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# INDEXES REVIEWED

edited by Norman Hillyer

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This selection of extracts from reviews does not pretend to represent a complete survey of all reviews in all journals and newspapers. We offer only those quotations which members have sent in.

Extracts are arranged alphabetically under the names of publishers, within the sections: Indexes praised: Two cheers! Indexes censured: Indexes omitted: Obiter dicta.

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## Indexes praised

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Armstrong, Alan: *Directory of management consultants in the UK 1983-84*, compiled by Management Consultancy Information Service (1983, 233 pp., £17.50). Rev. in *British Business*, 21 Oct. 83.

'There is an extensive index by subject, and one to location.'

Bead Society, Venice: *Master index of the Bead Journal*, ed. by Elizabeth J. Harris (37 pp., \$5.95). Rev. by R.K.L., *Ornament* 6.3, 83.

'All issues of *The Bead Journal* have been indexed completely, so that all subjects and authors are covered. In addition, all references cited in articles, and reviews of publications and exhibitions have been indexed under their respective categories. When dealing with subjects as complex as beads/jewelry, this type of index is enormously helpful. Despite having edited this Journal, I am constantly referring to the Index when I need to find anything in past issues.'

Cambridge Univ. Press: *Basic science for the practicing [sic] urologist*, by Michael C. Magee (1983, 338 pp., £25). Rev. by Robin M. Jameson, *British Medical Journal*, 15 Oct. 83.

'Cambridge University Press has produced a slim, readable volume, with clear diagrams and a helpful index and references (up to 1981).'

Cambridge Univ. Press: *Otto Klemperer: his life and times. Vol. 1, 1885-1933*, by Peter Heyworth (1983, £15). Rev. by Bernard Levin, *Observer*, 16 Oct. 83.

'But the prodigious mass of facts is marshalled with a steady hand, the footnoting is exemplary, and there is an outstanding index, its compiler—Frederick Smyth—for once acknowledged: *o si sic omnes*.' [index by one of our members]

Cape: *Brilliant creatures*, by Clive James (1983, £7.95). Rev. by Isabel Raphael, *Times*, 21 July 1983.

'The index (in a novel?) is a veritable catalogue of fashionable 1980s table talk. It's funny too. Enjoy. Enjoy.'

Rev. by Anthony Thwaite, *Observer*, 24 July 83.

'The Index must have been fun to do but isn't much fun to read. That last remark isn't my final judgment on the whole book; but there were times when I felt it might be.' [Yes, the same book before both reviewers. Maybe the index was reviewing the reviewer.]

Our reproduction of comments is not a stamp of approval from the Society of Indexers upon either the reviewer's assessment of an index, or his competence to give an opinion.

Cape: *Enthusiasms*, by Bernard Levin (1983, £8.95). Rev. by Fiona MacCarthy, *Times*, 17 Nov. 83.

'... the grand old days of journalism ... when journalists were emphatically writers and you could quite easily recognize the maestros by the cut of their columns, by the tenor of their jokes. This is the great tradition which Bernard Levin, last bastion against journalistic flavour-blur, belongs to, and it is the spirit—humane, lucid and aggressively inquisitive—that pervades the 264 pages (I include the very readable Index) of this book.' [index by Oula Jones]

Clarendon Press: *The journals and letters of Fanny Burney*, vols 9 and 10, ed. by Warren Derry (1062 pp., £80 set). Rev. by Pat Rogers, *Times Literary Supplement*, 18 June 82.

'The index is a thing of beauty and a miniature history of society in itself.'

Deutsch, André: *I wouldn't have missed it*, by Ogden Nash (1983, £9.95). Rev. by R. G. G. Price, *Punch*, 31 Aug. 83.

'Among the beauties of the splendid volume are not merely an Index of First Lines but an Index of Last Lines.'

Elsevier Scientific: *Diagenesis and sedimentary rocks 2* (572 pp., Dfl 275). Rev. by I. E., *Geological Magazine*, Sept. 83.

'The author and subject indices [sic] are excellent, except that they do not include Kisch's annotated references.'

Faber & Faber: *The spectacle of empire*, by Jan Morris (1982, 255 pp., £12.50). Rev. by J. W. P. Chiddell, *Asian Affairs*, June 83.

'Eighty pithy chapters of intimate and disrespectful commentary make up one quarter of the book; they are interspersed with pictures, some in colour reproduction of moderate quality. The picture pages are not numbered, but the index knows what the numbers should be; furthermore, if you want to locate the source of a picture you have to thumb your way down the alphabetical list of Commonwealth and American archives until you light upon the number sought.'

Freeman: *Sedimentary petrology*, by H. Blatt (654 pp., £21.95). Rev. by D. H. K., *Geological Magazine*, Sept. 83.

'It contains a glossary of 300 terms, a detailed index and an index of cited author names.'

Greenwood: *Index to the Strand magazine, 1891-1950*, by Geraldine Beare (1982, 859 pp.). Rev. in *Choice* 20.9, May 83.

