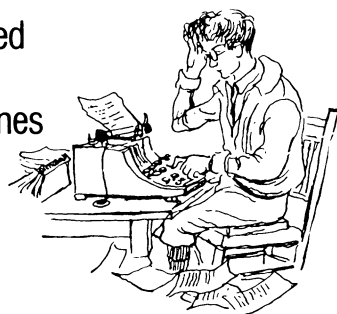


THE SOURCE

edited
and compiled
by
David J. Jones



Education online

If you couldn't put a finger on the multiplicity of online databases dealing with all facets of education, a recent brochure from the National Library of Australia will help identify at least 17 of them for you. *Education information online* describes the education databases which you can have the NLA search for you, and the charges you may expect to meet. Hosts represented are AUSINET, BRS, Dialog, ESA/IRS.

Copies of the brochure are available from the Chief Librarian, Computer Search Services, NLA, Canberra, ACT 2600, phone (062) 62 1607.

Well organized

A mass of information is crammed, in a rational and readily retrieved manner, in the second edition of Corliss Richard Arnold's *Organ literature: a comprehensive survey* — the subtitle is far from hyperbolic. In the two stout volumes of this edition, published earlier this year by Scarecrow Press, Arnold presents first a historical survey of the development of organ music, paralleling the progress in organ technology, and second a biographical dictionary of organ music composers with references to their printed works.

The first part is sprinkled with musical examples, chronological charts, maps, footnotes and further reading and covers organ music from its infancy to more recent years. As an appendix there is an invaluable table of Bach organ works which provides cross-references to BWV numbers and to pages in a number of editions of Bach's works.

It is probably the second volume which will most excite the interest of the reference

librarian. The bulk of this volume consists of brief biographical notes on organ composers, many of them obscure, complete with lists of their published works. There is also yet more 'further reading', a directory of publishers, together with US agents, and a daunting bibliography.

Corliss Richard Arnold's *Organ literature* is published by Scarecrow Press. Volume 1, *Historical survey*, (ISBN 0 8108 1662 8) costs US\$19.50. Volume 2, *Biographical catalog*, (ISBN 0 8108 1663 6) costs US\$29.50. The ensemble is priced at US\$43.50, a saving which will be music to your accountant's ears. *Organ literature* is available locally from Bennetts.

Hardy annual, and hardly annual

Two works which are really standards for well-heeled reference collections have recently made their weighty presence felt on my overloaded shelves.

It is hard to imagine what we did before the *Yearbook of international organizations* appeared on the scene (and as its lineal ancestor was brought forth as long ago as 1908 imagination rather than memory is called for) and it would be hard to imagine how we would now manage without its regular updating and inexorable publication. The 1984/85 edition of this 'irregular' work is the 21st and the most ambitious so far. Not only are the two supplementary volumes — the geographic volume and the subject volume with the optimistic title *Global action networks* — carried on, but a number of specialized volumes are also being produced. These are intended to meet the special requirements of some users, and include information extracted from the *Yearbook* as a whole. They cover African international organizations, Arab-Muslim-Islamic international organizations, intergovernmental organizations and (dear to my heart) international organization initials. Further information on these specialised volumes had best be sought from publisher or supplier, as they haven't burdened me with the actual volumes. Still, if they are up to the standard of the *Yearbook*, which logically they must be, they will be extremely useful if, as they say, the whole world is not your oyster or if your needs are narrower.

The three volume base set of *Yearbook of international organizations 1984/85* was published earlier this year by Saur and costs

DM 980. (ISBN 3 598 21863 X). Volumes are also available separately, viz volume 1, *Organization descriptions and index*, DM 428 (ISBN 3 598 21860 5); volume 2, *International organization participation*, DM 428 (ISBN 3 598 21861 3); and volume 3, *Global action networks*, DM 248 (ISBN 3 598 21862 1). Users would be well advised to pay particular attention to the introduction to this work, especially if they have not had a good look at its indexing for an edition or two. A KWIC approach has been used, with one general index, rather than a multiplicity of specific indexes. This works satisfactorily and efficiently if you become familiar with how it works, and does not seem too high a price to pay for rapid production.

The true annual in this brace of Saur reference works is *Publishers' international directory*, now in its 11th edition. This too had rolled from the presses at great speed — the editorial deadline for this edition was March 5 1984 — and is much enlarged and updated, as one would expect.

The first volume is arranged by country, with publishers listed alphabetically under each country. Each entry shows full postal address, telephone and telex numbers, telegraphic address (if any), ISBN prefix and in many cases an indication of areas of specialization. Volume two is an ISBN prefix index, providing publishers' names and country. *Publishers' international directory with ISBN index* was published earlier this year by Saur and costs DM 348 for the two-volume set. (ISBN 3 598 20525 2).

Both mammoth works are available locally from Bennetts, whence came the review copies.

Sound them out!

This year Sound Information have split their usual one big catalogue, like Gaul, into three parts: a talking books catalogue (mainly fiction), primary school A-V resources catalogue and a series of leaflets on materials suitable for secondary schools and beyond. As usual there is a wide range of material represented, ranging from audiocassette kits on constitutional reform to song sheets and cassettes of Australian songs (complete with our four anthems).

Further information is available from Sound Information, 425 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, NSW 2000, phone (02) 212 5377.

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