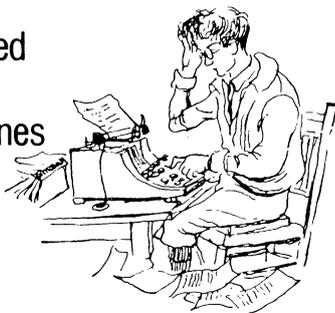


THE SOURCE

edited
and compiled
by
David J. Jones



Rescued from obscurity

Ian F. McLaren continues his self-appointed task of rescuing a mass of C.J. Dennis material from 'the obscurity of crumbling newspaper pages' and elsewhere. McLaren's latest contribution is *C.J. Dennis in the Herald and Weekly Times* which lists over 3000 items by Dennis in the Melbourne *Herald* and related publications from 1913 to his death in 1938.

Earlier, complementary works by McLaren are *C.J. Dennis: his life and work* (Melbourne: 1961), *C.J. Dennis: a chronological checklist of contributions to journals* (Adelaide: Libraries Board of South Australia, 1976) and *C.J. Dennis: a comprehensive bibliography based on the collection of the compiler* (Adelaide: Libraries Board of South Australia, 1979). McLaren is incidentally Honorary Bibliographer at the University of Melbourne.

Only a few of the contributions by Dennis listed in McLaren's latest checklist have been republished, despite the view that some of the greatest of Dennis' verse was written during the *Herald* period. This work is a useful contribution to Australian bibliography.

C.J. Dennis in the Herald and Weekly Times by Ian F. McLaren was published earlier this year by the Dalriada Press, 237 Waverley Road, East Malvern, Vic 3145. It costs \$7.50 plus 50c postage. (ISBN 0 949858 00 5).

Eloquent objectives

The needs which the public library attempts to satisfy, as perceived by the State Library of Tasmania, are outlined in its *Public library objectives*, issued in April this year.

This document has been adopted by the Tasmanian Library Board and covers the public library functions of that body. In its nine pages it doesn't get down to measurable, tangible and verifiable objectives, but sticks to broad, frequently eloquent statements.

Public library objectives is published by the State Library of Tasmania, 91 Murray Street, Hobart, Tas 7000 and costs \$2.00 post paid. (ISBN 0 7246 0784 6).

H.W. Wilson to go online

The H.W. Wilson Company of New York, best known for its wide range of printed indexing services, has announced that it has set up a new department to develop an online retrieval service.

The Computerised Bibliographic Services Department, as it is known, is also developing online input and computerised printing for the Wilson indexes. A number of specialist staff with wide experience in the development of online information retrieval systems have been appointed to the new department.

The move, which was announced in the Winter 1981 issue of *The Lighthouse*, the Wilson newsletter, was not entirely unexpected. For several years there have been non-Wilson indexes online which have paralleled indexes such as *Readers' Guide*. It was just a matter of time before the pressure of competitiveness induced Wilson to go online.

It will be interesting to see what pricing structure will be adopted for the online files which will eventuate, how that pricing will relate to the cost of the printed versions and which vendors will be able to offer the Wilson indexes online.

In the next year or so *The Lighthouse* will make interesting reading. It is available from the H.W. Wilson Company, 950 University Avenue, Bronx, New York 10452, USA. (No ISSN).

Sci-Tech holdings

A second edition of the National Library's *List of scientific and technological serials* was published late last year on microfiche. The new edition is an up-to-date guide to the NLA's holdings, amalgamating most entries from the first edition (1975) and *New serials* (1976 and 1979) and listing serials acquired since.

Users are warned that this second edition omits some 'ephemera' and short runs of serials which were listed in the 1975 edition — so don't throw away the first edition in case you have to deal with 'rarely requested items'.

The *List of scientific and technological serials*, second edition, is published on two microfiche (48X reduction) and costs \$3.00. Copies may be ordered from the Sales and Subscriptions Unit, National Library of Australia, Canberra, ACT 2600. Those who can curb their impatience may like to know that the production of a complete third edition is scheduled for early this year.

Getting together

Marianne Broadbent writes: 'In a 'state of the art review' Dr Shirley Aaron makes another valuable contribution to the area of library research. School-Public Library Co-operation is an ERIC Information Analysis Product developed in an effort to dispel misunderstandings and to answer major questions related to school and public library co-operation.

'The review examines both research based and non-research based documents, listing over 70 relevant items in the bibliography. Aaron's conclusion implies that attitude changes are required before school and public libraries successfully achieve a pattern which channels the resources of all the co-operating libraries to meet the educational and personal needs of children and young people.'

School-Public Library Co-operation: A State of the Art Review by Shirley L. Aaron (published by ERIC Clearinghouse on Information Resources) is available from Syracuse University Printing Services, 125 College Place, Syracuse, New York 13210. Price: US\$3.75.

'A broad and noble river'

An abstracting service devoted entirely to one waterway is an oddity — in fact the only one I have come across is *Murray River and tributaries current awareness bulletin (MRATCAB)*.

Issued six times a year by the Mildura Regional Library Service and prepared by Lyne Turner, the service indexes and abstracts articles and items in newspapers, journals, radio and television broadcasts and parliamentary debates on all aspects of the Murray and its tributaries. Topics covered include irrigation, water quality, agriculture, river conditions, recreation and riverboats.

Issues are substantial (Vol 1 no 2 April/May 1981 was 40 pages), abstracts are informative, as they should be, and the subject indexing is satisfactory. At \$6.00 per year (\$1.00 per issue), *MRATCAB* is excellent value. Subscriptions should be sent to Mildura Regional Library Service, PO Box 105, Mildura, Vic 3500. (ISSN 0706-4128). □

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