'Beare, an antiquarian book dealer, deserves some kind of

- award for indexing comprehensiveness. Besides standard author and subject approaches, there is also an index of illustrations. Numerous appendices provide specific access points to children's stories, illustrated interviews, anonymous cartoons, multi-author series, etc. The subject index is a treasury of information on government figures (Sir Winston Churchill), cinema, theatre, animals, music, and, of course, royalty.'
- Horwood, Ellis: *Introduction to palaeobiology: general palaeontology*, by B. Zeigler (225 pp., £30, pbk £12.50). Rev. by P. D. L., *Geological Magazine*, Sept. 83.  
'The reason for using numbered subdivisions, when the various subheadings are clearly set and the "contents" and three indices [*sic*] are good, is obscure.'
- Johns Hopkins Univ. Press: *Women scientists in America: struggles and strategies to 1940*, by Margaret Rossiter (1983, 439 pp., £20). Rev. by Jan Harding, *New Scientist*, 28 July 83.  
'The account of *Struggles and Strategies* is supported by a mass of examples. The book has a detailed index and, for the researcher, there are copious notes (78 pages of them) with additional references.'
- Lion: *The life of the early church*, by John W. Drane (1982, 144 pp., £3.95). Rev. by I. Howard Marshall, *Evangelical Qy* 55.4, Oct. 83.  
'The nature of the thematic treatment means that readers may not instantly find all the information which they seek on particular topics, but the book is well indexed.'
- Longford: *Atlas of igneous rocks and their textures*, by W. S. Mackenzie *et al.* (148 pp., £9.95). Rev. by M. J. LeB., *Geological Magazine*, Sept. 83.  
'There is a useful appendix on the preparation of thin sections and the book ends with a good index of all the rocks and the textures shown.'
- Longman: *From tracial states to United Arab Emirates: a society in transition*, by Frauke Heard-Bey (1982, 522 pp., £19.95). Rev. by Derek Riches, *Asian Affairs*, June 83.  
'This book is full of meat and detail and has obviously been meticulously researched: fully a quarter of the book comprises notes, indices [*sic*] etc. But the notes are apposite and useful, the indices good, and the maps excellent. It is pre-eminently a good book of reference worthy of constant consultation by anyone with more than a passing interest in the Gulf.'
- McGraw-Hill: *McGraw-Hill encyclopedia of science and technology*, 5th edn (15 vols, 12,700 pp., £495). Rev. by Bernard Dixon, *New Scientist*, 14 July 83.  
'I am impressed by the skill with which information is marshalled. But to make full use of the 8.9 million words-worth (7700 entries, 3500 contributors), the excellent index is essential. Unlike the micropedia of the *Britannica*, one cannot locate items quickly by flipping through the alphabetical volumes. That way, you would find *drone* (= pilotless aircraft). You would never discover the other type, which crops up under *bee*.'
- McGraw-Hill: *Update IV: Harrison's principles of internal medicine with CME examination*, ed. by Kurt J. Isselbacher *et al.* (1983, 254 pp., £25.95). Rev. by C. W. H. Havard, *British Medical Journal*, 6 Aug. 83.  
'A comprehensive index includes the previous three editions of *Update*.'
- MTP Press: *Biochemical neurology*, by M. J. Eadie and J. H. Tyrer (1983, 266 pp., £24.95). Rev. by Ian D. Melville, *British Medical Journal*, 30 July 83.  
'... a splendid book, well indexed and well produced.'
- Nelson: *The business environment*, by E. Rick and F. Neal (1983, 211 pp., £6.95). *Organisation studies*, by J. W. D. Glover and W. G. Rushbrooke (1983, 165 pp., £6.95). Rev. in *British Business*, 10 June 83.  
'Both books are simply written, clearly laid out and well indexed . . .'
- Nijhoff, Martinus: *A short history of breast cancer*, by Daniel de Moulin (1983, 124 pp., Dfl 75). Rev. by Michael Harmer, *British Medical Journal*, 24 Sept. 83.  
'The bibliography of 312 references and the index of about 325 names are excellent.'
- Oyez Longman: *Westby-Nunn's company secretarial handbook*, by C. N. Gorman and A. V. Barker (1983, 266 pp., £10.50). Rev. in *British Business*, 30 Sept. 83.  
'The book is well indexed and simply written, and should prove easy to use.'
- Pergamon Press: *Introduction to geological maps and structures* (325 pp., £20, pbk £7.50). Rev. by W. M. Dunne, *Journal of Structural Geology* 5, 83.  
'The book concludes with a bibliography of other texts in structural geology and allied disciplines, a list of British Geological Maps and a comprehensive index.'
- Pergamon Press: *Plate tectonics and crustal evolution*, 2nd edn (310 pp., £32.50, pbk £13.10). Rev. by A. J. Barbour and N. Breen, *Journal of Structural Geology* 5, 83.  
'A detailed reference list is given at the end of the book, followed by a comprehensive index.'
- Phillimore, Chichester: *Domesday Book, Gloucestershire*, trans. and ed. by J. S. Moore (£8, pbk £4.50). Rev. by M. Costen, *Bristol & Avon Archaeology* 1, 82.  
'The notes and the indexes . . . make reference to the survey possible and fruitful in a way which would have surprised King William.'
- Piatkus Books: *Working from home*, by Marianne Gray (1983, £6.95, pbk £4.95). Rev. by Joan Davies, *National Newsletter* 35, Autumn 83 (National Housewives Register).  
'The information is very clearly presented and there is an excellent index, together with a list of useful names and addresses of organizations and suppliers.'
- Plenum: *Population biology of tropical insects*, by A. M. Young (1983, 511 pp., £40.25). Rev. by Chris Schofield, *New Scientist*, 28 July 83.  
'I would not hesitate to recommend the book, and the arrangement of material certainly provides a more gentle and easily understood introduction to difficult concepts than many slimmer volumes. Yet this very arrangement, even though well indexed, rather precludes rapid consultation and reference . . .'  
[but isn't this why we have indexes?]
- Pruett Publishing Co.: *Ice's ferry: a crossing on the Colorado*, by Evelyn Brack Measeles (1981, 130 pp., \$12.95, pbk \$6.95).

Rev. by Mary Lu Moore, *Arizona Highways*, Aug. 83.  
'... the author's research, notes, bibliography and index are good.'

Routledge: *Biographia literaria*, by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, ed. by James Engell and W. Jackson Bate (1983, 2 vols, 306, 409 pp., £50). Rev. by Christopher Ricks, *Sunday Times*, 19 June 83.

