

Project MIND . . .

a column on Meeting the Information Needs of the Disabled

Special publications soon to be released

The American Printing House for the Blind is presently working on three major releases for late 1980:

World Book Encyclopedia will be available in recorded form, with an Indexing Cassette Player, especially designed for use with the encyclopedia, and 19 volumes. Each volume will contain special cassettes on which the content of the encyclopedia is recorded and indexes provided in braille and large type. A total of 219 cassettes is included. Use of the indexes enables rapid access to the recorded content. The content of the encyclopedia is quite similar to its print counterpart. Replacement cassettes and volumes will be available. Basic price will be US\$1,176.

Patterns: a primary braille reading program. This is the first reading series ever developed specifically for blind children. It has been designed in terms of difficulty of the braille code and concepts appropriate for children who have never seen. The entire program includes six levels: Readiness, Pre-Primer, Primer, Books 1, 2 and 3. Each level, with the exception of the Readiness level, contains student readers, an extensive teachers' guide, a set of consumable worksheets, and a criterion referenced test. The program has been used and evaluated in public and in residential settings and found effective. No special training of braille reading teachers is required. The three initial volumes together represent one year's program; Books 1, 2 and 3 each contain a one year program. The first three volumes are to be released this September; the Books are to become available in 1981, 1982 and 1983. Prices not yet established.

Program to develop efficiency in visual functioning. This program pursues the effective use of low vision and provides assessment and instruction for improvement of visual functioning. Assessment items are keyed to instructional units. The program is based on the normal developmental sequence of vision and is designed for use with visually handicapped children and adults who evince a minimum mental age of three years and have potential for learning. The program is designed for use by specialists in the education of the visually handicapped, especially low vision learners. The contents include volumes on diagnostic assessment, design for instruction, a source book on low vision aids, an assessment kit containing tangible and graphic materials needed for assessment, a record booklet, 150 lessons on cards, and graphic materials used with the lessons. Price not yet established.

NOTE In order to keep costs down, the Printing House is trying to estimate demand for these projects. If you believe you know of people who would be interested in buying copies, contact MIND or the Printing House. Your estimate will not be binding. Please respond asap, MIND is in regular contact with the Printing House.

Disabled library users

The types of difficulties and the range of difficulties encountered by disabled library users are illustrated in a recently published article which has analysed the responses of Monash University students who identified themselves as having disabilities. The study, by Dr Pierre Gorman and Donald Schauder, is reported in *Australian Academic Research Libraries*, vol 11; no 2; pp118-123, 1980.

'Disabled Library Users at Monash University' contains a few surprises. For instance, the need for chronic asthmatics to have access to a power point to enable the use of a clinical air pump, the necessity to have a place to lie down somewhere during the day, and the problems generated for slow readers by limited loans periods were raised by respondents.

Anyone getting in touch with Deakin University about off-campus studies for handicapped users (see *Incite* no10, 20 June, p2) should note that the person to contact is Mr Eric Gough, Dean, Student Services, Deakin University 3217.

All contributions to this column should be sent to Lloyd Junor, Department of Librarianship, Melbourne State College, 757 Swanston Street, Carlton, 3053. Phone (03) 341 8111. Contributors will be acknowledged.

Secretarial help for Executive Officers

THERE HAS BEEN some concern that members may be discouraged from nominating for election as LAA Vice-President (President-Elect), General Secretary, General Treasurer or Chairman of the Board of Education because their employers may be unable to provide secretarial assistance if they are elected to office.

Funds are to be made available in the LAA's 1981 and future budgets for part-time assistance for these national offices.

It is hoped that this funding will encourage persons who do not have access to clerical help to offer themselves for election.

A call for nominations for 1981/82 executive officers appears elsewhere this issue.

The University of Papua New Guinea

DEPUTY LIBRARIAN

RESPONSIBILITIES: The Deputy Librarian will be responsible to the Librarian, and will deputise for him in his absence;

He will be responsible for line management and for the day-to-day supervision of library activities;

He will be responsible for much of the personnel work with Library staff and for the hiring, in conjunction with the Readers Services Librarian and the head of department concerned, of junior staff.

He will be responsible for overseeing and participating in the library training programs. He will work closely with the Library Training Officer in the development of in-service training programs and in the supervision of library staff at all levels who are engaged in study programs.

He will have specific responsibility for supervising the progress of the Medical Library, the Medical Learning Resources Unit, Goroka Teachers College and the Library's AV collection.

QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants should have a degree and library qualification or equivalent; experience of academic libraries preferably in several departments; experience in personnel work and staff training; the ability to remain calm at times of crisis; patience and a sense of humour. Experience of Third World librarianship advantageous.

SALARY: Deputy Librarian — K18,510 per annum plus gratuity.

Applications should include a detailed curriculum vitae, a recent small photograph and the names and addresses of three referees.

The successful applicant will be offered a contract for a three-year appointment. The gratuity entitlement is based on 24% of salary earned and is payable in instalments or lump sum and is taxed at a flat rate of 2%. In addition to the salaries quoted above, the main benefits include: support for approved research; rent-free accommodation; appointment and repatriation airfares for appointee and dependants; financial assistance towards the cost of transporting personal effects to and from PNG; six weeks annual recreation leave with home air-fares available after each 18 months of continuous service; generous education subsidies; a salary continuation scheme to cover extended illness or disability. Applicants who wish to arrange secondment from their home institutions will be welcomed.

A copy of the University's Terms and Conditions of Service may be obtained from The Assistant Secretary, Box 4820, University PO, Papua New Guinea, with whom applications should be lodged by 22 August 1980.

For further information about the Library contact the University Librarian, PO Box 4819, University PO, Papua New Guinea.