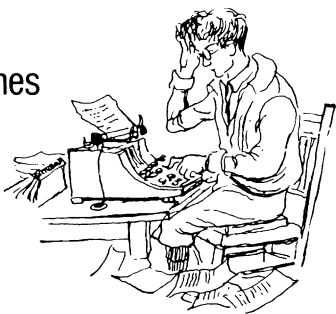


THE SOURCE

by
David J. Jones



Occult outpouring

Thomas C. Clarie probably knows more about the literature of witchcraft, spiritualism, magic, palmistry, monsters, parapsychology, astrology, alchemy, Tarot, prophecy, reincarnation and 'strange happenings' than most. His *Occult bibliography*, which appeared in 1978, covered about 1850 works on the occult published in the United States and the United Kingdom between 1971 and 1975. Since then his interest in the subject has obviously not waned, because last year a supplementary work, covering books published between 1976 and 1981 manifested itself.

Clarie's *Occult/paranormal bibliography* deals with another 2,000 items, providing lengthy evaluations of many and full bibliographical information for all. Entries are arranged by author, and there are very full author, title and subject indexes. There are frequent brief snippets from published reviews of the works described, although Clarie, for reasons of space, does not include citations. Users should note the compiler's statement on what he attempts to cover and what he has deliberately excluded, perhaps wondering why acupuncture is included and hypnosis not, or why flying saucers appear and life on other planets doesn't get a guernsey. But at least Clarie does tell you what to expect.

I would recommend Thomas C. Clarie's *Occult/paranormal bibliography* to 'all libraries and researchers even remotely connected to his field' (to borrow the compiler's summing up of his first volume). It was published in 1984 by Scarecrow Press and is priced at \$35.00. My review copy was supplied by James Bennett. (ISBN 0 8108 1674 1).

And while I'm on the subject

The Australian Nevill Drury, now well-known for his writings and television programmes on the occult, is the author of a new dictionary on the subject. Published by Harper and Row earlier this year, his *Dictionary of mysticism and the occult* presents concise and informative definitions and explanations on everything from abominable snowmen to zombies. It is fascinating to dip into, and a useful companion for the reader and writer. My copy will sit, if I can make room for it, next to Brewer. It's likely to be well-thumbed. Nevill Drury's *Dictionary of mysticism and the occult*, published by Harper and Row, is available locally for about \$18.95. (ISBN 0 06 062094 3).

Morris Miller revisited

E. Morris Miller's unusual and varied career, as 'librarian, political activist and lecturer, library association organiser, writer, psychologist, philosopher, bibliographer, university lecturer, professor and administrator, public teacher and public citizen' — the list goes on — has enough meat in it for many a researcher to sink his or her teeth into.

Derek Drinkwater more than nibbled Miller for his M.A. thesis at Monash in 1983, and is obviously still fascinated with the subject. In the April 1985 issue of *La Trobe Library journal* there appears a very substantial body of information on Miller, from his own pen, with extensive annotations by Drinkwater. Miller's 'Some Public Library memories' deals with the years 1900 to 1913, when he was a Junior Library Assistant in the Public Library of Victoria and much more — how much more you can read for yourself in this splendid and previously unpublished work.

Copies of the April 1985 issue of *La Trobe Library journal* are available from the Friends of the State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanston Street, Melbourne, Vic 3000, for \$3.00 plus \$0.70 postage. You can also subscribe to *La Trobe Library journal*, which is published twice yearly, for \$7.10 post free. (ISSN 0041-3151)

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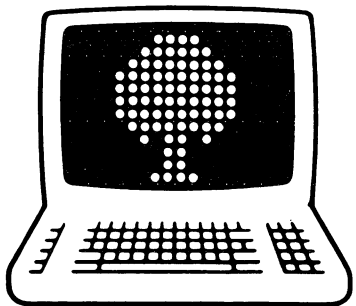
Research priorities in African literatures (ISBN 0 905450 17 5 (Zell); 3 598 10570 3 (Saur)) records some of the proceedings at a 1983 conference at the Africa Centre in London when scholars of African literature met to discuss ways of overcoming some of the problems which best them: inadequate bibliographical control, the lack of research tools, poor library resources, the paucity of translations of contemporary African writing. Fascinating reading. Price unknown. Published last year by Hans Zell Publishers, an imprint of K. G. Saur.

Gas in Ballarat: an illustrated history (ISBN 0 909806 04 7) by Ray Proudley tells the tale of gas in that city from its earliest days (when it was produced using gum leaves) to the latest natural gas pipeline. Available from the Gas and Fuel Corporation, 171 Flinders Street, Melbourne 3000 at \$3.00.

Dictionary of library and information sciences (ISBN 3 598 10532 0) — wait for it, wait for it — *English-Chinese/Chinese-English*, by Li Heng. 'The first dictionary of its kind which is bilingual and has a bilingual text using the Chinese phonetic alphabet'. 1800 terms. Good selection, judging by the English bits. Published in 1984 by K. G. Saur. Review copy supplied by Bennetts. DM98.00.

Audiovisual librarianship: a select bibliography 1965-1983 (ISBN 0 9509772 0 9), compiled by Peter Liebscher, published by the *Audiovisual librarian*. 1703 items, very briefly annotated, based on the 'Bibliographical Update' column of the said periodical. Broad coverage, under not so broad headings, with author index. Available from Helen P. Harrison, Media Library, Open University Library, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA, United Kingdom. £11.50 including overseas postage.

The Sydney Harbour Tunnel (ISBN 0 949622 01 X) by James Dargan. Not about the tunnel the engineers, politicians and ratbags have been talking about for over a century, when they aren't talking about other bottom of the harbour schemes. This tunnel was actually built between 1913 and 1926, and is still there, but a bit wet of late. Available from Lane Cove Public Library, 139A Longueville Road, Lane Cove 2066. \$3.70 post free.



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