

GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT

THE ASSOCIATION'S General Council met in Sydney on 25 July 1980 for the second of its three scheduled 1980 meetings. Among the many tasks on the full agenda was the consideration of a number of major policy issues, the determination of the 1981 membership fees schedule and the consideration of the first draft of a budget for 1981.

In the policy area, the NSW Branch reported on activities undertaken to attempt to secure amendments to the Freedom of Information Bill. Council commended the work done by the Branch, and all other Branches have been urged to follow up the initiative in their own states.

In moves designed to present a united voice on library-related issues, Council agreed to proceed to establish two joint committees with AACOBS. One such committee is to provide input to the Task Force for the domestic communications satellite, and a second joint committee, to be known as the Australian Committee on Cataloguing, is to provide a unified voice internationally on cataloguing matters. Council also established a Publications Board, to promote and oversee all aspects of an Association publications program.

Membership and finance matters occupied Council for some time. With financial membership currently standing at 6500 and budget income running according to expectations, the overall situation was judged to be reasonably healthy. Council was pleased

to approve the formation of a Medical Librarians Section within the Association. Council also reversed an earlier decision to introduce a fee for all retired members. Those who were eligible for their free category of membership at the end of 1979 will remain eligible for it, but members retiring in future would be required to pay a fee.

A preliminary budget for 1981 was considered by Council, and this will now undergo further refinement before being finally considered at the November General Council meeting. Council approved the fee schedule for 1981, incorporating a small percentage increase over all categories of membership to counteract continuing cost increases in areas beyond the Association's control, particularly paper and printing costs and travel costs.

One important decision affecting all members was the decision to provide any necessary secretarial support for Executive Officers of the Association – the President, General Secretary, and Treasurer and Chairman of the Board of Education so that persons not having ready access to clerical help should not be discouraged from offering themselves for election. A notice to this effect appeared in *Incite* no14.

Members are urged to contact their General Councillor for further information on any of the matters discussed by Council. The third and final General Council meeting for 1980 will be held in Sydney on 28 November 1980.

Gordon Bower, Executive Director

Statement on school library services

THE LAA School Libraries Section NSW Group has just released an important policy statement on library services at school, regional and statewide levels.

The document *School Resource Management: Implications for School Library Service* was sent to the Minister for Education, Mr Paul Landa, in the second week of August. Copies have also been sent to the 11 regional directors and other relevant officers in the state, catholic and independent school sectors in NSW.

The impetus for the development of the policy statement was the non-release of what has become known as the Fardell Report. That report submitted early in 1979 was prepared at the request of the Department's Policy and Planning Group. Its purpose was to provide a summary of departmental policy matters relating to school libraries prior to the development of a public statement on the role, function and staffing of school libraries. The latest reply the Schools Section received from

the then acting Minister for Education indicated that the report was in the form of a 'working paper' and to quote, 'as is usual in every consideration of policy and procedures, such information is supplemented from other sources'.

As far as the Schools Section was aware, the Department of Education had not sought input to its policy deliberations from any person or group outside the Department. The Schools Section decided to take the initiative and provide senior departmental officers with a paper focusing on policy issues in the area of School Resource Management.

A sub-committee worked on the paper for four months, distributing it in draft form to a range of librarians, teachers and administrators for comment.

Copies of the statement *School Resource Management: Implications for School Library Service* are now available from Heather Threlfall, 5 Glen St. Woodford, NSW 2778, at \$1.50 (\$1 LAA members), (incl. postage).



Library Association of Australia

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 41st Annual General Meeting of the Library Association of Australia will be held in the Galleries of the State Library of New South Wales on Friday, 31 October 1980, commencing at 6 pm.

AGENDA

- 1 Notice convening meeting
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Minutes of 1979 Annual General Meeting
- 4 Presentation of Awards
- 5 Presentation of Annual Report and Balance Sheet, and Income and Expenditure Account
- 6 Appointment of auditors
- 7 General business

1 Motions for discussion at the AGM are to be forwarded in writing, in duplicate, to the Executive Director, 35 Clarence Street, Sydney, by Monday, 29 September 1980. Motions should be signed by the mover either individually or on behalf of a branch, section or group. All such motions received will be published in the AGM Agenda in the 17 October issue of *Incite* (no17).

2 All motions additional to those on the printed agenda, and amendments, shall be written in triplicate and signed by the movers (forms will be provided), one copy to be delivered to the Chair, the second to the projectionist, the third for the mover.

3 Debate shall be limited to three minutes for each speaker; no speaker may have the floor twice on the same question until all who wish to speak have spoken.

4 By general consent, if there be no objections, or by a two-thirds vote, any rule may be suspended.

5 The conduct of the meeting will be in accordance with the By-laws of the Association, and where further guidance is needed, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Joske, P.E., *The law and procedure at meetings in Australia and New Zealand* (6th ed. Sydney, Law Book Co, 1976).

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