

Hill, Odd, Robbers Roost Creek and Tarryall. Famous early cooks are remembered in Ginger Cake Mountain and Pie Woman's Lane, while a literary flavor is evident in Author, Ind., and in the classical names which infest central New York. Lulbeugred Creek was named by a Kentuckian with a taste for *Gulliver's Travels*. If you like just plain queer names, here are a few: Dogtown, Flag Station, Hell on Wheels, Hogwallow, Hohokus, Mail Box, Podunk, Punk's Hole, Shake-Rag-Under-the-Hill, Shirt Tail Gulch, Teetertown, Uz and Zipp. Among the thousands of Indian names, we have that for Niagara Falls which meant: "The waterfall-that-causes-women-to-exclaim-Gosh!" and the Massachusetts lake which was a boundary between two tribes and which is probably the longest geographical name in North America. Take a long breath before pronouncing it: Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaug. It means: "You fish in your end of the lake, we fish in our end of the lake, nobody fish in the middle."

All of these delightful geographical names and many more are to be found in the index of this excellent bibliography of North American place name literature. Since there is no adequate dictionary of place names in the United States and Canada, it is necessary to search the separately published gazetteers, manuals and articles, over 2000 of which are assembled here for the first time. Certain important manuscript sources are also indicated, but county and town histories have not been included since they are such obvious sources for those interested in a restricted area that their inclusion did not seem necessary.

In addition to separate chapters on each of the states, provinces and the District of Columbia, there are three on the United

States as a whole and one each on the Mississippi Valley and New England. By the addition of a detailed 68-page name and subject index, the compilers have not only given us the individual authors and place names but a most interesting group of subject entries which is so suggestive of further study that we have yielded to the temptation of copying some of them:

Animals, artificial names, battlefields, bayous, Bible names, birds, border towns, camps, cantons, capes, Celtic names, Chinese, classical and corrupted names, dams, desert, Dutch, English, Eskimo and European names, explorers, forts, freak and French names, furnaces, German names, ghost towns, gold camps, historical, Icelandic and Indian names, the latter subdivided by tribe, islands, Italian and Japanese names, lakes, literary names, military posts, mills, mines, mining towns, missions, mountains, nicknames, Norse names, parks, patriotic and personal names, plains, plantations, plants, post offices, religious names, rivers, Russian names, saints, Spanish names, states (nicknames), statesmen, streets, Swedish names, synthetic names, topographic features, underworld names and water holes.

This extremely valuable compilation, published in photo-offset from a typed text, gives full title and brief collation for first editions of separate works, with indications of later editions and an exact reference for each periodical analytical. Brief but adequate notes are added when the nature of the contents does not appear from the title. A casual examination of this painstaking work gives no idea of the immense labor involved. It is a *must* purchase for all reference libraries, geographers and historians.—R. W. G. Vail, *The New York Historical Society*.

## Louisiana Author Headings

*Author Headings for the Official Publications of the State of Louisiana*. By Lucy B. Foote. Chicago, American Library Association, 1948, x, 125p. \$4.50.

Lucy B. Foote, chief catalog librarian, Louisiana State University Library, seems to have been destined to become the compiler of the second<sup>1</sup> in the series of state author headings lists to be published by the American

Library Association. In 1935 she completed *Official Publications of the State of Louisiana* as her Master's thesis at the University of Illinois, and in 1942 her *Bibliography of the Official Publications of Louisiana, 1803-1934*,

<sup>1</sup> See review by Lucile M. Morsch of *Author Headings for the Official Publications of the State of Alabama*, by Anne Ethelyn Markley, in *College and Research Libraries* 10:91-93, January 1949. Many of Miss Morsch's general remarks apply also to the Foote list.

was issued. Without a doubt, she realized the difficulties and problems involved in attempting to compile an orderly and acceptable list of the official agencies of the state of Louisiana and of its predecessor, the Territory of Orleans. The reorganizations effected by 10 constitutions and the reorganization acts of 1940, which in turn have been attacked as unconstitutional and have had many of their provisions set aside in succeeding appropriation acts, multiply the traps for the researcher. Miss Foote was indeed courageous to accept the challenge to list all official agencies found in the law from 1803 through 1947. The cataloging profession should be forever grateful.

Miss Foote has included in the alphabetical list official departments, bureaus, committees, etc.; state supported institutions, parks and preserves; legislative bodies and committees, if created by law or whose reports are published. Also included are many semiofficial agencies supported in whole or in part by state funds, and some private corporations who report to the state or whose reports are published as state documents. Examples of this latter group are the several railroad companies and state fair associations. By means of arbitrary headings such as "Louisiana. Levee Boards," "Louisiana. Railroads" and "Louisiana State Parks," Miss Foote has managed a subject grouping of similar agencies, in addition to their listing in alphabetical order. With a similar method she has indicated the many legislative committees working in the same fields.

The majority of the headings are accompanied by brief histories and references to the specific acts creating or abolishing the agencies. However many, especially the numerous legislative committees, give no information in regard to authorization or source of the entry. Miss Foote says in her introduction that the list is based primarily upon the entries found in the laws and constitutions, several library catalogs, and two published bibliographies (see above). This list of headings would be considered even more valuable if, lacking the specific enabling act to cite, Miss Foote had given some source for each entry. This might have consisted of the name of the institution in whose catalog it was found, the title or author and title of the publication with which the agency was connected, the activity in which it was engaged or the approximate dates of its existence. With so many committees,

commissions, etc. having similar names it is difficult to see how one can be sure whether Miss Foote has used a varying form of entry or that the agency given on a particular publication is not in her list at all.

