BOOK REVIEW


This bibliography was one of the outcomes of the 1977 summer conference of the Australian Branch of the Royal Meteorological Society on Urban Meteorology at Macquarie University, Sydney, in February 1977. The preface indicated that 'the aim has been to cover only relevant theoretical and experimental work on Australian urban meteorology, including theses and Australian local case studies, whether published in Australia or overseas'. Other qualifications for selection of articles are also carefully stated.

There are four main classifications spanning a total of 22 sub-classifications of material in the subject index, which contains over 1150 entries. With over 550 references in the author index it seems that, on average, each article has been referenced three times. (This compares with about 2000 topics, each referenced once only, that appear in Selected Bibliography on Urban Climate (World Meteorological Organization 1970) under some 26 classifications.)

In this regard the compilers have cast a wide net over the Australian urban meteorology scene with subjects ranging from 'The seasonal variation of asthma in Brisbane: its relation to temperature and humidity' to 'Photochemical pollution in Australian airsheds' and 'Study in forecasting fog at Essendon Airport'. The bibliography is not claimed to be exhaustive, but there are very few important gaps. However, an example of these is the summarised valuable documentation of events and weather records (extending well into the nineteenth century) collated in a series of publications for most States with titles such as Results of rainfall observations New South Wales 1809-1914. Unfortunately, only the volume for Western Australia is listed. The paper by Callus F. and Robin A. is not published and should be deleted.

These criticisms are only minor. In summary this Australian bibliography provides a collection of a wide variety of facets of urban meteorology to meet a wide variety of interests of the serious researcher. It certainly provides a valuable updated augmentation of the 1970 WMO bibliography.

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