'This new edition is magnificent. Scrupulously annotated, spaciously introduced, precisely informative about the plagiarisms or "plagiarisms", and superbly indexed, these volumes meet the very high standards of this great edition of Coleridge's Collected Works.'

Saunders, W. B.: *Pathophysiology: principles of disease*, by Martha J. Miller (1983, 506 pp., £14.95). Rev. by Charles Turner, *Nursing Times*, 28 Sept. 83.

'The book is well presented, with clear tables and monochrome diagrams and an excellent index.'

Skilton, Charles: *Tristan da Cunha and the roaring forties*, by Allan Crawford (1982). Rev. by Martin Holdgate, *Polar Record*, Sept. 83.

'It is well indexed.'

SPCK: *A guide to Philippians*, by John Hargreaves (1983, 149 pp., £4.95). Rev. by Ronald Lunt, *Expository Times* 94.12, Sept. 83.

'There are two useful indexes.'

Stanford Univ. Press: *The cacti of the United States and Canada*, by Lyman Benson (1982, 1044 pp., \$85). Rev. by Mary Lu Moore, *Arizona Highways* 59.9, Sept. 83.

'The book, arranged by family, genera, species, and varieties, includes separate sections on documentation of research data, a glossary, references cited, reference maps, and a meticulous index.'

Suffolk Record Society with Boydell & Brewer (Woodbridge): *Suffolk Charters*, vols 1-3, ed. by R. A. Brown (188, 148, 137 pp., £15 ea.). Rev. by R. H. C. Davis, *Proceedings of Suffolk Inst. of Archaeology & History* 35.2, 82.

'... provided with excellent indexes.'

Univ. of Arizona Press: *Apache Indian baskets*, by Clara Lee Tanner (1982, 204 pp., \$35). Rev. by Mary Lu Moore, *Arizona Highways*, Oct. 83.

'There is an excellent index, along with notes and a bibliography.'

Univ. of Nebraska Press: *Mountain men and fur traders of the far west*, ed. by LeRoy R. Hafen (1982, 401 pp., \$8.95). Rev. by Mary Lu Moore, *Arizona Highways*, Oct. 83.

'Harvey Carter's competent biographical and bibliographical essay and an extensive index make this study all the more valuable.'

Univ. of Wisconsin Press: *Antarctic geoscience*, ed. by Campbell Cradock (1982). Rev. by R. B. Andrews, *Antarctic*, Dec. 82.

'Its use as a source book is aided... by the inclusion of an author, subject and locality index.'

Wiley, John: *Cutaneous laser therapy: principles and method*,

ed. by K. A. Arndt *et al.* (1983, 241 pp., £24). Rev. by I. A. Magnus, *British Medical Journal*, 17 Sept. 83.

'The index is much better than is to be found in many multi-authored books.'

Wiley, John: *Geometrical and structural crystallography*, by Joseph V. Smith (450 pp., \$27.95). Rev. by Yoshikazu Ohashi, *Journal of Geology* 91, Sept. 83.

'As with his other books, the index is extensive—four separate entries for concepts, minerals and materials, chemical formulas and authors. (There is no index of indexes!)

Wiley, John: *An outline of modern psychiatry*, by Jennifer Hughes (1982, 211 pp., £6.75). Rev. by Susan Cope, *British Journal of Psychiatry* 143, Sept. 83.

'Jennifer Hughes has produced a well laid out, well indexed book which can be recommended as offering more than most examination preparation books.'

Yorkshire Archaeological Society: *The Fountains Abbey lease book*, ed. by D. H. Michelmore (424 pp., £22.50). Rev. by L. A. S. Butler, *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal* 55, 83.

'The index, though at times circuitous, is a most useful feature and often serves to highlight themes not always apparent in the text.'

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## Two cheers!

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ADIS Health Science Press: *Drug use in renal disease*, by D. C. Brater (1983, 184 pp., £19.95). Rev. by Linda Beeley, *Lancet*, 8 Oct. 83.

'Occasionally information about the use of the drug in liver disease is thrown in for good measure but since this is inconsistent and not indexed, it is not very useful... There is also a very useful bibliography and a brief but generally adequate index.'

Lane, Allen: *The Penguin dictionary of proverbs*, by Rosalind Fergusson (331 pp., £8.95, pbk £2.50). Rev. in *Economist*, 23 July 83.

'The *Penguin Dictionary* is very comprehensive and is neatly organized under subject-headings, with an index of keywords (only one for each proverb).'

Manchester Univ. Press: *Catalogue of the Pybus collection of medical books, letters and engravings, 15th-20th centuries, held in the University Library, Newcastle upon Tyne*, ed. by Joan S. Emmerson (270 pp., £35). Rev. by David McKitterick, *Times Literary Supplement*, 7 May 82.

'Quite apart from recording the contents of Professor Pybus's remarkable library, Joan S. Emmerson had the good sense to index her catalogue extensively. The indexes to the book trade and to provenances promise to be especially useful, though they are to some extent spoilt by mistakes that a further revision might have eliminated: the French Imprimerie Royale has never operated from Turin, Richard Heber is indexed under B for Bibliotheca, and the Royal Library at Munich appears in two places in the provenance index.'

MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass.: *Artificial intelligence: an MIT*

*perspective, Volume 1: Expert problem solving, natural language understanding, intelligent computer coaches, representation and learning*, ed. by P. H. Winston and R. H. Brown (1979, 492 pp., \$12.50). Rev. by Varol Akman, *SIGART Newsletter* 84, Apr. 83.

'Each volume is followed by a wide subject index. Unfortunately, the editors apparently did not think that an author index would also be useful.'

