the compiler of any ground-breaking refer-

ence work finds him or herself: to carry on collecting data, scanning sources ever wider and older, or settling for something which people can at least get their hands on promptly, and use, whilst the compiler garners further entries for future editions. Jennifer Browne has adopted the second, exquisite option. Australian students and librarians should pay her the compliment of purchasing this useful and inexpensive work, accept her invitation to offer suggestions for additions, corrections and amendments, and reap the benefit of her labours.

Jennifer Ann Browne's *A handbook for librarians: a selected list of terms, titles and names related to libraries and librarianship* was published by the compiler in 1983 and is available from Terry Distributors, 4 Kirkby Street, Trigg, WA 6020. It costs $5.00 post free. (ISBN 0 9591748 0 X).

Just the ticket

Successful travelling requires suitable background reading, viewing or listening, if it is not to degenerate into Ruskin's 'wastes of tedium', with few 'moments of enlightenment' for the sometimes cosseted and closeted tourist. A wide range of suitable material in printed and audiovisual form is outlined in Neal L. Egar and Wendy Yu Ma's *Travel in Asia: a guide to information sources*, published in 1983 by Gale.

This 1188-item annotated bibliography covers maps and atlases, travel guides and accounts, periodicals, as well as audiovisual materials, for twenty-four countries of Asia from Bangladesh to Vietnam. Most items are post-1970, and although many are published or distributed in the United States, there are innumerable items published in faraway places with strange-sounding names which would be difficult to trace in standard bibliographies. Therein lies one of the good selling points of this compilation. Australian libraries with globetrotting readers of the real or armchair variety will find this a helpful guide, but should not of course neglect some of the excellent local publications which do not rate a mention in this work.

The . . . *on a shoestring* series from Lonely Planet is a good example of the latter, and seems to be represented in this work by only the South-East Asia volume. *Travel in Asia*, published by Gale Research in 1983, costs US$42.00. (ISBN 0 8103 1470 3)

Short Shrift

International books in print 1984 (ISBN 3 598 20583 X (set); ISSN 0170-9348) has grown. The hefty annual from Saur is now in two parts, each of two volumes. 140,000 English-language titles from 4,600 publishers in 95 countries (not US or UK). Good coverage of international organisations. Part 1: author/title list. Part 2: subject index (not sighted). DM398.00 each part. Phew!

Libraries in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland 1983 (ISBN 0 85365 865 X), now in its tenth edition. 450 libraries from Land's End to John O'Groats — well, almost. From the Library Association. £9.95.

IFLA annual 1982 (ISBN 3 598 20663 1) Actually proceedings of the 48th General Conference in Montreal, together with annual reports. Published for IFLA by Saur. DM58.00. Guess where the 54th will be held?

Dictionary of library and educational technology (ISBN 0 87287 396 X) by Kenyon C. Rosenberg. 2nd edition, revised and expanded of the 1976 *Media equipment*. 29 pages on selecting hardware and 140 pages explaining the jargon, buzz word by buzz word. From Libraries Unlimited. US$24.50 worth of demystification.

A multimedia approach to children's literature (ISBN 0 8389 3289 4) edited by Mary Alice Hunt. Now in 3rd edition. Selective list of films, videocassettes, filmstrips and recordings based on children's books, and available in the US. From the American Library Association last year. US$15.00

Term banks for tomorrow's world (ISBN 0 85142 172 5) presents the proceedings of the fourth Aslib conference on translating and the computer, held in London in 1982. 35 contributions around the theme 'What use is a term if no-one else knows it?'. Published in 1983 by Aslib, and priced at £17.00