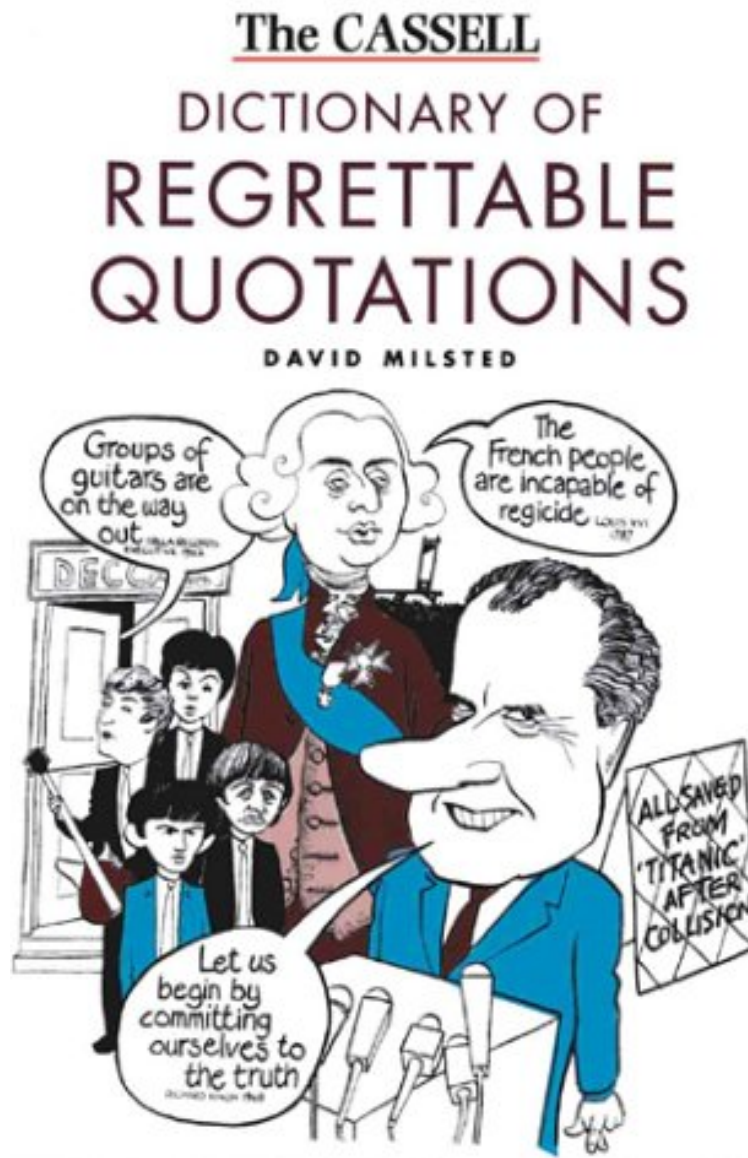


(Library ebook) The Cassell Dictionary of Regrettable Quotations

# The Cassell Dictionary of Regrettable Quotations

David Milsted

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**David Milsted : The Cassell Dictionary of Regrettable Quotations** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Cassell Dictionary of Regrettable Quotations:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Who was it who once said....By Ned Middleton Any writer should appreciate the value of adding authentic quotations to their work because it lends so much credibility to that author. Whilst the subject matter should always be relevant to what is being written (such as a quote from Shakespeare's "The

Tempest" added to a work about storms), humour and irony are always the best possible choices. Having brought a suitable silly, outrageous, stupid, funny or simply memorable quotation to mind, however, the problem is often in trying to remember who said it. This is where you then become the equivalent of a crossword bore as you pass through all your friends and family asking; "Who was it who once said.....?" This book contains all those ridiculous quotes - and more, and they really are so very useable. Somebody actually said; "Nuclear powered vacuum cleaners will probably be a reality within ten years" (in 1955!), "I give Castro a year, no longer" (1959), "You ought to go back to drivin' a truck" (Jim Denny to Elvis Presley in 1954), "The bowler's Holding, the batsman's Willey" (cricket match radio commentary in 1974. The bowler was Michael Holding and the batsman Peter Willey!) and, of course, that perennial favourite "Jimmy Who?," (Published in 1974 as a derogatory comment about the prospects of Jimmy Carter becoming President of the USA). It was Carter's equally memorable response to that headline which got him elected. Altogether this book is useful on several fronts - not only for writers, as it serves to remind us all of the foibles of those who make public pronouncements and commit words to paper. Even great leaders (as well as those who were not so great!) are prone to regrettable quotations and, if they said it, you will find it here. Whoever said "To err is human," this might so easily have been his life's work...NM

A hilariously offbeat dictionary of quotations A hilariously offbeat dictionary of quotations Brings together some of the worst chosen words in history Thematic organization allows the user to locate quotations on specific topics All quotations fully sourced, annotated and indexed.

From Library Journal Cassell here offers two serviceable additions to the speaker's reference shelf. The Cassell Dictionary of Anecdotes features over 1000 stories arranged alphabetically under 400 subject headings. The index provides further subject access, particularly to the people (usually famous) referred to in the stories, but does not include the sources of the anecdotes. Rees (Cassell Dictionary of Humorous Quotations) uses his years of lexicological experience to good effect, augmenting his pithy, humorous renditions of the stories with footnotes examining versions attributed to other people. While Americans and other nationalities are represented, British personalities do predominate. The Cassell Dictionary of Regrettable Quotations shares the British slant, but Milsted (Xenophile's Guide to the English) does not have Rees's ear for phrasing. He describes this work as "the thinking person's bathroom book," and many of the rash predictions and bald-faced lies he has collected have flat and awkward wording that would not work well with a listening audience. Milsted has arranged over 1500 entries under 250 subject headings with ample See also references. The index lists the sources and subjects (again, usually famous people) of the quotations. A livelier alternative to Milsted's book is the series by Ross and Kathryn Petras beginning with The 776 Stupidest Things Ever Said (Main Street, 1993). DVivian Reed, Long Beach P.L., CA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author David Milsted lives in Dorset, and has compiled a number of quotations and general reference titles, including The Guinness Chronicle of the 20th Century in Quotations.