Pagoda Books: *You're a father! Every man's guide to new parenthood* (1983, 96 pp., £6.95). Rev. by Linda Husband, *Nursing Times*, 26 Oct. 83.

'Both the index and glossary assume a degree of familiarity with medical terminology or a very competent grasp of English.'

Princeton Univ. Press: *Tamil temple myths: sacrifice and divine marriage in the south Indian Saiva tradition*, by David Dean Shulman (472 pp., £21.30). Rev. by Edmund Leach, *Times Literary Supplement*, 24 Sept. 82.

'David Dean Shulman's densely packed text is a welcome addition to the literature but its defects need to be spelled out. Of the 470 pages, 120 are devoted to scholarly apparatus—glossaries, notes, bibliography, motif index, place/deity name index. But there is no general index of the ordinary sort and the reader who wants to discover what use the author has made of the work of, say, Louis Dumont or Wendy O'Flaherty will be in difficulty.'

Privately published: *West Stour in Dorset: a journey through the centuries*, by John Ash (175 pp., £3.50). Rev. by J. Pafford, *Notes & Queries for Somerset* 31 (316), 82.

'A minor criticism is that long *s* is printed as *f* ( . . . on p. 157 in the name index where an *f* for the first *s* in Rossiter brings the name out of its alphabetical position). The usage, which has recently been noticed elsewhere, cannot be too strongly condemned.'

Yale Univ. Press: *Robert Smythson and the Elizabethan country house*, by Mark Girouard (£15.95). Rev. by Sheila Upjohn, *Eastern Daily Press*, 10 Nov. 83.

'By some quirk of proof-reading, Bess [of Hardwick], her husband and two other Shrewsburys have been left out of the index, but this must be the only fault in this beautifully produced, scholarly and entertaining book.'

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## Indexes censured

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Academic Press: *Doctor-patient communication*, ed. by David Pendleton and John Hasler (1983, 312 pp., £16.80). Rev. by J. Truscott, *British Book News*, Sept. 83.

'The index is not always easy to understand, because of the choice of headings in the alphabetical sections, and it is not extensive. However, the compilation of indexes is always difficult, and no doubt the likely reader of this book will be conversant with the subject matter and therefore not too concerned with the index.' [no comment]

Allen & Unwin: *Shakespeare's sonnets*, by Kenneth Muir (179 pp., £10). Rev. by T. P. Matheson, *Times Literary Supplement*, 9 Jan. 81.

'Nor should such readers take a horribly imperfect index

(ignoring scores of works cited or quoted in the text) as in any way representative of the thoroughly-documented scholarship of the rest of the volume.'

Baillière Tindall: *Treatment and management in adult psychiatry*, ed. by G. E. Berrios and J. H. Dowson (1983, 502 pp., £18.50). Rev. by Jennifer Hughes, *Lancet*, 10 Sept. 83.

'The index is disappointingly brief. Topics covered in the text but absent from the index include amnesia, court reports, and head injury.' [now 'amnesia' we can understand]

Blackwell Scientific Publications: *Paediatric immunology*, ed. by J. F. Soothill *et al.* (1983, 490 pp., £35). Rev. by Malcolm Brenner, *British Medical Journal*, 23 July 83.

'On the production side, the volume is well illustrated, well printed, and strongly bound, but the index is patchy.'

Bodley Head: *Dr Richard Bright, 1789-1858*, by Pamela Bright (1983, 313 pp., £12.95). Rev. by John L. Thornton, *British Medical Journal*, 23 July 83.

'The references to articles in journals, in the notes, and in the two bibliographies lack pagination, and the index is not comprehensive. For example, entries for his life are included mainly under his name (where there should be an absolute minimum of entries), and there they are arranged according to their appearance in the book. There are no entries in the main body of the index under Austria, Bristol, Cambridge, Hungary, Oxford, Vienna, and many other places with which he was associated, quick reference to which would have been helpful to many readers.'

Cambridge Univ. Press: *The collected letters of Joseph Conrad, Volume 1: 1861-1897*, ed. by Frederick R. Karl and Laurence Davies (446 pp., £19.50). Rev. by James Campbell, *Scotsman*, 1 Oct. 83.

'The index is erratic [*sic*]—for example, *The Scotsman* is not mentioned and neither is Edinburgh in the instance just given, although it is listed later when referred to in a letter as "Modern Athens"—but perhaps that will have been put into shape by the time volume eight appears.'

Cambridge Univ. Press: *Pattern of the past: studies in honour of David Clarke*, ed. by Ian Hodder *et al.* (443 pp., £27.50). Rev. by P. J. Ucko, *Times Literary Supplement*, 7 Jan. 83.

'The index is poor.'

Chatto & Windus/Hogarth Press: *Clarendon and the English Revolution*, by R. W. Harris (1983, 456 pp., £30). Rev. by Richard Ollard, *Financial Times*, 12 Nov. 83.

'Mr Harris has not been well served by his publishers. Most of the blemishes indicated could have been removed by competent editing. The inadequacy of the index to a work of this length, complexity and price is a disgrace.'

Chatto & Windus: *Towards 2000*, by Raymond Williams (1983, £9.95). Rev. by Alec Nove, *Guardian*, 20 Oct. 83.

'There is a vast literature of self-managed enterprises which he ignores, and "Yugoslavia" does not appear in the index.'

Churchill Livingstone: *Uroradiology: an integrated approach*, vols 1 & 2, ed. by Gerald W. Friedland *et al.* (1983, 1727 pp., £125 set). Rev. by H. M. Saxton, *British Medical Journal*, 6 Aug. 83.

'With such long chapters, and with headings that do not indicate their content in the usual way, a comprehensive index is vital. Here there is a disappointment for the index is sparse, certainly not matching the profusion of the references; this is another of the book's weaknesses.'

