

THE SOURCE

Bons mottoes

Reference librarians who have been asked (as I have) the origin and meaning of the 'Latin' motto 'Non illegitimi carborundum' might reach in hope for the first edition of Laurence Urdang and Ceila Dame Robbins' *Mottoes*, which was published last year by Gale Research.

Unfortunately, this splendid compilation covers only legitimate mottoes, so their curiosity will remain. In the meantime, this volume lists and translates where necessary over 9,000 mottoes, ranging from the personal to the civic and national. Who would have guessed that the motto of Botswana was 'rain' (in Tswana, of course). Most of the mottoes stress positive themes, but sometimes pragmatism shines through, as in 'Trust, but be careful whom', a popular and appropriate sixteenth century German motto. There is very good coverage of American and British

family and corporate mottoes, and selective coverage of other parts of the world. Australian coverage is slight. Entries are arranged by subject — useful if you are looking for a motto of your own — accentuating well-worn themes such as hope, piety, fidelity, strength and goodness, with the occasional exception, such as the Greystocks' 'I am willing but unable'.

There is a full index of mottoes and an index of family names and institutions with mottoes listed. Altogether, with its 1,162 pages, a formidable work, worth a place on any reference library shelf. Of course, *pretiosum quod utile est*, and you should expect to pay around US\$75 for this treat. Laurence Urdang and Ceila Dame Robbins' *Mottoes: a compilation of more than 9,000 mottoes from around the world and throughout history* was published last year by Gale Research. (ISBN 0 8103 2076 2)

Browse, high and low

As a confirmed browser, in hardware shops, bookstores as well as in libraries, I was pleased to receive a review copy of Margaret Mann's *Browsing: an annotated bibliography*.

'Browsing' here, of course, doesn't mean 'wandering at will to feed on a variety of substances' except in a metaphorical sense. It may range from 'purposive browsing', looking for information in less systematically organised disciplines, down to providing a 'room with armchairs, footstools, good lighting, and books that can be read without being remembered'.

This is an excellent guide to what has been written on browsing in libraries — it is good to see, for example, that Willard and Teece's



comments on browsing in their *People and libraries* study have not been overlooked. The references to computer browsing will be particularly helpful to those grappling with online catalogues and the problems of helping people find 'what they didn't know they were looking for'.

Margaret Mann's *Browsing: an annotated bibliography* was published last year as report no 53 of the Centre for Library and Information Management (CLAIM), Department of Library and Information Studies, Loughborough University, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3TU. Incidentally, CLAIM has recently begun a major study of browsing in public libraries. (ISBN 0 948848 01 4; ISSN 0261-0302)

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Welcome, unofficially

Australian librarians have now generally learned to live with, and in some cases actively exploit, the multitude of genealogists whom some of them once hoped would simply go away. There is evidence of changing attitudes, for example, in the growing number of guides to genealogical holdings produced by libraries hoping to encourage self-help.

In a slightly different category is Patricia Lay's *A guide to genealogical and family history resources in the National Library of Australia*, which was published by the author last year. This is not an official NLA publication, but at least bears the distinction of a foreword by the Library's Director-General.

In a well-filled 60 pages Lay sets out helping the reader 'to become capable of independently locating items' relevant to his or her family history, explaining how the Library and its catalogues and indexes work, introducing the Australian Joint Copying Project and many other fruitful sources, and detailing conditions of access, kinds of materials held, copying arrangements and other useful tips. This useful work is rounded off by a good index.

Copies of *A guide to genealogical and family history resources in the National Library of Australia* by Patricia Lay are available for \$7 plus postage from the author at 11 Sorrell Place, Queanbeyan, NSW 2620. (ISBN 0 9588684 1 7)

Kids' stuff

Children's literature review is now in its tenth volume, covering a further 12 authors and author/illustrators. There are the old classics: R. L. Stevenson, Mukerji, Saint-Exupery; some new classics, such as Raymond Briggs; and eight other authors of American provenance with whose work I am not acquainted.

As before, there is a mixture of author's commentary, from interviews or their own writings, general comments by critics, and remarks on specific works, laced with illustrations. The whole is rounded off by a cumulative index to all the *Children's literature review* volumes, and references to the same authors in other series from this publisher.

Children's literature review was published last year by Gale and costs US\$78. (ISBN 0 3103 0342 6; ISSN 0362-4145)

In brief

Very enterprisingly, the Perth Numismatic Society has published an index covering the first 20 volumes, and first 20 years of *Australian coin review*, that constant source of information on dumps, upset halfpennies, godless florins, star notes and moon dollars.

Australian coin review index: 1964-1984 was published last year by the Society, PO Box 259, Fremantle, WA 6160. Don't know the price. (ISBN 0 9588479 0 8)

- *Foxtrot tango* is the catchy title of a national directory of women freelancing in film, ranging from animal handlers from *Crocodile Dundee* to the person who doubled Tina Turner in *Mad Max: Beyond Thunderdome*, and with about 300 other names and contact addresses or numbers in between.

Foxtrot tango was produced by Erika Addis and Miriana Marusic and was published by Foxtrot Tango last year. It costs \$10, plus \$2.00 postage from (you guessed it) Foxtrot Tango, 6/407 Glebe Point Road, Glebe, NSW 2037. (No ISBN)

- Rusden Campus of Victoria College has produced another volume of its useful *Home economics index*, indexing articles published in the 1985 issues of 47 Australian and overseas periodicals in this broad field.

Home economics index, volume 6, 1985, was published last year and costs \$35. (ISSN 0818-0245)

- Also from the Rusden stable last year was the third edition of *Physical education, health and recreation serials in Australian libraries: a union list*, which lists almost three times as many titles as the second edition. It costs \$25. (ISBN incomplete)

Both titles are available from the Library Administrative Officer, Toorak Campus, Victoria College, 336 Glenferrie Road, Malvern, Vic 3144.

- *Weight control* is a slender bibliography published last year by the National Library of Australia as no 17 in its 'Occasional bibliography' series. It covers books, journal articles, reports and some audiovisual materials on the topic, most of the items being in the NLA's collections. Copies are available gratis from the Chief Reference Librarian, Sci-Tech, User Services Section, NLA, (062) 62 1510. (ISSN 0725-1017)

Directory of Australian Public Libraries (DAPL 2) Second edition, August 1987

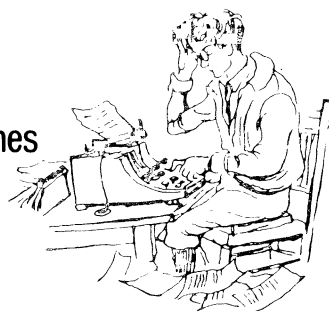
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- *Gays between the broadsheets* is an annotated list of Australian media references to homosexuality from 1948 to 1980. Compiled by Robert French, this is Monograph no 1 from the Gay History Project, PO Box 9, Darlinghurst, NSW 2010. It costs \$9.95 post free. (ISBN 0 9589146 0 5)

by
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