

# Project MIND . . . a column on Meeting the Information Needs of the Disabled

**P**ROFESSOR Tordiss Orjasaeter of Norway is seeking information on titles of Australian books designed for persons with print or skill handicaps. This is to be collated into an international register, and made available to all nations. If readers know of such titles, or of research work done in Australia in this area, please forward it to Ena Noel, IBBY, Box 194, Edgecliff, 2027.

## An Australian talking typewriter

By internally modifying a normal IBM Selectric typewriter, Prof Ron Aitchison and Terry Brown of Macquarie University have developed an economical strategy for having the machine announce the names of letters which it types. The typewriter can also read back a line of type, a character at a time, by calling on an inbuilt memory. Other facilities offered include announcements of function operations (space, capital, etc) and corrections of identified misspellings. The purpose of the machine is to give greater independence to print-handicapped people, and hopefully to open up hitherto impossible employment prospects.

## Large print — a Canadian publisher

Gatefold Books Ltd, a new Canadian pub-

lisher, was conceived by librarians who are concerned about the problems of visually handicapped readers. It is the publisher's intention to offer Canadian books of lasting value in a format conducive to the needs of those unable to read standard type editions. Available titles: *Pilgrims of the Wild* by Grey Owl (\$16.95); *Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery (\$16.95); *The Stone Angel* by Margaret Laurence (\$16.95). Order direct from: Gatefold Books Ltd, 426 Pall Mall Street, London, Ont. NST 2Z2. (519) 432 8215. (From Bill Byrne, Royal Blind Society, Enfield NSW.)

## Library services in Canada

A report, *Library Services for the Disabled at the University of Toronto* by Joan Robinson and Victoria Gill has recently been released. The publication deals with a survey and student responses to an inquiry at the University, and makes recommendations for changes. It also suggests areas in need of further investigation and sets out job prescription for a Co-ordinator of Services for the Disabled. Copies should be sought from the authors. (From Roy Hirsch, Handicapped People's Collective Action Group, 6/14 Il-lawarra Road, Hawthorn, 3122.)

## Commanding language

The concept of giving spoken instructions to machines has been popularised by science fiction. At present some computers do have limited voice recognition systems. The systems are crude in that individual words must be spoken in isolation. IBM report some success in recognition of continuous speech and transcription into printed form. Currently it takes the computer around two and a half hours to transcribe a one-minute spoken passage with high accuracy.

## Books and disabled young persons

At the University of Sydney the International Board on Books for Young People will sponsor a conference in the period 13-16 May 1981. A number of overseas and local speakers will be present to discuss disabled young persons and books. For more information write Box 194, Edgecliff, 2027.

## School by satellite

The recent announcement of Australia's intention to launch a communications satellite will be applauded by those who live in inland areas remote from libraries and conventional communications such as the telephone. The satellite, which is expected to be operational by 1985, will help to meet information needs and, if costs to users can be contained, will facilitate social participation not only in business telephone calls but also in school lessons with TV support. For further information, write Satellite Project Office, Department of Communications, Canberra 2600.

## First national workshop on librarianship for handicapped users: Proceedings available

The *Proceedings* of the May 1980 workshop are now available. The 330-page volume contains over 60 photographs and covers a wide range of topics, including legal issues, the present situation in Australia, prospects for the future, case histories on beginning and operating special services, architecture and access, technology, co-operation between libraries and kindred issues. It is available on receipt of \$13 plus \$2.20 postage from Dept of Librarianship (Publications), Melbourne State College, Carlton, 3053. Cheques payable to 'MIND/Workshop'. Contributions to this column should be sent to Lloyd Junor, Lecturer in Media Studies, Department of Librarianship, Melbourne State College, 757 Swanston St, Carlton, 3053. Phone: (03) 341 8111. (MIND column no6).

# What's In . . . Contents of Australian Librarianship Journals

**AUSTRALIAN SCHOOL LIBRARIAN** v17, no4, Summer 1980. Edited by Berres Colville, SLAV, Box 280, East Melbourne, Vic 3002.