Clarendon Press: *The legacy of Greece: a new appraisal*, ed. by M. I. Finley (479 pp., £8.95). Rev. by Oliver Taplin, *Times Literary Supplement*, 30 April 82.

'The index rather typifies this drab New Appraisal (the old volume did not have bibliography or index). Its twelve close-packed columns look professional, but turn out to be drastically incomplete. You will find entries for Antiochus of Ascalon and Antiochus of Syracuse, but not for Hardy, Marx, Nietzsche, Pound, Reinhardt (Max or Karl) or Vico, to name but seven. They are alluded to little enough in the text without adding index to injury.'

Collins: *Anna Pavlova. Her life and art*, by Keith Money (\$A75). Rev. by Geoffrey Hutton, *Age* (Melbourne), 23 July 83.

'Only one thing disappoints me about this splendid book: that the index omits Pavlova and her career entirely. Browsing through it again, as I shall, I would like a few signposts. Perhaps later editions will fill the gap; I imagine there will be more.'

Collins: *Richard Wagner: his life, his work, his century*, by Martin Gregor-Dellin; trans. by J. Maxwell Brownjohn (575 pp., £17.50). Rev. by Michael Tanner, *Times Literary Supplement*, 17 June 83.

'It remains to add only, in reprehension of the English version, that the index is inadequate, that it shares with the original an irritating refusal to provide crucial references, and that the bibliography is simply absurd. It seems to have been abridged for the sake of the English-speaking reader, but many books which have been translated are only listed in their German edition. That sums up the slapdash nature of the whole production.'

CompuSoft Publishing: *Learning IBM BASIC*, by David A. Lien (\$19.95). Rev. by David A. Mitchell, *InfoWorld* 5.24, 13 June 83.

'A technical text such as this, no matter how lucidly written, requires a truly thorough index. In the introduction . . . Lien says that the book offers "an Index, for easy reference after you've learned it all, but forgotten where you learned it." The index of this first edition omits, however, such key terms and concepts as: *keyword*; *BASIC command*, *function* and *statement* (for which subsequent distinctions are promised on page 36); *wild card*, *protected*, *Lowercase mode* and *Ummyass* [*sic*], a word (?) which the author introduces without definition and uses repeatedly. In addition, unless the index is made totally comprehensive, a glossary should be considered essential.'

Faber: *Franz Liszt: volume one. The virtuoso years, 1811-1847*, by Alan Walker (481 pp., £20). Rev. by Lucy Beckett, *Times Literary Supplement*, 17 June 83.

'The family trees, lists, maps and illustrations are excellent; it is all the more irritating that the index is grossly inadequate for a book of this kind. People will consult it for years after they have read it: they will not be helped by mistakes in page numbers and alphabetical order, or by the bizarre decision to exclude place-names altogether except for references to libraries,

museums and theatres. One hopes that this failure will be remedied in a full general index when all three volumes are complete.'

Macmillan: *The Nuremberg trial*, by Ann and John Tusa (1983, £12.95).

Weidenfeld & Nicolson: *Justice at Nuremberg*, by Robert E. Conot (1983, £15). Rev. by Bernard Levin, *Observer*, 20 Nov. 83.

'The British book is much deeper, more closely focused on the proceedings themselves, and far more thoughtful about them; the Tusas have also had access to a mass of unpublished papers apparently not available to Mr Conot, including the minutes of the Tribunal's closed deliberations on verdicts and sentences. Moreover, their style is firmer and much more graceful, and their overview displays a remarkable and scholarly historical grasp. And they have a narrowly conceived but excellent index—36 columns typically broken down in most helpful detail—whereas Mr Conot's is useless—here, for instance, is the whole of one typical entry:

Keitel, Field Marshal Wilhelm, 17, 26, 27, 32, 33, 94, 100, 140, 145, 153, 160, 163, 187-189, 191, 194, 199, 211, 218, 220, 222, 224, 227, 242, 251, 267, 281, 305, 309-311, 314, 315, 342, 355-358, 391, 418, 475, 476, 481, 487, 494, 495, 498, 501, 505, 506, 511, 512.'

Moorland Publishing (Ashbourne, Derbys): *Buildings of Britain 1550-1750: Yorkshire*, by David Hey (165 pp., £8.95). Rev. by O. J. Weaver, *Post-Medieval Archaeology* 16, 82.

' . . . better maps, and a better index, would have been helpful.'

Oxford Univ. Press, for Institute of Historical Research: *The Victoria history of the county of Sussex*, vol. 6, pt 1, ed. by T. P. Hudson (307 pp., £48). Rev. by R. Horrox, *Local Historian* 15, 83.

'We could pursue such cross-referencing much more easily if we were given more comprehensive indexes. Expense presumably limits the length of an index, and as the price of each volume is already beyond the reach of most individuals, reform is perhaps impossible. However, the present indexes hardly do justice to the scale of the enterprise. The coverage of subjects is scanty, except under parish headings. So is the coverage of minor place names: local historians trying to trace non-manorial names are given no help unless they already know in which parish the place was situated, and not always then. This has been a weakness of the History from the outset and remains a major drawback to anyone trying to track down specific details, rather than reading up a whole area.'

Oxford Univ. Press: *The mind of St Bernard of Clairvaux*, by G. R. Evans (1983, £16.50). Rev. by Christopher Allmand, *Tablet*, 1 Oct. 83.

'We have here, in a neat format, a new dimension to the man. It is to be regretted that insufficient attention has been paid to some of the more important points of book production. On what principles has the select bibliography been drawn up? Ditto for the index. Sadly, too, the copy-editing and proof-reading leave much to be desired. One can only hope that Bernard, who himself experienced trouble with enthusiastic copyists, would have forgiven such peccadilloes.' [*'more important points'* . . . '*peccadilloes*': now, which?]

