

## REFERENCE

### *A Comprehensive National Legal Directory: the Detailing of Counsel, Corporations, Courts and Campus*

*Petal Kinder*

Monash University Library, Melbourne

There are various directories available which contain different pieces of legal information. Listings of solicitors, barristers, legal firms and legal institutions are available in the *Australian Legal Directory*. Law societies within some states publish a legal directory. The Law Institute of Victoria publishes *The Legal Directory* which includes, among other items, the names of Victorian law firms and barristers. The names of all the major courts and tribunals, details of their function, administration, registries and names of judges, commissioners and members, where relevant, are noted in the various Commonwealth and State government directories. A major generalist directory, *The World of Learning*, contains entries for law schools which are placed under the relevant university. The name of the dean together with a listing of full professors for each law school are also entered.

All the above directories are readily available. However, apart from and due to the inherent problems associated with the content, placement and currency of this information, I would like to see made available a comprehensive national directory which incorporates all of the above elements, and perhaps more.

With regard to content, while the elements are stated, certain details concerning these elements are sometimes either scattered among the various directories, or simply omitted. For instance, the listing of barristers in the Victoria Law Institute's *The Legal Directory*, includes the floor and room number in chambers for each barrister. This

information is not included in the *Australian Legal Directory*. *The Legal Directory* includes the name and telephone number of the clerk for each barrister. It further gives the barrister's room telephone number. The *Australian Legal Directory*, while substituting a code for the name of the clerk, does not give a key for this code. It does however list a telephone number against the name of each barrister. I was able to identify the names of the clerks in Victoria by the trial and error method of cross checking this telephone number against those entered in *The Legal Directory*.

Barristers' rooms and the names of their clerks are important details. As stated in *The Legal Directory* "barristers move chambers frequently, it is not possible to accurately specify locations. Solicitors should check with the barrister's clerk to discover present location". Clerks are not to be regarded as support or ancillary staff. Apart from displaying the characteristics of a business organisation they are the 'front door' through which solicitors obtain the services of barristers.

J Myron Jacobstein and Roy Mersky in *Fundamentals of Legal Research* have described the purpose of law directories as being "useful in locating information about a particular lawyer and [being] used by many lawyers when they have to refer a case to a lawyer in another city". A Special Committee of the American Bar Association, in 1935, developed *Rules and Standards as to Law Lists*. Since that time many of the lists and directories published are certified by the American Bar Association.

In particular, the *Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory* contains a listing of all lawyers admitted to the bar, and information is given for date of birth, date of admission to the bar, college and law school attended, American Bar Association membership and speciality. An International Lawyers' Section is included in volume VII. The major Australian law firms together with the

names of the partners and senior associates are listed. Ratings information, as stated by the *Directory*, is based upon 'confidential recommendations from lawyers and judges in the place or area where the lawyer practises, and at times from such sources elsewhere'. Jacobstein and Mersky expand on this statement to say that the ratings estimate legal ability, recommendations and promptness in paying bills - a most important factor in these penurious times. It is evident that to have a national listing of names together with details, cited in the one directory, as they appear in Martindale-Hubbell, would be useful, especially from a practitioner's point of view.

A second factor regarding not only content, but placement, concerns the area of the listing of courts. A listing of courts and tribunals, each one differing in content, may be found in the *Commonwealth Government Directory*, each of the state government directories, the *Australian Legal Directory* and the relevant Law Institute *Legal Directory*. In the case of the *Commonwealth Government Directory*, the major courts are listed under the heading 'Courts and Tribunals', however tribunals such as the Social Security Appeals Tribunal and the Student Assistance Review Tribunal are placed under the relevant department. Information concerning court fees or filing fees and court sittings are located in the Law Institute of Victoria *Legal Directory*.

The content of the third element, that of law schools and their staff, is limited to that of the dean and the names of full professors only. This exempts a large body of academically sound and active people. Should such a national listing be put together it ought to reflect the specialty in subject area of the incumbent.

