

constructing a hospital,' not to mention the boom in fast food chains in the late 1960s. For further information contact Verdant Publications, 29 Bertram Street, Gardenvale, Vic 3185. (ISBN 0 7316 3388 1)

Anyone for Dennis?

An astounding amount of the creative writing of C.J. Dennis lies virtually unknown and unread since shortly after it was written, in the Melbourne *Herald*. True it has come under the intense bibliographical microscope of Ian McLaren, but some of the gems deserve fuller exposure, and it is to this end that Garrie Hutchinson has assembled *The C.J. Dennis collection*: from his 'forgotten' writings.

In this 170-page paperback we can sample the joys of Dennis's light verse, his witty epistles, his scenes from country life in verse and prose, some of Percy Leason's delightful illustrations, and the inimitable journalistic contributions of Ben Bowyang, from whom some modern cricket commentators could take a few tips. *The C.J. Dennis collection*, edited by Garrie Hutchinson, was published in 1988 by Lothian and costs \$19.95. (ISBN 0 85091 294 6)

Legal shortcuts

A few years ago on the reference desk someone asked me where the *ALJ* was kept, and I directed him up to the 020s. A few minutes later the bemused reader returned. 'They are all library books up there,' he punned, unintentionally. 'I wanted the *Australian LAW Journal*.'

That was long before I involved myself in acronyms and abbreviations, and long before, I suspect, Colin Fong became interested in the not quite so bottomless pit of Australian legal abbreviations. In 1988 the redoubtable Fong and Alan J. Edwards' excellent *Australian and New Zealand legal abbreviations* was published, a which lists and explains a wide range of acronyms and abbreviations, especially law report citations. Not only do the authors deal with Australasian titles, but they also list citations for overseas publications which regularly cover the local legal scene.

There are two main sections, the first of abbreviations of publications, and the second of general legal abbreviations. It contains some entries which didn't find their way into the *CCH Macquarie concise dictionary of modern law*, in which Fong also played an abbreviated part, and is an essential purchase for the self-respecting Australian reference shelf. *Australian and New Zealand legal abbreviations*, by Colin Fong and Alan J. Edwards was published in 1988 by the Australian Law Librarians' Group, PO Box 78, St Pauls, NSW 2031. It costs \$16.00 (\$14.00 per copy for orders of four or more). (ISBN 0 9591359 5 2)

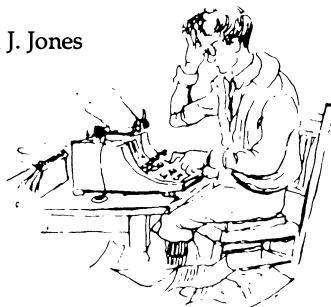
A brace of Borchardts

I never cease to be amazed by the energetic efforts of Dietrich Borchardt, particularly in the field of bibliography. Australian reference librarians will always be indebted to him for his pioneering checklists of Royal Commissions, his *Australian bibliography*, his work in connection with *Australians: a historical library* and countless other major and minor bibliographical gems. One such is his *Checklist of collective biographies*, compiled with the assistance of Sandra Burr, which contains references to over 450 works which contain 'essays of various lengths on Australian individuals' or 'meaningful critical data on persons who have attracted the attention of their peers'. Entries are arranged by background or field of activity (e.g. religious groups, politicians, athletes, clubs, women), with a significant group of 'national biographical sketches'. The latter include general works, such as *Who's who in Australia*, and works dealing with specific regions, such as the *Cyclopaedia of Tasmania*. Entries are helpfully annotated, and the work is exceptionally well served by a biographic, author and subject indexes. *Checklist of collective biographies*, compiled by D. H. Borchardt with the assistance of Sandra Burr, was published in 1988 as Library Publication no 34 by La Trobe University Library, Bundoora, Vic 3083. It costs \$20.00. (ISBN 0 85816 676 3)

Reference Australia is another useful publication to which Borchardt has made a significant contribution. Subtitled 'an occasional collection of essays and notes on bibliographical, geographical and statistical sources', it was first published in November 1987 as a successor to some of the bulletins of the History Project which were associated with the preparation of *Australians: a historical library*.

In the first issue of *Reference Australia* there is a fascinating collection of tables of mortality rates for Australia, 1881-1980, followed by an article on the reliability of time series data on the medical workforce, a brief essay on literature surveys by Borchardt himself, and some statistical tables recording spending on recreation from the 1920s to the 1960s. The second issue contained an equally interesting melange, and a third issue is in preparation. *Reference Australia* is available for \$9.00 per issue from Australian Reference Publications, PO Box 9, North Balwyn, Vic 3104. (ISSN 1030-4584)

David J. Jones



EDITOR

Australian Academic and
Research Libraries

A successor is required for Mr John Horacek as editor of AARL.

Mr Horacek will retire from the editorship at the end of 1989. He has maintained the respected standing of the journal as a scholarly journal of Australian librarianship achieved by its founding editor, Dietrich Borchardt.

The editor of the Australasian College Libraries, Alan Bundy, has indicated that 1989 will be its last year of publication. From 1990 therefore, AARL will become the sole journal for academic libraries at a time when the national tertiary education system itself is being re-organised along unified lines.

AARL is the official journal of ALIA's University and College Libraries Section. UCLS has established a search committee to seek a new editor for AARL from 1990.

The search committee is looking for a vigorous person of vision and ability, with a real interest in the challenge of the task, and some editing or publishing experience. We believe that AARL should continue its scholarly character and emphasis and that it represent the interests of all libraries in the tertiary education sector, as well as research libraries and librarianship.

Further information about the position may be obtained from the convener of the search committee: **Mr Michael Middleton, WACAE Library, Churchlands Campus, Pearson Street, Churchlands WA 6018, (09) 383 8483. FAX (09) 387 7095.**

If you wish to offer yourself or nominate someone for this vital role in professional communication, please contact before 30 June, the convener or one of the other members of the search committee:

Mr A Bundy, SACAE Library, Holbrooks Road, Underdale SA 5032, (08) 354 6260.

Mr John Horacek, Borchardt Library, La Trobe University, Bundoora VIC 3083, (03) 479 2919.

Ms M Broadbent, RMIT Dept of Information Services, 124 Latrobe Street, Melbourne VIC 300, (03) 660 2562.

Mr Colin Steele, Menzies Library, Australian National University, GPO Box 4, Canberra ACT 2601, (062) 49 2003.

Exchange position sought

Mrs Eva Teubert, a librarian with the Institute für Deutsche Sprache, Postfach 101621, 68 Mannheim, Federal Republic of Germany, is seeking an exchange position for six months in an academic library in Australia. The exchange would need to have a good working knowledge of German.