Pantheon: *Science on trial: the case for evolution*, by Douglas Futuyma (1983, 251 pp., \$6.95). Rev. by Jeremy Cherfas, *New Scientist*, 28 July 83.

'One complaint: the index is far too short and skimpy. *Science on Trial* remains a stimulating, informative read, but once read is not as easy to use as it might have been.'

Plenum Press: *Neurobiology of cerebrospinal fluid*, vol. 2, ed. by James H. Wood (1983, 961 pp., \$89). Rev. by Peter Skrabanek, *Lancet*, 8 Oct. 83.

'The organization of the book is "slightly odd", as already noted for volume 1 (*Lancet* 1981; 1:757), and the index is peculiar. Thus, references to chapters as such are not to be found in the index: in order to find, say, what chapters deal with meningitis, one is forced to read all 58 chapter headings in the table of contents (spread over 15 pages) to find out that there are two such chapters—21 and 46. The usefulness of the index is not helped by having some entries under "cerebrospinal fluid" and others under "CSF". Strangely enough, these two sections do not cover the same ground; when they coincide, the pagination does not (e.g., lumbar CSF pressure appears once under "CSF pressure, lumbar . . . 637" and once under "cerebrospinal fluid, lumbar pressure in . . . 604").'

Prentice Hall International: *Issues and advanced practice in paediatric nursing*, by Judy Alheim Beal (1983, £16.15). Rev. by Angela Grainger, *Nursing Mirror*, 19 Oct. 83.

'Those who are accustomed to making much use of an index, however, will be totally thwarted by this one which is the most feeble I have ever seen, many letters having only one (bizarre) entry, and the most likely references being absent altogether.'

Yale Univ. Press: *The private journals of the Long Parliament, 3 January to 5 March 1642*, ed. by Willson H. Coates et al. (1982). Rev. by Esther S. Cope, *Albion*, Spring 83.

'The index may present problems to those wishing to use the book as a reference tool, but it should not thwart those who are willing to search to find citations of specific topics.'

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### Indexes omitted

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Appletree Press, Belfast: *The town in Ireland*, ed. by David Harkness and Mary O'Dowd (260 pp., £9.95). Rev. by K. T. Hoppen, *Urban History Yearbook*, 82.

'Only the deplorable absence of an index mars a volume notable for consistent scholarship, sustained insight, clarity of expression . . .'

Blandford: *The beginner's guide to good gardening*, by David Carr (£5.95). Rev. by Tony Venison, *Country Life*, 22 Nov. 79.

'Unfortunately, though about a quarter of the book forms an "Index of terms and tasks", there is no overall index; anyone unaware whether dollar spot is a disease, planting aid, flower, or area of rich soil must search the pages.'

Cambridge Univ. Press: *Authority in Paul and Peter: the identification of a pastoral stratum in the Pauline corpus and 1 Peter*, by Winsome Munro (1983, 226 pp., £15). Rev. by John M. Court, *Expository Times*, 94.11, 83.

' . . . and I wonder if it was a false economy to dispense with a bibliography and an index of biblical quotations.'

Chadwyck-Healey, Cambridge: *Records of a Scottish village: Lasswade, 1650-1750*, ed. by Rab Houston (1982, microfiche and 37 pp., £50). Rev. by Hilary Kirkland, *Internat. Journal of Micrographics & Video Technology* 2.2, 83.

'While the production of full indexes is promised "at a later date" it seems a pity that these could not have been made available now, to avoid frustration among users. Each microfiche has a page index but there is no index as yet to the paragraph numbers derived from the original documents.'

Collins: *The last summer: May to September 1914*, by Kirsty McLeod (1983, £10.95). Rev. by Philippa Toomey, *Tablet*, 1 Oct. 83.

'While there is a bibliography, there is no index, and for 187 pages, the price is outrageous.'

Collins: *The last summer: May to September 1914*, by Kirsty McLeod (1983, £10.95);

Gollancz: *Mistress of Charlecote: the memoirs of Mary Elizabeth Lucy*, introduced by Alice, Lady Fairfax-Lucy (1983, £9.95). Rev. by Violet Powell, *Daily Telegraph*, 14 July 83.

'Unfortunately both books share a failing of a lack of index.'

Collins: *The rise of the French Rothschilds*, by Anka Muhlstein (223 pp., £10.95). Rev. by Peter Quennell, *Sunday Telegraph*, 3 July 83.

'Mrs Muhlstein's biography, however, has a major defect: it lacks any kind of index—an addition that a volume of this scope, which introduces so many characters and covers so long a period, seems particularly to require.'

Covenant Press, Chicago: *God's glory, neighbor's good*, by John A. Newton, *Expository Times* 95.1, Oct. 83.

'This useful book, which includes a generous selection of Francke's writings, would have benefited from an index.'

Dorset Natural History & Archaeological Society: *The Bride Valley*, by C. J. Bailey (120 pp., £7.50, pbk £4.70). Rev. by J. Pafford, *Notes & Queries for Somerset* 31 (317), 83.

'Splendidly illustrated and lucidly written, the only criticism to be made is that there is no index, a lack which is all the more to be regretted since the book is otherwise so good.'

Les Editions d'Organisation, Paris: *Les banques de données pour la gestion* [Data banks for management], by Christian Rochet et al. (1982, 280 pp.). Rev. by A. Chonez, *Documentaliste* 20.3, May-June 83.