All of the above-mentioned elements appear in some form or other but are dispersed in various directories. I would like to see a move on the part of the publishing world to produce either in looseleaf format, or CD-ROM, a comprehensive national legal directory incorporating all of the mentioned elements, together with a complete set of details. One further element should definitely be incorporated: that of a listing of legal librarians.

## *New Reference Titles*

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This list of recent reference items is a by-product of the compiler's scanning of the National Library's daily intake of incoming material. Titles of ready reference value in the subject areas of law and government documents have been included. General material has been listed when there is substantial law content. "Back of the book" bibliographies are included where these are substantial, i.e. more than 200 items or about ten pages.

To help the reader, the list has been divided by country. The titles of publications included are usually self-explanatory. Annotations have been made in some cases where the subject or legal content is not clear.

Prices and ISBNs appear only if they were easily ascertained. Full addresses have been provided for minor publishers.

### *International*

*The GATT Uruguay Round: a negotiating history 1986-1992*. Terence P. Stewart. Deventer, Netherlands: Kluwer, 1993. 3v. ISBN 9065446443.

Contents: v.1-2 Commentary v.3. Documents.

*The Internet: an introductory guide for United Nations organizations*. Geneva: Advisory Committee for the Co-ordination of Information Systems, 1994. 140 p. ISBN 9211006783 (ACCIS/94/1). United Nations sales no. GV E.94.0.12.

Although aimed at personnel within the UN system, this title provides an excellent guide to UN produced databases accessible on the Internet, as well as giving email addresses of many UN agencies.

*The Laws of war: a comprehensive collection of primary documents on international laws governing armed conflict*. W. Michael Reisman, Chris I. Antoniou. New York: Vintage Books, 1994. 448 p. ISBN 067973712X.

*Liability of corporate groups: autonomy and control in parent-subsidiary relationships in US, German and EU law: an international and comparative perspective.* Jose Engracia Antunes. Deventer, Netherlands : Kluwer, 1994. 549 p. ISBN 9065447857

A detailed bibliography is contained on pages 497-542.

*The New international law of fisheries: UNCLOS 1982 and beyond* William T. Burke. Oxford : Clarendon Press, 1994. 382 p. ISBN 019825251X.

Pages 350-373 contain a bibliography divided into Documents, Books and Articles

### **Australia**

*Annotated bibliography of printed materials on Australian law 1788-1900.* Alex C. Castles. North Ryde, N S W. : Law Book, 1994. 433 p. ISBN 0455212996

*Australian lawyers and their libraries in the nineteenth century* Wallace Kirsop. (1994) 18 *Bulletin (Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand)* (ISSN 0084-7852) 44-52

*Commonwealth repealed acts, 1901-93* Canberra: AGPS, 1994. 87 p. ISBN 0644332107.

*Legal research and interpretation techniques: papers presented for the Continuing Legal Education Department of the College of Law on Monday 26 March 1990 and updated for presentation on Friday 25th March 1994* St Leonards, NSW : The Dept., 1994. 221 p. ISBN 0867507055. (Seminar papers (College of Law (Sydney, N S W.)) ; 94/15).

### **Caribbean**

*Bibliography on women and the law: an international survey of legal and quasi-legal materials with special reference to the Caribbean area* Joan A. Brathwaite.

(1993) 2 *Commonwealth law librarian* 3-131.

NB This journal has now ceased publication

### **Europe**

*Bibliographic checklist on international law research: eastern European countries.* Radu D. Popa.

(1994) 22 *International journal of legal information* (ISSN 0731-1265) 119-140

*Central and eastern Europe & the republics of the former Soviet Union: guide to current sources of law and other documents in English.* Marta Kiszely.

(1994) 22 *International journal of legal information* 141-190.

*Everything's gone green: a brief guide to sources of information on European Union environmental law and policy.* Bob Burns

(1994) 25 *Law librarian* 61-64

### **Finland**

*Sources of legal information in Finland* Marjo Tolvanen.

(1994) 22 *International journal of legal information* 191-198.

