**This is Philately. Volume One. A – F. (Albany, OR: Van Dahl Publications, 1982.**

By Kenneth A. Wood

This set of books provides an alphabetical listing of philatelically related terms including some for beginners, some for the more advanced, as well as historical and geographical names.

The entries are short, seldom exceeding a few sentences. Many items are included that are not in many contemporary resources and some are pretty interesting. I was struck by one term, Amur, that led me on a few philatelic journeys.

The book is well organized and has many nice illustrations of stamps, covers and maps. All these features are common to each of the three volumes. It is a 3-volume encyclopedia. The book is old and in some ways out of date. This set is for both those who are somewhat new to philately as well those who are interested in a different take on stamp collecting or who are interested in its history. There are many books, articles and parts of old time dealers' offerings that provide similar information but, since it is in our library, few are generally as accessible.

I would give the series a rating of 7 out of 10. The author was, at the time, a noted British philatelist who is on the role of Distinguished Topical Philatelists of the ATA, and had been editor of the journal, Stamp Collector.

Reviewed by Jeff Lough