

considering additions or alterations to their premises. Incidentally, the Australian Standards Association does have guidelines which are readily obtainable.

Velleman outlines the peculiar challenges presented by, and the needs of, blind patrons and deaf patrons, offering very practical advice on communicating with these patrons and meeting their needs. Her advice is reinforced in the recommended basic collection of materials which she sets out as being suited for public librarians and for special education. Rehabilitation, which is the intention of most programs run for the physically disabled, receives considerable attention in the latter chapters of the book, with discussions on the history, philosophy, current practices, vocational orientation and medical aspects of rehabilitation. Reference is made to the valuable contribution a sympathetic and adequate library system and personnel can make to personal rehabilitation.

Librarians working with students who have special needs will find the section devoted to this topic to be useful and pragmatic. As is typical of the entire book, Velleman offers advice which can be transformed into action readily whilst making the reader mindful of the reasons for the advice and the actions recommended.

*Serving Physically Disabled People* deals specifically with physical disability, making no attempt or pretence to examine other handicaps and disabilities (eg mental, social) in detail.

It is so detailed and exhaustive that it will make the reader aware that we have much to do in libraries and in statutory aspects in Australia before we have the kind of services which gives the disabled an even break in our society. It deals in a very positive way with the improvement of library services, and should prove to be inspirational to readers.

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## Mitchell Library guides

**GUIDE TO THE PAPERS OF GEORGE ERNEST MORRISON IN THE MITCHELL LIBRARY.** Sydney: Library Council of New South Wales. (Mitchell Library Manuscripts Guide no 1). 1977. 229 pp. Free on application. ISBN 0 7240 1256 7.

George Ernest Morrison, 1862-1920, was the son of the founder of Geelong College, where he was educated, and while he was still at school he commenced keeping what he called 'a rum sort of a diary' and continued the habit throughout his life.

At a young age he undertook several noteworthy expeditions within Australia and when 21 he led a party across the Torres Straits to New Guinea.

After completing his medical studies in 1886 his wanderings took him to North Africa, America, the West Indies, Australia, the Pacific and the Far East. His first contact with China was in 1893 and this country was to be the scene of his most important work. He was appointed correspondent for *The Times* in Peking which position he held for 17 years with great success and influence. The last eight years of his life were spent as the political adviser to the President of the Chinese Republic Yuan Shih-kai.

In his last letter before his death in 1920 Morrison indicated to his wife that the Mitchell Library would be the appropriate place to deposit his large collection of papers and in 1946 his eldest son agreed to do this. The papers have been used as source materials for two publications: *The Correspondence of G. E. Morrison*, edited by Lo Hui-Min (Cambridge

U.P. 1976); and *Morrison of Peking*, by Cyril Pearl (A & R 1967).

The material was sorted and arranged in the Mitchell Library by Mrs Sybil Blanton of the Manuscripts Section and the Guide to the Papers resulting from this work was published in 1977. It consists of a two-page catalogue entry followed by 220 pages of author and subject index. All the letters have been indexed, apart from those in subject files, giving author, date, volume and page number, and cross references. There are also diaries, covering the period 1878-1920 (not complete), notebooks, account books, etc, newspaper cuttings, pictorial material, printed items and miscellaneous relics.

It is an extensive and valuable collection of material both from the Australian and Chinese content. This detailed and meticulous listing should make it easy to locate items required or for researchers to check it for relevance to their topic. More such guides would be a worthwhile contribution to Australian historical bibliography.

**GUIDE TO THE PAPERS OF THE SCOTT FAMILY IN THE MITCHELL LIBRARY.** (Part 1). Sydney: Library Council of New South Wales. (Mitchell Library Manuscripts Guide no 2). 1979. 44 pp. Free on application. ISBN 0 908449 04 6.

This is the second publication in this series, the first being a guide to the papers of G. E. Morrison.

The Scott family papers include records relating to several generations and various members covering a time space of 1777-1925. Helenus Scott, the elder, 1760-1821, was a physician born in Dundee, Scotland, who was employed by the East India Company and was later in private practice in England. Accompanied by his two sons Robert, 1799-1844, and Helenus, the younger, he embarked for Australia but died in 1821 on the voyage out. The two sons settled at Glendon, near Singleton, NSW, where they established a thoroughbred stud. The papers include records of the father, the two sons and of the Glendon property.

Helenus, the younger, married Sarah Anne Rusden. Their daughter Rose Scott, 1847-1925, became prominent in the early feminist movement in NSW and was active in various reforms especially concerning women and children. The collection includes some Rusden letters and the personal papers of Rose Scott as well as documents relating to the various organisations and interests with which she was associated.

Helenus Hope Scott Wallace was raised by his aunt Rose Scott and his correspondence, 1888-1925, forms the most recent part of the collection.

The papers were received by the Mitchell Library in several deposits, the first part in 1925. These and some from a later deposit have been catalogued by Helen Yoxall and are listed in this Guide, which is Part I. It is proposed that the rest of the material will form Part II.

The Guide is arranged with a four page contents list followed by a fuller itemised listing. Indexes to the correspondence have been included and there is also some selective subject indexing. A name list of photographs in the collection has also been made.

The Guide is clearly set out and easy to follow. The arrangement and detailed entries and indexing reveal a lengthy undertaking. The result is a clear description of a collection of family papers received by a number of deposits which remained unaccessioned for years. It is a valuable contribution to the documentation of Australian source materials.

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## Physically disabled

**SERVING PHYSICALLY DISABLED PEOPLE: AN INFORMATION HANDBOOK FOR ALL LIBRARIES** / Ruth A. Velleman. New York: Bowker. 1979. 390pp. Price US\$17.50. ISBN 0 8352 1167 3.

*Serving Physically Disabled People* is a timely book in which the distilled essence of many years' experience with the entire range of library users is presented by the author.

The emphasis on the disabled is quite appropriately outlined for Australian readers, though the United States legislation referred to frequently does not have Australian equivalents as yet.

Most of the cited US pamphlets and government publications concerning support services for disabled persons have no Australian counterpart either; those librarians who write overseas to obtain copies will gain more complete knowledge of how this area of library service can be strengthened in Australia.

For the reader seeking guidance about the nature and names of disabilities, Velleman provides a chapter of definitions which are brief, accurate and written in uncomplicated non-medical language.

Some of the disabilities will be evident to the librarian, but a great many are not. Those which are not obvious are those which customarily receive little sympathy (eg arthritis) unless the librarian shares the condition which the patron suffers. The most insidious disability is that which derives from the community state of mind, and in a chapter entitled 'Attitudes and understanding' the author explores personal, family, agency and community behaviours towards the disabled. Suggestions as to how the librarian can help disabled patrons are offered, along with an extensive bibliography on the subject.

One of the things which an Australian author might prepare in 1981 is an article which does for us what Velleman's chapter 'Benefits under the law' does for US readers. This chapter is essential reading as it contains numerous pointers to the routes Australia has open to it to improve the situation for those with special needs. This overview of US legislation leads into a discussion on living styles, support services, special devices, housing, transportation and facets of life common to all in today's world. It can be seen that the force of law is helping the disabled to more successfully lead independent lives, and to have gainful employment. Again, one is struck by the contrasting attitudes of government in US and Australia toward the disabled.

The design of barrier-free libraries is taken up in some detail, supported by diagrams and drawings which will be helpful to librarians

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