

plural, phrase headings, etc.; "Relations between subjects." Subject subdivision, compound headings, etc.; "Bibliographical and critical material." Includes relations between sovereigns and countries, between persons and events; "Corporate bodies." Includes treatment of their publications as well as material about them; "Geographical subjects;" "Historical periods and events;" "Language and Literature;" "Form headings;" "References for subject headings."

Systematically organized, clearly and concisely enunciated, copiously illustrated with helpful examples—need we ask that a code do any more. Probably it should not but the fact remains that we do need more. The very conciseness of the wording of the rules precludes much explanation and practically no reasons for the choice of terms, the part of Cutter's code which is the most valuable. It is fortunate for the beginner that many questions are answered by Julia Pettee's *Subject Headings* (N.Y., H. W. Wilson, 1946), the only book in English devoted entirely to this topic. By means of Part I of this book the beginner can be reasonably, interestingly and painlessly guided from his known world of encyclopedias to the *terra incognita* of subject headings. Likewise he will read of the evolution of the dictionary catalog, an account which gives meaning and reason to current practices not otherwise understandable.

After studying the "Vatican Code," full of questions as to reasons why, the student can again find help by using Part II of Miss Pettee's book—"Principles and Practice." For example, the code states: "Works are recorded under their specific subjects, and not under the names and designations of the classes and disciplines to which they belong" (Rule 374a). Miss Pettee explains under what types of headings and in what types of libraries this rule should be followed or modified. She also discusses "How specific must the specific topic be?" Going far beyond the scope of any code for subject headings Miss Pettee covers questions which are an essential part of the subject heading process. She considers subject headings both as a feature of the whole dictionary catalog and also in their relation to classification and the shelflist. Likewise she examines the nature of words as well as the nature of the clientele of the library.

The tools for the subject cataloger have been enormously benefited by the addition of these two publications, each one serving to supplement the other. The high price of the *Vatican Rules* is indeed unfortunate. In the opinion of the reviewer it would be eminently worthwhile to issue separately, at a reasonable price, these valuable and unique ten chapters on subject headings.—*Bertha M. Frick, School of Library Service, Columbia University.*

Red Dog and Podunk

Bibliography of Place Name Literature, United States, Canada, Alaska and Newfoundland. By Richard B. Sealock and Pauline A. Seely. Chicago, American Library Association, 1948, [10], 331p. \$4.50.

The poetical and historical charm of our American place names was first brought home to me many years ago as I sat in the Minnesota Senate gallery in Saint Paul and heard the Speaker recognize the various senators as they arose to address the chair. He would say: "I recognize the gentleman from Lac Qui Parle County," or "the gentleman from Ottertail County" and I remembered that this was the country of the voyageur, of the trappers who mingled their quaint names with those left on the lakes and rivers by the Sioux and the Chippewas, the country of

the old fur brigades, sweeping down the Great Lakes toward Quebec with their winter's catch of pelts, dipping their paddles to the rhythm of "A la Clair Fontaine."

Each racial element has left its distinctive, poetical or whimsical mark on the place names of our frontiers even down to our own time, when we find such geographical monikers as Gene Autry, and New Deal, or mountains named for Churchill, Eisenhower and Stalin. Some of the queer people who lived on the edge of the wilderness are remembered in Big John's Spring, Crazy Woman, Mike Mountain Horse, Red Dog and White Woman Creek. Certain characteristics of the local citizens are perpetuated in the names they gave their settlements, such as Fairplay, Frugality, Hangtown, Hairy

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: Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunaggamaug. 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 second¹ 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*,

¹ 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.