

New titles received

The indefatigable Bundy team (are there really only two of them?) have just issued their *ALIP 1—Australian Library and Information Professionals*, providing career and contact information for about five thousand people in library and information services and in related fields, current to late 1993 or early 1994. They give only a few lines per person, but because of their tighter format this is actually not much shorter than the entries in Géza Kósa's *Biographical Dictionary of Australian Librarians*. Kósa is now well out of date and his 4th edition in 1990 had only two thousand entries. *ALIP 1* has some seemingly inevitable gaps, but it is proving enormously useful and your editor's review copy is already well thumbed. Obtainable from Auslib Press, PO Box 622, Blackwood SA 5051 tel: (08) 278 4363; fax: (08) 278 4000, at \$32 plus \$6 p&ch. ISBN 1 875145 27 3.

While on directories, Ray Dahlitz has just published a

Secular Who's Who which traces the growth of secularism in Australia and New Zealand from 1850 and gives biographies of around two hundred of the leading lights: socialists, fabians, anarchists, rationalists and humanist reformers. There are more than 60 photographs, 300 organisations and 2000 references. Rubbing shoulders with the early anarchists, some of the more recent figures may appear in strange company: Phillip Adams, Gareth Evans, Justice Elizabeth Evatt, Sir Mark Oliphant and Robyn Williams, for example. But it is a fascinating grab bag and, if you have an interest in these highly individual strands of the complex tissue that is Australasia, you will find much here to inform and entertain. From the author, Ray Dahlitz, at 4 Alandale Avenue, Balwyn Vic 3103, \$19.95 plus \$2.40 p&ch. ISBN 0 646 17950 0.

The State Library of NSW has just published a delightful volume recording the history of the Australian Black and White

Artists' Club. *Drawing from Life*, by Vane Lindesay is not only the story of the comic strip and the political cartoon in Australia, or a social comment on the artists' colony of the 20s and 30s, it is also a delightful bedside book which guarantees that you go to sleep chuckling. The Club celebrates its 70th anniversary, after years with no building and little formal structure. It exists 'in the minds of its members'—and fortunately also in a collection of members' original drawings that since May 1989 has been housed in the SLNSW. The Library has assured access to this collection and has organised exhibitions in its gallery, in conjunction with *The Bulletin* Black and White awards. But—'For gorsake stop laughing: this is serious!'—on every page is an example of the cream of Australia's cartoons. Long before you are reading the history, you will be regaled by the illustrations and be grateful that the SLNSW and Vane Lindsay have conspired to lighten your day. *Drawing from Life*, by Vane Lindesay, is available from the SLNSW Shop, 108 pp, soft cover, price \$29.95, ISBN 0 7305 8914 5. ■

Access or ownership?

Australian and US views on a vexed issue

Access or ownership, Papers from the National Acquisitions Seminar held in Adelaide on 18 August 1993, has been published as Vol 10 No 2, December 1993, of *Acquisitions*, the newsletter of ALIA Acquisitions Section. All members of the Section have received this number gratis; a few copies are available for \$15 from the National Secretary, Jenni Jeremy, c/- Library, U of SA, Holbrooks Road, Underdale SA 5032. The first three papers look at the issue from the perspective of the academic librarian, the special librarian and the publisher. Then follow an account of CSIRO experience with ADONIS, a look at the potential impact of electronic publishing, and two papers on the future—of the Distributed National Collection

and of document supply in general. There seems to be fair agreement that a greater reliance on electronic access is inevitable, but also a warning note from the publisher that if nobody is buying hard-copy books and journals there won't be any 'full-text' to put into electronic delivery systems... This compilation is necessarily brief (33 pages in all) but well worth reading, and as a bonus there are a couple of book reviews on related topics (*Collection assessment: a look at RLG conspectus*, and *Vendor evaluation and acquisition budgets*).

Also in this same vein is *Declining acquisitions budgets*, edited by Sul H Lee, Dean, University of Oklahoma Libraries—he also edited *Vendor evaluation*—Haworth Press, 1994, 138 pp. hb ISBN 1-56024-613-

8, also in pb \$US 29.95 hb, \$US19.95 pb. Lee's contributors face up to the dilemma that as the cost of information rises, so many library budgets are diminishing. They explore issues of maintaining book collection in spite of budget problems, strategies for re-evaluating acquisitions budgets, flexibility in budgeting, 'access versus ownership' in science collection development, gathering circulation information for use in collection development, and the role of the subscription vendor in the collection assessment and evaluation process. This timely publication is practical in its approach and most authors are writing from their own experience. No quick fixes, alas, but much to reflect on, adapt and perhaps apply. ■