

# THE SOURCE

## The hundred years' peace

Historians of the Australian peace movement can trace its beginnings to resistance to the Crimean campaign expressed by the outspoken John Dunmore Lang and the poet Charles Harpur. Thirty years later the Sudan campaign caused Sir Henry Parkes to criticise roundly the New South Wales decision to send a contingent to assist the British. Later military entanglements generated increasing opposition, none more so than the Vietnam War.

In their 1986 work *The Australian peace movement: a short history*, Malcolm Saunders and Ralph Summy provide the first general history of the movement. In its 78 pages this work describes the people involved, the causes, the movements and their consequences in a very readable style.

Saunders also produced a lengthy bibliography of the subject in 1987, under the equally lengthy title *A bibliography of books, articles, and theses on the history of the Australian peace movement* — scholarly works dealing with opposition to the Crimean War, the Sudan campaign, the Boer War, the Boxer Rebellion, the First and Second World Wars and the Vietnam War. As Saunders points out in a note, the field of this research is rich, and the present work does not pretend to be exhaustive, but even so it does fill 115 pages. There is very good coverage

of higher-degree theses on the subject, and a healthily large number of journals were searched. An index would have greatly enhanced the work.

*The Australian peace movement: a short history*, by Malcolm Saunders and Ralph Summy, was published by the Peace Research Centre at the Australian National University in 1986, and costs \$3.75 plus postage. (ISBN 0 86784 797 2)

*A bibliography of books, articles, and theses on the history of the Australian peace movement*, by Malcolm Saunders, was published in 1987 by the Peace Research Centre as the first in its PRC Monograph series. It costs \$10.00. (ISBN 0 7315 0135 7; ISSN 1030-3154)

## Housing on a budget

When people ask you for information on tenants' rights, multiple occupancy or owner building, where do you look? Or who do you call? If you are in New South Wales, you may benefit from a glance in *Housing pathfinder*, a useful 52-page guide prepared by staff of the State Library and the Department of Housing. There are contact names and numbers, lists of relevant publications, descriptions of activities of various government and community organisations, and brief definitions of sometimes mystifying terms (such as common law title and Torrens title).

Compiled by Molly Lim, and edited by Carol Yuen and Rose Drake, *Housing pathfinder* was published in 1989 by the Public Libraries Department, State Library of New South Wales. Limited copies are available gratis. (ISBN 0 7305 6329 4)

## Buried treasure

Special collections are all too often virtually unknown outside the institution

that houses them. Sometimes they are not widely known even within the institution. Focusing on the pet subject of a librarian or benefactor of the past, or the preoccupation of a wandering scholar, special collections are a valuable resource, and any move to reveal these treasured subject strengths is to be applauded.

*Directory of special collections in Australiana*, which was published by the Library Association of Australia in 1988, covers 'published or semi-published materials and their adjuncts', which include 'books and journals, pamphlets, ephemera, pictures, photographs, tape recordings, newspaper cuttings and scrapbooks' held in a number of Australian libraries. The compilers judged that there was already adequate coverage of manuscripts and archives.

And a wealth of publications and adjuncts there certainly is, lurking in some really unexpected places. The library of an anthropologist in a Sydney public library; a Quaker collection in Tasmania; an Evatt collection in South Australia; the Tichborne collection in a Riverina library. In the first part of this very well-presented work, 242 collections are listed and briefly described. In the second part, the compilers present a potted account of the major collections held by the National Library of Australia and the State Libraries. There is a list of contributing institutions, and their addresses, and an excellent index to the motley contents of this most valuable work.

It is an overworked phrase, but no reference library should be without this well-produced and reasonably priced work. *Directory of special collections in Australiana*, compiled by Jennifer Alison, Margaret Medcalf and Catherine Santamaria, was published by the Library Association of Australia in 1988 and costs \$25.00 (\$18.00 to ALIA members). (ISBN 0 86804 054 1)

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