One instance in the use of the Foote list may underscore the value of citations or sources and the weakness of the list where they are lacking. A publication of the Louisiana Legislative Committee on Educational Survey has been issued under this form of its name. Consulting the list no such entry was found. However, the publication carries the information that the Committee was authorized by Act 38, 1946. By reading through the list of legislative committees Miss Foote's heading was located as "LOUISIANA. LEGISLATURE. SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE," but only because in this case she has given a reference to the same Act 38, 1946. The lack of cross references is understandable since this might well have been an entry taken directly from the laws. But the many headings with no identifying information may not offer the assistance one might wish for in establishing entries for one's own library catalog.

Comparing the list with the catalog of the Library of Congress it was found that of approximately 820 headings included in the Foote list the Library of Congress has entries for only 222. The Library of Congress has entries for 19 agencies not in the printed list, but only three of these are for separate bodies, the others being for additional subheadings of agencies included by Miss Foote. As to agreement in form of entry, the Library of Congress and Miss Foote agree for 154 entries, differ for 68. The most consistent variations among these 68 entries are the inclusion of "State" in the name of a board or department and the preference of the Library of Congress for the entry of a bureau or office directly under its own name rather than as a subheading under the name of the executive department of which it may be a part.

The discrepancies regarding the use of "State" in the name may be due to the use of an earlier form by the Library of Congress and the lack of more recent material in its Louisiana collections. The discrepancy in the use of direct or indirect entry for bureaus, etc., brings up a more important question regarding the forms of entry used

by Miss Foote. This reviewer believes that a list of state headings as inclusive as this one and so long awaited by the profession should have more closely followed the *A.L.A. Catalog Rules* for entries of government and corporate bodies. Her entries for the state institutions have generally ignored the rule to enter the institution under the name of the state, the name of the state to be followed by a period. She has preferred forms like "LOUISIANA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, RUSTON," omitting the period in the heading. The entry of all of the state controlled trade schools directly under their names is another case in point. Bureaus and other subdivisions of executive departments created by law have been entered as sub-headings, no matter how distinctive their names.

Miss Foote's policy regarding change of names seems to be the use of the latest form. However, both "LOUISIANA. BOARD OF STATE AFFAIRS" and "LOUISIANA. TAX COMMISSION" are used, though according to information given in the list the Constitution of 1921 changed the name of the board to the Tax Commission. Also, one wonders why "LOUISIANA. UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA, NEW ORLEANS" has been used for the heading of an institution which in 1884 was renamed Tulane University of Louisiana.

The use of dates to distinguish different agencies having the same name is an accepted library practice. The policy is not clearly shown in the Foote list. We find "LOUISIANA. BOARD OF STATE ENGINEERS (1871-1942)" and "LOUISIANA. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (1940/41)" where there is only one entry for agencies of those names. There are "LOUISIANA. DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION" (with no dates), "LOUISIANA. DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION (1940/41)" and "LOUISIANA. DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION (1944-)." Also, "LOUISIANA. TAX COMMISSION, 1906" and "LOUISIANA. TAX COMMISSION," listed in that order. Should not each one in a series of conflicting names carry identifying dates?

Further editing of the very numerous cross references would have eliminated many discrepancies which occur between the form of entry as given in the reference and as a head-

ing in the list. Place names are given in the references from several institutions but do not appear in the headings. The list gives references "Louisiana. Board of Highways. See LOUISIANA. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS" and "Louisiana. Highways, Board of. See LOUISIANA. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS. BOARD OF HIGHWAYS." The entry is "LOUISIANA. DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS (1942- ) BOARD OF HIGHWAYS." The entry "Audubon Sugar School, New Orleans" refers to "LOUISIANA. SUGAR EXPERIMENT STATION, AUDUBON PARK, NEW ORLEANS" and also to "LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE." Turning to the entries for the university one finds a see reference from the subheading "Audubon Sugar School" to "LOUISIANA. SUGAR EXPERIMENT STATION, AUDUBON PARK, NEW ORLEANS." Other examples could be cited of references which should have been more carefully cross-checked before publication. Some references, such as "Louisiana. Board of Labor. See LOUISIANA. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR" might well have been omitted. At the same time there are headings which lack adequate cross references from the significant words in their names.

Even as the preparation of the manuscript of the Foote list was in its final stages extensive changes in the state's agencies were made by the 1948 Legislature. The user of the list must bear in mind the statement of the compiler that "the status of the agencies included within this list is that of December 31, 1947." The possibility of conflict between entries in the list and headings appearing on future Louisiana documents is thus to be expected and one will have to be on guard and carry on some research to bring up-to-date the status of the particular agency. However, this should not detract from the merits of the present list as a reference work and cataloger's tool in the fields of state documents and American history. American government being always in a state of change and reorganization, one can only hope that such valuable lists as this will be kept reasonably up-to-date by revision or supplements prepared from time to time.—*Alice F. Toomey, Library of Congress.*