'The presentation of the various banks, some of which are quite obscure, is often matched by affected comments on their quality and efficacy. Each chapter being self-contained, some duplication was unavoidable; it is neither annoying nor without usefulness; on the contrary, the opinions which different specialists can form of the same book are instructive. One will regret all the more the absence of an index of the quoted banks, which would have made it possible to find quickly all passages in the work where such-and-such a bank is concerned.' [*trans. from French*]

Faber: *Required writing*, by Philip Larkin (1983, £4.95). Rev. by Clive James, *Observer*, 20 Nov. 83.

'"Required Writing" would be a treasure-house even if every second page were printed upside down. Lacking the technology

to accomplish this, the publishers have issued the book in paperback only, with no index, as if to prove that no matter how self-effacing its author might be, they can be even more so on his behalf.'

Finax Publications: *Principles of tax planning*, by M. Roy Saunders (2nd edn, 1983). Rev. by H. A. Sharman, *British Tax Review* 3, 83.

'Mr Saunders has taken the opportunity to correct many of the more grievous errors pointed out in my review of the 1st edition and has expanded it slightly, but has still not provided an index.'

Granger Book Co.: *Poetry index annual, 1982: a title, author, and subject index to poetry in anthologies*, prep. by the editorial board of Granger Book Co. (1982, 359 pp.). Rev. in *Choice* 20.9, May 83.

'... access to a poem by its first line has been discontinued. Given both the limited scope of each volume and convenience to the user, this first-line index should be reinstated in future volumes.'

Hamilton, Hamish: *De Lorean: the rise and fall of a dream maker*, by Ivan Fallon and James Srodes (£8.95). Rev. by Ted Ball, *Eastern Daily Press*, 26 Aug. 83.

'The absence of an index . . . is a constant irritant.'

HMSO, Belfast: *Carrickfergus Castle*, by T. E. McNeill (101 pp., £5.90). Rev. by R. A. Brown, *Post-Medieval Archaeology* 16, 82.

'... incomplete bibliography and no index.'

Hodder & Stoughton: *Between two worlds: the art of preaching in the twentieth century*, by John R. W. Stott (1982, 351 pp., \$12.95). Rev. by Sunand Sumithra, *Evangelical Review of Theology* 7.2, Oct. 83.

'An index of topics and the persons dealt with would have greatly added to the usefulness of this valuable book.'

Hodder & Stoughton: *I believe in the second coming of Jesus*, by Stephen H. Travis (1982, 252 pp., £5.50). Rev. by Murray J. Harris, *Themelios* 9.1, Sept. 83.

'Unfortunately the book lacks indices [*sic*] and has the briefest table of contents.'

Hutchinson Educational Publishers: *Law and teachers today*, by Neil Adams (1983, £9.95). Rev. in *Guardian*, 14 June 83.

'The book would also have benefited from a proper index of legal cases.'

Inter-Varsity Press: *Numbers*, by Gordon J. Wenham (1981, £4.95). Rev. by Michael Butterworth, *Evangel* 1.3, July 83.

'This is the best commentary yet available on *Numbers*. I wish it had a bibliography and index.'

London & Middlesex Archaeological Society: *The Roman river-side wall and monumental arch in London*, by Charles Hill *et al.* (216 pp., £7.50). Rev. by J. S. Wachter, *Britannia* 13, 82.

'There is no index, which is a nuisance for the reader, but to have compiled a truly adequate one would have been an heroic task, and would have added much to the cost. Better by far to have none at all!' [*which leaves us speechless*]

Methuen: *Scott's last expedition: the journals*, by R. F. Scott (1983). Rev. in *Polar Record*, Sept. 83.

'... there is no index.'

Mineralogical Association of Canada: *Granite pegmatites in science and industry*. Short course handbook No. 8, by P. Cerny (555 pp., \$Can 15.00). Rev. by A. M. E. in *Geological Magazine*, May 83.

'There is no index.'

Owen, Peter: *The child-lovers: a study of paedophiles in society*, by Glenn D. Wilson and David N. Cox (1983, 132 pp., £9.95).

Rev. by F. E. Kenyon, *British Journal of Psychiatry* 143, Oct. 83.

'There is an inadequate bibliography, no general review of the topic in any depth and no index.'

Routledge & Kegan Paul: *The counselling relationship: a study of the client's experience*, by Susan Oldfield (1983, 183 pp., £5.95). Rev. by Ron Lucas, *Nursing Times*, 2 Nov. 83.

'There is a comprehensive bibliography but no index.'

SCM Press: *Biblical exegesis*, by John H. Hayes and Carl R. Holladay (1983, 132 pp., £4.50). Rev. by C. S. Rodd, *Expository Times* 94.11, 83.

'... and an index would have increased the ease of reference.'

Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne: *The Roman fort at South Shields, excavations 1875-1975*, by J. N. Dore and J. P. Gillam (218 pp., £6.50). Rev. by P. T. Bidwell, *Britannia* 13, 82.

'The absence of an index in an archaeological report of substantial size is always a regrettable omission.'

Van Nostrand, New York: *Van Nostrand's scientific encyclopedia*, 6th edn, ed. by Douglas M. and Glenn Considine (1983, 3067 pp., \$99.50 one-vol. edn, \$129.50 two-vol. edn).

Rev. by Roy V. Hughson, *Chemical Engineering*, 17 Oct. 83.

'A young relative asked me what I knew about mitochondria . . . *Van Nostrand's SE* gave me a cross-reference from MITOCHONDRION to Cell (Biology). I assumed that mitochondrion was the singular form of mitochondria (the term mitochondrion doesn't seem to be mentioned), and learned that the mitochondria transforms food into energy in the form of ATP. Fortunately I knew what ATP was (adenosine triphosphate), because it wasn't defined in the article, and there is no entry for ATP in the encyclopedia itself. This points out one of the shortcomings of the *Van Nostrand's SE*: it has no index. If one finds no article and no cross-reference, all one can do is guess at related topics that might contain the information.'