### **Great Britain**

*Arabic legal and administrative documents in the Cambridge Genizah collections.* Geoffrey Khan. Cambridge : Cambridge University Press, 1993. 567 p. ISBN 0521451698

*Legal records in the Commonwealth* William Twining, Emma Varnden Quick. Aldershot, England : Dartmouth, c1994. 332 p. ISBN 1855214482.

Covers mainly Great Britain and a very small number of other countries

### **India**

*Committees and commissions in India Volumes 12-16, 1974-1978* Virendra Kumar. New Delhi : Concept Publishing, 1993. Each volume has a separate ISBN. (Concepts in communication informatics & librarianship)

A digest of various committees and commissions appointed by the Indian government after 1947. It presents in chronological order information about each Committee or Commission in four parts: constitution, appointment, terms of reference and recommendations.

## Indonesia

*Seri peraturan perundang-undangan Republik Indonesia, 1985-1992* Jakarta : Wikrama Waskitha, 1993 2474 p. ISBN 9798438000

A much needed full text collection of Indonesian laws and regulations passed between 1985 and 1992

## Russia

*Some recent English language sources for current Russian legislation book review essay* Thomas H Reynolds

(1994) 22 *International journal of legal information* (ISSN 0731-1265) 80-86

## United States

*Criminal science in a global society essays in honor of Gerhard O W Mueller* Edward M Wise. Littleton, Colo : Rothman, 1994. 379 p. ISBN 0837713536.

Pages 341-379 contain a bibliography of Mueller's works divided into Books; Reports; Motion pictures; Articles

*Government CD-ROMs: a practical guide to searching electronic documents databases* John Maxymuk Westport, Connecticut : Mecklermedia, c1994 324 p. ISBN 0887368875.

Pages 279-314 contain an annotated list of US Government Printing Office CD-ROMs

*A guide to researching legislative compromise and special interest groups* Courtney Simmons

(1994) 13 *Legal reference services quarterly* (ISSN 0270-319X) 47-69.

*Home detention as an alternative punishment for criminal offenders: a research guide* Douglas A Berman

(1994) 13 *Legal reference services quarterly* 45-80

*Immigration reform and the Simpson-Rodino Act a legislative history of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-603) with related documents and secondary sources* Bernard D. Reams, Jr, Mary Ann Nelson

(1994) 22 *International journal of legal information* 12-72.

On pages 55-72 there is a bibliography of periodical articles on immigration reform and control

*Legal implications on in vitro fertilization with donor eggs a research guide* Maureen Henry (1994) 13 *Legal reference services quarterly* 5-43.

*The Librarian's legal companion* Jonathan S. Tryon New York : G.K. Hall, 1994 168 p. ISBN 0816119619.

Contents: Premises liability; Discrimination in employment; Employment security; Privacy in the workplace; Censorship; Copyright

*A Pathfinder on the admissibility of forensic DNA evidence in criminal cases* Gordon Russell (1994) 13 *Legal reference services quarterly* 19-74

*A Quarter century of fair housing law the law review commentary a bibliography of selected articles, 1968-1993* Patricio Aranda-Coddou (1994) 13 *Legal reference services quarterly* 71-111.

*Selective bibliography and network resources for the Institute on "Networking in law libraries"* Jackie Shieh.

(1994) 13 *Legal reference services quarterly* 81-109.

*Sexual freedom and your right to privacy a selective bibliography* Sandra S Klein.

(1994) 13 *Legal reference services quarterly* 113-124

*The right to die as an issue of privacy a selective bibliography* Sandra S Klein.

(1994) 13 *Legal reference services quarterly* 137-143.

*Your right to privacy and children's rights/family law a selective bibliography* Sandra S Klein

(1994) 13 *Legal reference services quarterly* 125-136

*Your right to privacy selective bibliographies Part 1. Abortion/reproductive rights Part 2 Drug testing/use. Part 3 Employee/employer* Sandra Klein

(1994) 13 *Legal reference services quarterly* 87-142