

Copyright Amendments

AMENDMENTS TO THE Copyright Act (1968) come into force on 1 August 1981. The Amendments to the Copyright Regulations were promulgated on 17 June 1981. The Regulations are now available, but we believe that copies are in short supply.

The Library Association of Australia is preparing a guide to the Copyright Act. We are also in the process of producing the prescribed forms which have to appear either on or near each photocopier. These forms are necessary under the Amending Act. By the time you read this, the forms will be available from LAA head office, priced at two copies for \$1.00 (incl. postage).

The LAA's guide to the Copyright Act will not be available for a few weeks yet. In the interim, we have prepared a brief guide to help you.

What follows is not a legal opinion and no interpretation has been attempted. Rather, it is an attempt to identify Sections of the Act which are of especial interest to librarians, and to indicate which Sections apply in cases when libraries have need to consider the provisions of the Copyright Act.

There are 28 Sections of the Amending Act concerned with providing a systematic approach to photocopying and increasing copyright owners' protection against 'piracy' by introducing severe penalties for summary offences.

The Amending Act repeals, amends and adds to Sections of the Principal Act. Some of

these changes are of particular importance for libraries. For example, there are new definitions of: 'archives', 'authorised officer', 'officer-in-charge', the specification of the purposes which constitute 'fair dealing', alterations to those Sections dealing with copying by libraries, detailing of conditions under which multiple copying is allowed, and specifications of record-keeping requirements of copying done by libraries and educational institutions.

The introduction of a statutory licensing scheme enabling multiple copying under certain conditions is an important feature of the Amending Act.

Incorporation

We asked the Attorney-General's Depart-

ment if an incorporated Act is to be published soon. They assured us this will not happen in the foreseeable future. They informed us that the 1968 Copyright Act has been reprinted as stocks were 'running low'.

So what you need now is a copy of the Principal Act (1968), a copy of the Amending Act (1980) and copies of the Regulations (all available from AGPS Bookshops) and a pen!

To help you annotate your copy of the Principal Act to incorporate the changes, the following table sets out the changes in three parts: Sections amended, Sections repealed, and additions to the Principal Act.

Please note that the items marked with an asterisk in the table on page 5 are of particular importance to libraries.

Wagga library moves to supermarket



Museum before State Library?

THE BATTLE for a new State Library in Victoria continues. The latest we've heard is that the Minister for the Arts, Norman Lacy, said in a letter to the President of the LAA Vic Branch, Carmen Hannaker, that 'Following our meetings of 26 March 1981 and 23 April 1981, I presented my submission to Cabinet on 18 May 1981 together with the submission from your Association.

... A decision was not taken by Cabinet with regard to establishing priorities for the various proposed works to be undertaken. In fact, Cabinet deferred a decision on projects sequences until a feasibility study is undertaken with regard to the costs and impact on existing services in respect of the completion of the existing Library/Museums building for Museums' purposes.

'As a matter of urgency, I am presently establishing the Museums Development Committee which will have as its first task within its terms of reference, the preparation of the required feasibility study ...'

So it looks as if it's going to be Museum first, State Library ...??

THE RESIDENTS of Wagga Wagga, NSW, can 'window shop' into their library since the City Library moved into a large converted supermarket.

Since the new 'supermarket' library opened to the public in January of this year, the staff report that there has been an influx of new members and their loans have increased.

The Library, which also houses the Regional Gallery, has a large car park with approximately 400 parking spaces.

The total floor space of the Library is 1245 sq metres. The 'leisure side' of the Library, has adult fiction, junior fiction, easy to read

picture books and large cushioned areas for children to spread out. A 'listening post' is to be installed for Library users to listen to records from the Library's collection.

The 'information area' in the library features reference books and integrated adult and junior non-fiction, providing a full range from elementary to technical data on various subjects.

Wagga Wagga City Library is the headquarters of the Riverina Community Library Service which combines the expanded Wagga Wagga City, Shires of Tumut, Lockhart, Coolamon and Gundagai.