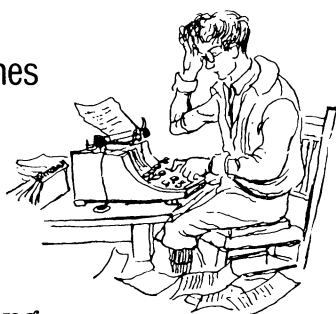# HE SOURCE

avid J. Jones

uch binding

e dynamic changes in binding practices ought about by the growth in size of the ding public in nineteenth century England chronicled in Douglas Ball's *Victorian publishers' bindings*, itself nicely bound and blished by the Library Association last year. 3all outlines the development of cover den, paying special attention to the prolific d much imitated John Leighton. Of particular interest to the bibliographer will be an appendix on the identification of cloth grains, importance of which Ball establishes early in his text. How rare is a diaper grain, for ample? When did pebble grain have a slight gue? And what does a stepped wave look e? In other appendixes Ball lists cover dens by major designers of the period, binds' signatures and a number of papier maché dings.

The work, which is stylishly typeset in Garond and well-illustrated, has very full inxes and a useful bibliography. Douglas Ball's *ctorian publishers' bindings* was pubhed last year by the Library Association and sts £24.00. (ISBN 0 85365 936 2)

eath rays and game chips

71 events in the development of electrical d electronic technology are chronicled in e latest volume of Henry B.O. Davis' *Electical and electronic technologies*.

Published by Scarecrow last year, this work a chronology covering the years 1940 to 1979 d deals with components, computers, inuments, armaments, telephony, radio, rar and a host of other fields. Davis provides ncise details (up to about 20 lines per entry) particular events, identifying individuals d companies involved and giving precise tes where known.

There is a not unexpected North American emphasis in this work — one reads that trolley cars were ousted by buses in Baltimore in 1962, for example, but such trivia is blessedly rare. An interesting feature is an index to vacuum tubes, which provides the date of introduction and a reference to the entry in Davis' work where further information may be found. The index to radio stations will be of less interest to the Australian user. The general index is not too bad, although you will have as much trouble finding 'death rays' as Mr Yagi had in trying to develop them.

Henry B.O. Davis' *Electrical and electronic technologies: a chronology of events and inventions from 1940 to 1980* was published last year by Scarecrow and costs US$25.00. (ISBN 0 8108 1726 8)

Increasing awareness

Developing staff awareness of the needs of library users (and potential users) with disabilities has become a concern of many library administrators. To assist in this process the State Library of New South Wales has produced *Library services to people with disabilities workshop: a staff training package*, which is the starting point for providing basic information on disabilities and making practical suggestions for developing and improving library and information services to people with disabilities.

The package consists of a workshop leader's book, master copies of handouts, illustrated leaflets from the Cumberland Disability Education Programme (CDEP) and a copy of Lindsay Gething's excellent *Living with disabilities*, which was designed for use with the CDEP but complements the other items in this package splendidly. There is also an 11-minute videotape, entitled *Lorraine*, which deals with the relationship between a library and a user with a disability. The workshop leader's book is full of practical guidance in organising and conducting training sessions using this package.

Copies of the package have been sent to each public library in New South Wales, and to each State Advisory Committee on Library Services to People with Disabilities. If you haven't seen it, and would like to know more about it, please contact Valerie Moon, Community Services Librarian, State Library of New South Wales, c/o Adult Education Library, 5-7 Phillips Road, Kogarah, NSW 2217, phone (02) 588 4095. (ISBN 0 7305 1310 6).

Not to be missed

When it comes to directories of libraries, we owe a lot to Alan Bundy, whose *Directory of Australian academic libraries* I have before me.

Published last year by Auslib Press, this is the third edition of this offering and seeks to record details of libraries of Australian universities, colleges of advanced education, TAFE colleges, other recognised tertiary institutions, major theological colleges and adult education organisations. There are also entries for the state libraries, the National Library and agencies such as CAVAL and CLANN.

The format familiar from the second edition is followed: addresses, hours, stock, scope, staffing and senior staff and subject strengths. Once again reliance has been placed on questionnaires, so some unevenness is expected (and acknowledged) in the subject index, or 'guide to collections' as it is headed. The senior staff index is at least useful for tracing long-term inmates. The spiral binding and ugly typeface are features of this utilitarian publication. But at least it's available and reasonably priced at $26.00.

Alan Bundy's *Directory of Australian academic libraries*, third edition, was published last year by Auslib Press and costs $26.00. Copies are available from the publisher at PO Box 622, Blackwood, South Australia 5051 or from James Bennett. (ISBN 0 9589895 1 6; ISSN 0155-1027).

Core Blainey

A useful 224-item bibliography of works by and about Geoffrey Blainey has recently been published by Monash University Library as the first of a new series of occasional publications. Anne Macaulay's bibliography covers what has been written 'from 1930 (presumably a birth certificate at least) to the present' about this fertile and frequently controversial Australian historian. In a span of twenty pages the bibliographer also presents an overview of the man and of the principal items listed in her bibliography.

Anne Macaulay's *Geoffrey Blainey: a bibliography* is an appetising start to Monash University Library's new series of occasional publications with a 'library flavour'. Copies are available for $3.00 from the Acquisitions Department, Main Library, Monash University, Clayton, Vic 3168. (ISBN 0 86746 393 7; ISSN 0816-5424)