Knogo Book Detection System *Lynne Craven*; Not Caught in the Act: the effect of copyright on some audiovisual resources in schools *Frances M. Hortle*;

Using a Resource: process and control *Rae Sheridan*;

Co-operative Bulk Buying in the Western Region, or, stretching dollars out *Andrew Bach*;

Local Community Educational Resources Directory: an introduction *Mary Stansfield*;

**SOCIETY FOR MASS MEDIA AND RESOURCE TECHNOLOGY (SMART)** Journal 1980/3. Edited by Jennie Van Wageningen and Alma Chinner, Adelaide CAE, 46 Kintore Avenue, Adelaide, SA 5000.

ASLAVII — an overview *Annette Chalmers*; Planning for Quality *Dr J.H. Eedle*; The School Library and the Community *Dr Graham P. Corr*;

The Role of the Teacher-Librarian in Curriculum Decision-Making *Neville Johnson*; Games People Play *David Poulson*; 1980 Jubilee ANZAAS Congress — Adelaide, 12-16 May *Marie-Noelle Mirza*.

**ORANA** v16, no4 November 1980 (Journal of School and Children's Librarianship). Edited by Val Watson, 24a Llewellyn Street, Oatley NSW 2223.

'Nab'em in the nursery' *Twilla A.J. Herr*;

A comparative analysis of the responses to their books of two sisters at age two years five months *Maureen Crago*;

Children's Book Selection — a new approach *contributions by Anne Burnett, Christine Byrnes, Rohane Bourne and Roger Coleman*;

As big as the ark *Mark Cockett*;

Storytime at the Zoo *Cath Baldcock*;

**AUSTRALIAN SPECIAL LIBRARIES NEWS** v13 no4, December 1980. Edited by Eve Ahearn, PO Box 184, North Ryde, NSW 2113.

Selling yourself — salaries for special librarians *Brian Henderson*;

AUSINET software used for library catalogue *E. Swan and H. Beattie*;

ACI's technical reports data base *P. Thornton, G. Whittall and E. Swan*;

Health literature collections in the Commonwealth Department of Health *Melanie Trask*.

**AUSTRALIAN ACADEMIC & RESEARCH LIBRARIES (AARL)** v11, no4, December 1980. Edited by D.H. Borchardt, La Trobe University, Bundoora, Vic 3038.

1979 Australian university library reports *Leonard Jolley*;

1978 Australian CAE library reports *Nancy D. Lane*;

Books and sci-tech students and academics *Raymond Price*;

Library networking in Australia *George Stecher*;

COM catalogue experience at ANU *Richard Leadbetter*;

Murder in the Fisher Library *Stephen Knight*.

**LASIE** (Information Bulletin of the Library Automated Systems Information Exchange) v10, no3, November/December 1980 including v10, no4, January/February 1981. Edited by Dagmar Schmidmaier, Kuring-gai CAE, PO Box 222, Lindfield, NSW 2070.

10th Anniversary Seminar Issue Welcome *D.G. Peake*;

The Great Leap Forward: some thoughts on networking with particular reference to CLANN *M. Bays*;

Caval: a brief introduction *H. Groenewegen*;

Developments in On-line Retrieval and Document Delivery *K. Blake*;

Computers, Data Base, and the Community: a public library experience *P. Stansfield*.

# Classification Research

FID/CR 'Classification Research' is the Committee of the International Federation for Documentation which deals with all matters relating to the subject approach to literature, ie, classification schedules, subject headings, thesauri, indexing. It promotes research in these areas and co-sponsors the journal *International classification*.

The chairperson of the Committee Dr I. Dahlberg has invited participation from Australia and is endeavouring to identify individuals interested in these matters.

Would anyone interested in participation please contact Jean Conochie, Committee Co-ordinator, Australian National Committee for the UDC, CSIRO Central Library, PO Box 89 East Melbourne, Vic 3002.