



The Executive Committee recently met in Darwin. The purpose of the visit was to hold Corporate Plan hearings, meet with the Conference Committee, view conference facilities, and to hold one meeting of the Executive in the President's home city.

During a short visit to Adelaide River the Vice-President, Ian McCallum, took time out for a taste of 'Territory' tea and got a great feel for what the Darwin 1986 Conference has in store.

Information Online '86 — Exhibition News

Two new CSIRO information products will be at the Information Online '86 exhibition, at the Sydney Hilton from January 20-22, 1986.

AUSTRALIS — Australian Science Technology Research and Library Information System — consists of a number of scientific data bases (bibliographic, factual and numeric) available via CSIRONET using STAIRS information retrieval software.

INFOLINK is a system aimed at improving CSIRO's effectiveness in responding to scientific and technical enquiries.

On the Industrial Front

Adoption Leave Test Case: The Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission has decided that women who adopt children under five years of age will be eligible for 52 weeks unpaid leave, thus giving adopting mothers the same rights to maternity leave as those which have been available to natural mothers since 1979.

The Commission has also granted an ACTU claim for a special period of unpaid leave, not exceeding 2 days, to allow male and female employees to attend compulsory interviews or examinations in relation to adoption applications.

The new standards will apply in the clothing and retail awards which were used as vehicles for the ACTU's test case. They will then be incorporated into other Federal Awards after application by individual unions.

NSW Branch Employment Service: The LAA's NSW Branch Employment Service has now been operating for 8 months. During this period it has been notified of 118 vacant positions (an average of 3.6/week) for library assistants, library technicians and librarians. It has been able to fill 35 (29.7%) of these positions, 11 of which have been permanent and 24 temporary.

During the period, 76 people have registered with the service, of whom 23 (30.3%) have been placed in a position. As the majority of positions have been temporary, some people registered have been placed in several temporary positions.

These results are particularly gratifying as many of the positions have required applicants with library experience whilst a significant number of those registered with the service have had little or no work experience. Others have been restricted in their availabil-

ity for work by geographical location or ability to work only part time.

Unemployed library staff in NSW wishing to register with the NSW Branch employment service should ring Louise Lansley on (02) 692 9233.

University Degrees by Mail: The LAA has become aware of brochures circulating in some parts of the country which claim that it is possible to obtain a university degree by mail without attending any classes at all. They further claim that 'you may have already earned a university degree even if you never went near a university on the basis of your life or work experience, activities, travel, hobbies etc.'

The LAA advises members and employers to be very cautious about organisations offering short cuts to academic success.

Louise Lansley
Industrial Information
and Research Officer

NOW AVAILABLE BOOKS LIBRARIES AND READERS IN COLONIAL AUSTRALIA.

Edited by Elizabeth Morrison and Michael Talbot.

Papers from the Forum on Australian Colonial Library History, held at Monash University, 1-2 June, 1984.

Published by the Graduate School of Librarianship, Monash University.

\$12.50.

Copies available from the Secretary, Graduate School of Librarianship Monash University, Wellington Road, Clayton 3168, at \$12.50.

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