

GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT

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ed in some libraries where trainees have been employed and the Industrial Information and Research Officer and Helen O'Brien, a member of the Board of Education, are preparing a set of guidelines which may assist libraries wishing to implement the Australian Ineeship system.

Library resources for nurse education

Further action is to be taken on this issue until after the matter has been discussed by ALCAE at its AGM in Darwin, and when the Medical Libraries Section has had an opportunity to consider ALCAE's discussions, and to receive further information has been compiled in the Medical Libraries section.

LAA in International Librarianship Committee

The interim LAA International Librarianship Committee presented its report to Council. Council endorsed the modus operandi set out in the report, and has invited Allan Horton to convene the new committee. The committee will be called the LAA International Relations Committee. The objectives of the Association's international relations program will be to achieve a higher profile for the LAA internationally, and b) to develop practical avenues for co-operation. The aims of the committee are — a) to establish a relationship with associations or groups with which there is an equal or equitable balance, and b) to establish a relationship with organisations for which the LAA might be considered a donor body. Allan Horton has been invited to establish a committee and to determine its terms of reference, and to report back to the November meeting of Council.

Publications Board

The Publications Board presented a report of its last meeting to Council and also provided comment on the feasibility of the six points it presented to the March meeting of Council. These included better accounting and accountability, better communication, incentives to authors, broadening the appeal of the Association's publications, marketing and distribution, and divisional publications. Council endorsed their comments with interest. Council also endorsed *Guidelines on Publication of Conference Proceedings* and these will be included in the *Office Bearers Guide* and published in *InCite*.

Encyclopedia of Australia Librarians and Information Science

Council noted that the Publications Board had authorised Harrison Bryan to begin work on its publication. Its scope will include major libraries, librarianship, benefactors of libraries and peripheral areas. It is proposed that it will be published in four volumes.

Jenny Adams
Executive Director

Local Government Records

Major Bicentennial Grant in NSW

At a press conference held at St Mary's Cathedral on June 24, the Premier Mr Wran announced the NSW Bicentennial Archives Program being funded by the NSW Bicentennial Council. Three projects are involved — Archives of the Labour Movement in NSW, Archives of St Mary's and Archives of Local Government.

The inclusion of the Archives of Local Government project in the tripartite Bicentennial Program is welcome news for the Action Committee on Local Government Records. It is a vital and needed follow-up to the recent amendments to Ordinance 1 of the Local Government Act. Much is owed to the support given by the Archives Authority of NSW, the Library Association of Australia (NSW), the Australian Society of Archivists (Sydney) and the NSW State Committee of AACOBS. The records of local government bodies are an integral part of the information spectrum. Apart

from research value, they embody matters concerning citizens' rights and entitlements.

The Bicentennial Grant enables the appointment of a professional archivist and the compilation of a comprehensive Records Disposal Schedule for local government councils. This will assist with the identification of archival records, will encourage the orderly disposal of time-expired records of no enduring value, and ensure the preservation of records required to be safeguarded.

The administration of the project, which it is estimated will cost \$100,000 over a period of two years, is vested in the Archives Office of NSW under the Archives Authority of NSW. The work will be carried out in conjunction with the Ministerial Working Party of the Department of Local Government and the Action Committee. Essential to a successful outcome will be consultation with local government administrators and record managers.

Meantime to meet the demand for more specific guidelines and advice on the preservation of records amendments gazetted July 1985, the Action Committee hopes to mount relevant seminars through the local government and Shires Associations Training Unit.

Patricia Ward

Secretary, Action Committee
on Local Government Records

Talking Book Shortlist

An impressive array of literary awards has been won by the authors of the six titles selected in the short list for the Royal Blind Society's Talking Book of the Year Award for 1986.

This is the seventh year the Royal Blind Society has presented the award, which aims to highlight the importance of Talking Books to blind or visually impaired people; give recognition to a significant work of Australian literature; encourage a high standard of production; and acknowledge the co-operation of book publishers in the production of Royal Blind Society talking books.

The short list is:

Lilian's Story by Kate Grenville (Allen & Unwin) — winner of the Australian Vogel Literary Award, 1984

Missus by Ruth Park (Nelson)

Illywhacker by Peter Carey (University of Queensland Press) — winner of the Age Book of the Year Award, 1985; and the FAW Barbara Ramsden Award, 1985

The Night We Ate The Sparrow by Morris Lurie (McPhee Gribble/Penguin)

A Book of Australian Railway Journeys compiled by John Cook (William Collins Ltd)

The Doubleman by Christopher Koch (Australasian Publishing Co.) — winner of the Miles Franklin Award, 1986

The books were chosen by a judging panel which comprised Director of the Australian Book Publishers' Association, Ms Jan Noble; owner of two Sydney bookshops, Mr Philip Bray; member of the board of directors of 2RPH, Ms Dawn Sollars; talking book users Mrs Anne Somssich and Mrs Joan Johnson; and public librarian, Mrs Jewl Pels.

Books considered for selection had to have been published between April 1985 and March 1986, be by an Australian author or have an Australian theme, and work well as a talking book.

Books on the short list will be recorded at the Royal Blind Society's studios between now and October when the winner will be decided. The award presentation will take place at a luncheon to be held at the Royal Blind Society's auditorium at Enfield on Wednesday, October 15.

Special ACCESS

ACCESS MELBOURNE, established on June 4, 1985, was based on the guidelines adopted by the successful Sydney group ACCESS. ACCESS (Architects, Construction and Consulting Engineers Specialist Services) is a group of librarians in architecture, engineering and related fields meeting to form a co-operative information network. At present ACCESS MELBOURNE has 21 member libraries, ranging from very small specialist company libraries to large academic libraries.

Quarterly general meetings are held, often with guest speakers and there is always discussion and the opportunity of meeting librarians from similar libraries. Many group members feel more relaxed asking for information from librarians they have met, and they discover that problems they encounter occur in many specialised libraries, and they can discuss them with others with similar experiences. As many ACCESS MELBOURNE members expressed interest in computers for specialised libraries, several meetings have pursued this topic. Once again discussion of the benefits and pitfalls experienced by other members has proved very useful for those embarking on library computerisation.

ACCESS MELBOURNE has produced a membership directory which is distributed to members, and lists member libraries, addresses, contacts within the library and the library's scope. A membership fee of \$25.00 per year also entitles a member to receive a copy of the *ACCESS Melbourne Union List of Periodicals* (a publication available to non-members on pre-payment of \$10) and a quarterly newsletter, in addition to the opportunity to attend meetings regularly.

Any special librarians in this field in Melbourne who are interested in the ACCESS MELBOURNE group, should contact any member of the management committee: Lynne Beaumont, Secretary (03) 235 1318, Elaine Kulinski, Treasurer (03) 266 8611 or Jane Spiers, Publications Officer (03) 267 2800.



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