

## Book review

### 'Atlas of Australian resources'

#### *Third Series. Volume 6: Vegetation*

This large and impressively presented volume from the Australian Surveying and Land Information Group will undoubtedly prove a useful reference work in many educational institutions and home libraries. Yet while reviewing the text I wondered on numerous occasions if the review was not being prepared for a dinosaur. Not only does the size of the publication lend itself to this comparison, but also the time it has taken to appear in press. While it is appropriate to link its release with the Decade of Landcare, over five years has elapsed since much of the data was collated and many natural resources debates since then could have utilized the data contained between these covers.

The content of the text is both clear and well illustrated with photographs and maps. A variation of the most commonly

used and accepted vegetation classification is used throughout. For obvious reasons the complete reference set to compile the maps could not be given but it is most disappointing to see that at least one of the reference (Bailey (Ed.) 1984) used in the text was missed in the bibliography. Future editions could have the map source material presented on microfiche, magnetic media of some form or printed on the back of the map.

The staff of AUSLIG and Dr John Carnahan are to be congratulated on producing such an extensive work.

The book is available from AUSLIG, P.O. Box 2, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616. Retail price is \$39.95 which includes postage and packing.

*G.R. Beeston*