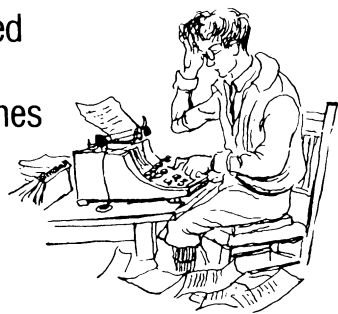


# THE SOURCE

edited  
and compiled  
by  
David J. Jones



Hence the production of a number of check-lists, such as those of Dietrich Borchardt, to aid the perplexed.

British materials are now well covered by a three-volume work *British Government publications: an index to chairmen of committees and commissions of inquiry*, compiled by Stephen Richard and published by the Library Association. Volume one (published this year) covers the period 1800-1899; volume two (bearing the publication date 1974) covers 1900-1940; and the third volume, also published this year, covers 1941-1978.

Entry is by the name of the chairperson, with references from other forms of name. The details provided include the title of the reports, their dates and location details.

In the first volume references are also given to the Irish University Press series of reprints as well as to the original papers. Careful study of the introductions to each volume is strongly recommended - there are variations in coverage and of course in the source materials.

This is a very fine work and the result of Herculean efforts on the part of the compiler. It is an essential acquisition for libraries with sizeable collections of British official publications. A sobering thought: volume one costs £35.00, volume two £20.00 and volume three £27.00

*British government publications: an index to chairmen of committees and commissions of inquiry* (volumes two and three are subtitled simply *An index to chairmen and authors*) is published by the Library Association. (ISBN 0 85365 743 2 (v 1); 0 85365 427 1 (v 2); 0 85365 753 X (v 3)).

### Forget this one

One NLA serial for which you needn't renew your subscription next year is the *National Library of Australia Catalogue* on microfiche. This catalogue will not be published in 1983. NLA holdings can instead be traced in the *ABN Catalogue*, a microfiche union list of material held by libraries using the Australian Bibliographic Network for their cataloguing operations. *ABN Catalogue* in no small measure supplements existing union catalogues such as *NUCOM*, *SSAL* and *SALSSAH*. Further information on the twice-yearly *ABN Catalogue* can be obtained from the Sales and Subscriptions Unit, NLA, Canberra, ACT 2600.

### A sampling of librarians

In 1980 a major survey was made of the racial, ethnic and sexual composition of staff in a sample of American academic and public libraries. A detailed questionnaire was used in the survey of 1233 libraries (750 public and 483 academic).

The response rate of 86 percent exceeded the expectations of the survey team. From the mass of data generated by the survey, many interesting conclusions can be drawn: that a disproportionate number of library directors are male, for example; that male directors are better paid than female directors; that minority and female staff are making inroads into middle management positions.

Information such as this will be useful for American library administrators designing or implementing affirmative action or equal employment opportunity programmes. For us it presents an interesting demographic picture of the American library scene.

The survey results are reported in detail in *The Racial, ethnic and sexual composition of library staff in academic and public libraries*, produced for the American Library Association Office for Library Personnel Resources and published last year by the ALA. It costs US\$5.00. (No ISBN.)

### Priceless - but pricy

The custom of referring to government reports by the name of the chairperson is an ancient one, known to all, it often appears, save the compilers of the official catalogues.



## LIBRARY AND INFORMATION WORK

### Vols 1&2

Compiled by Vanessa Bourne, Michael Hill and Barrie Mitcheson  
\$30 (\$20 to LAA members)  
ISBN 0 86804 003 7 Vol 1.  
ISBN 0 86804 004 5 Vol 2.

This study of supply and demand in the manpower situation in librarianship was commissioned by the Library Association of Australia. Its findings are of vital importance to all involved in the study of librarianship in Australia today.

## THE GENERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SMALL-SCALE DATABASES

\$12 (\$8 to LAA members)  
ISBN 0 86804 409 1

This publication consists of the papers and summary of discussion from a 3-day workshop held in Canberra in 1981. The many contributors' wide and varied skills ensure a broad and competent coverage of the subject.

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