Working alongside the editorial staff of the Dictionary have been numerous freelance library researchers, concerned principally with tracing the earliest uses of terms and with the verification of quotations cited in the volume:

New York: Rita Keckeissen.
Boston: Sally Hinkle.

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Compilation of Index: Veronica Hurst.
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The following have each contributed over 5,000 quotations to the reading programme since the publication of OED2:


The following have been responsible for keying material collected by the reading programme:

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Mr B. Moore, Dr D. D. Murison, Dr H. Orsman, Mr R. C. Palmer, Mr D. Parkinson, Professor A. Pawley, Mr G. Pointon, Ms J. Poke, Dr F. N. H. Robinson, Captain A. B. Sainsbury, Mr D. Shulman, Mrs P. Silva, Ms S. Slaney, Professor E. G. Stanley, Professor N. S. Sutherland, Dr S. S. Strickland, Dr G. P. Thomas, Mrs S. K. Tulloch, Dr C. Upton, Lord Walton of Detchant, Mr K. Whyld, Professor J. D. A. Widdowson, Professor M. V. Wilkes, Mr T. Wilson, Professor J. C. Wright, Dr R. Wynne-Davies.

The Editors are sad to record the deaths during the preparation of the volume of Dr H. M. Rosenberg and Mr W. K. V. Gale, long-standing consultants to the Dictionary, and of Dr Donald Walker, formerly of Bellcore at Morristown, NJ, who assisted greatly in the development of the North American Reading Programme.

It is with great sadness that we record the death in June 1996 of Mathew Fletcher of our editorial staff. Much of his work for the Dictionary has still to appear in print, but his contribution to this and future OED publications will stand as an enduring testament to his outstanding talents and as a reminder to those fortunate enough to have known him.