Rev. by Bernard Dixon, *New Scientist*, 14 July 83.

'... and a clutch of indexing errors (look up *salmonella* and you are referred to *toxin*, which is nowhere to be found). [*Was there an index or not? Either way, improvements are called for, it seems.*]

Wiley Eastern: *Ground water*, by H. M. Raghunath (456 pp., £7). Rev. by B. Adams, *Geological Journal*, July-Sept. 83.

'However, the usefulness of this book to any but those using it as a programmed text book is severely limited by the fact that no index is included—a surprising omission for any serious scientific book.'

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## Obiter dicta

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Hodder: *Runcie: the making of an archbishop*, by Margaret Duggan (1983, 238 pp., £9.95). Rev. by John Mortimer, *Sunday Times*, 13 Nov. 83.

'... I turned to the index for references to that enigmatic character I find most interesting in ecclesiastical matters. There was, however, a notable gap between "Indira Gandhi" and "Earl Godwin". God, it seemed, was not to figure largely in the memoir. Perhaps it would be considered an impertinence to put the Almighty in the index. But what I take to be the splendours and agonies of the religious life, the blazing moments of mystic revelation, the torments of doubt, the dark nights of the soul, the heady sensuality in which some famous divines have experienced the Love of God, are notably absent from *The Making of an Archbishop*, which is informed, polite and uniformly bland. It might, indeed, be describing the career of a thoroughly good chap who worked his way up to becoming Chancellor of the Exchequer in a dull year . . .

Among the glories of England—trial by Jury, the poets, the great British Breakfast—are undoubtedly thousands of village churches, and in spite of its idiotic abandonment of the greatest prose ever written and the banality of its present language, I do wish the Church of England exceedingly well. I also hope for some contemporary Trollope, also well versed in the works of Ronald Firbank and Evelyn Waugh, who will prowl the corridors of Lambeth Palace and write the great contemporary book on this extraordinary institution, a volume which will include both God and Mrs Gandhi in the index.'

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## Catalogue of complaints

'It must be a long time since booksellers pleaded with publishers to issue their catalogues to a standard format; has anything been said since Peter Stockham wrote a treatise on it? For a bookseller, the problems of keeping them remains, and even if we have to substitute A5 for crown 8vo, this would increase shelvability. No marks at all then to Hodder & Stoughton for their Children's Books Complete List in an obstructive A4, which must have been fun for their production people but a nuisance in the bookseller's reference library. A 96-page A5 would have suited better than the 52-page monster which flops and slides on the shelf and has to be pushed in head first anyway. And how efficient is it: does Hodder do an edition of Hans Andersen's *Fairy Tales*? Apparently not from the catalogue index, unless you thought to look it up under Hans and not Andersen.'

—*Bookseller*, 30 July 1983

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Our warm thanks to those contributing to this section: Patricia Alonso (Melbourne), Jane Angus (Crathie), Hazel Bell (Hatfield), V. M. A. Brownlow (Yiewsley), Anne Cope (Chadds Ford, Penn.), Mrs R. J. Dawe (London), Michael Dean (Mulbarton), John Field (Uppingham), John Gibson (Stourport-on-Severn), Cecilia Gordon (Hendon), Peter Greig (Ottawa), Brian Hunter (London), Oula Jones (Acton), Cherry Lavell (London), D. T. O'Rourke (Reading), Helga Perry

(Westgate-on-Sea), Lucy Pollard (London), David Pygott (Ashtead), Mrs A. O. Simpson (London), Frederick Smyth (Harrow-on-the-Hill), Mrs. A. M. Thomas (London), Elizabeth Wallis (Kew).

Contributions of review extracts welcomed by Norman Hillyer, Hatherleigh Vicarage, Okehampton, Devon EX20 3JY. Closing dates 30 June and 30 November for the subsequent issues.

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## The index alluring

*The meaning of Liff* by Douglas Adams and John Lloyd (Pan in association with Faber, 1983, £1.95) lists place-names alphabetically, attributing to each a definition which is humorous and somehow appropriate—for example:

*Kalami* (n.) The ancient Eastern art of being able to fold road-maps properly

*Oshkosh* (n., vb.) The noise made by someone who has just been grossly flattered and is trying to make light of it.

The final 34 pages are a (single-column) 'Index of meanings', taking topics from the contents of the definitions and referring, not to the page on which they occur, but to the place-name itself—thus:

gusto, terrific, tuneless: *Royston*

hat behind, leaving one's: *Hidcote Bartram*

lawnmowers, frustrated: *Trispen*

madmen, departed, in toasters: *Throckmorton*

Topics are enhanced in the index: 'Ice, octogenarians under the: *Wivenhoe*' refers to the definition, 'The cry of alacrity with which a sprightly eighty-year-old breaks the ice on the lake when going for a swim on Christmas Eve'; and 'Number, wrong, so she claims: *Kurdistan*' to, 'hard stare given by a husband to his wife when he notices a sharp increase in the number of times he answers the phone to be told, "Sorry, wrong number"'. There are cross-references in the text; a *Wembley* is 'the hideous moment of confirmation that the disaster presaged in the ely (q.v.) has actually struck'. Subheadings are used indeed; 26 under 'objects' ('heavy, with toes on: *Clun*') and 31 under 'noises' ('gushing and cooing: *Oshkosh*').

Reference direct to place-names lends a new fascination to the index. Rarely can simple page references be perplexing in conjunction with the index entry; but why should 'fish, tropical, stupid' lead to *Stoke Poges*? Why, 'pyjamas, muslim' to *Albuquerque*? We glimpse a new criterion for assessment of indexes; they should make the reader eager to turn to the text cited. Can readers send us other examples of indexes that achieve this?

H.K.B.