Catherine Dewhirst and Richard Scully (Editors), *The Transnational Voices of Australia's Migrant and Minority Press* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020), XVII + 257 pp. Hardback. \$109.99. ISBN 978- 3-030-43638-4.

This is a fascinating edited book on the transnational voices of Australia's migrant and minority press by Catherine Dewhirst and Richard Scully. The editors of the collection situate the book in a broader transnational turn in academic research. The contributions to the book cover a broad historical period, from the late nineteenth century to the present. Of particular interest to me were Richard Scully's chapter 'The Satirical Press of Colonial Australia: A Migrant and Minority Enterprise', Karen Agutter's chapter 'Exploring the Migrant Experience Through an Examination of Letters to *The New Australian*', and Clare Johansson's and Simone Battiston's chapter 'News Reporting of Italian Organised Crime in Australia: Examining *// Globo's* Editorial Commentary', the latter two focus on the post-Second World War period.

Richard Scully's 'The Satirical Press of Colonial Australia: A Migrant and Minority Enterprise' explores the little studied *Punch* publications in Australia, which like their British progenitors employed satire to comment on contemporary politics and society. Scully makes the important point that much of Australian scholars' attention has been on publications produced during the 'New Nationalism' era of the 1960s and 1970s. Ones produced in the late nineteenth century in contrast have been little studied. His chapter attempts to rectify this through illustrating that the *Punch* publications produced in the major centres of the Australian colonies were influenced by those in the 'Mother-Country' but also demonstrated unique Australian colonial cultural endeavour, and even more interestingly had migrants from other parts of the world also involved in the production of these quite popular publications at the time.

In 'Exploring the Migrant Experience Through an Examination of Letters to *The New Australian*' Karen Agutter studies the experiences of migrants in Australia through letters they wrote to *The New Australian*, a government publication that was geared at recently arrived immigrants to the country and encouraged their assimilation into their new host society. Agutter illustrates the rich historical archive these letters provide into the feelings and mentality that some migrants had at the time. The diverse range of subjects the letters address highlight that 'New Australians' were not one monolithic bloc but held a broad spectrum of views on their new home. These ranged from gratitude to have escaped the Displaced Persons camps in Europe to frustration at having to work in manual labor in infrastructure projects or domestic service for two years upon arrival in the country, which very often ignored migrants' professional qualifications. Some of the hardest letters to read Agutter points out are ones that deal with loneliness and depression, stemming from being separated from loved ones either in other parts of Australia or across the ocean in Europe.

Clare Johansson and Simone Battiston in their chapter 'News Reporting of Italian Organised Crime in Australia: Examining *// Globo's* Editorial Commentary' focus on the editorials of a prominent Italian-Australian publication: *// Globo*. In particular they explore the way in which the newspaper commented on the reporting of supposed Italian mafia violence and corruption in Australia in the mainstream media. A consistent theme that Johansson and Battiston emphasise is that *// Globo* very often had to draw attention to the mainstream Australian media's obsession with explaining any criminal activity that even had a remote connection to an Italian-

Australian as being related to the mafia, especially in terms of elections and politics. A famous example of this is Al Grassby's (Minister for Immigration in the Whitlam Labor government between 1972-74) defeat in the election of 1974 in the New South Wales seat of Riverina. Quite often the mainstream media would fail to mention that a non-Italian-Australian was implicated in the murder of people, instead focusing on an alleged Italian-Australian, and 'by extension' Italian mafia link. Johansson and Battiston explain this by an obsession of the mainstream Australian media to sensationalise news stories and also sadly reflected stereotypes that some non-Italian-Australians held about the Italian-Australian community. Interestingly they point out that *Il Globo* even had to correct the Italian media's reporting of news stories from Australia which was a cause of much exacerbation.

I enjoyed reading this edited volume. It explores a subject that has been little looked at in such depth. It therefore makes an important contribution to the existing literature on migration history and media studies, and illustrates the scholarly benefits of combining both of these fields. I recommend it to readers, both expert and general.

Jatinder Mann, Hong Kong Baptist University