

THE INFORMATION PROFESSIONAL Proceedings of an LAA EDLIB Conference

Edited by James Henri and Roy Sanders

As a result of a conference organised by the Education for Librarianship Section of the Library Association of Australia, in late 1984 information professionals gathered together in Melbourne to share ideas.

The nineteen papers included in the proceedings of that conference discuss trends and developments in the information sector both in Australia and overseas, in education for information professionals, and in new applications of information handling. The keynote address by Dr. Anthony Debons, Professor of Information Science, University of Pittsburgh, should be of particular interest to all those working in the information sector.

The proceedings are available from:

The Co-ordinator
Centre for Library Studies
Riverina-Murray Institute of Higher Education
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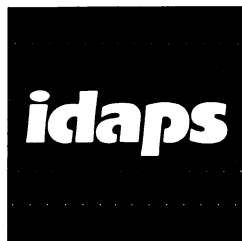
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YOUNG WRITERS' PROJECT

The Australian Young Writers' Project was inaugurated in May 1985 as a contribution to the International Youth Year. It was designed to encourage the creative potential in young writers throughout the country, and over 5,000 entries were received.

The project aimed at gaining a cross-section of writings reflecting young people's interests and their responses to the world around them. Half the entries were poems; the other half was made up of stories, plays, radio scripts and dialogues.

The organisers found that the future is a strong pre-occupation among the young writers. In the higher age group themes covered the most urgent concerns of modern society: unemployment, nuclear war, drug death and the sense of individual futility, as well as personal relationships and social interchange.

As one assessment panel put it:

'... a staggering range of material ... what comes through most strongly though is a re-vitality: even where the viewpoint is at its most pessimistic there is still an underlying sense of humour and optimism retained. The language is often raw and violent: the frustration and anger of a disillusioned generation comes through strongly ... an extremely exciting project.'

Penguin Books Australia will produce an anthology of works submitted. ABC Radio is adapting stories and will broadcast poems etc., in a series of 10 national programs during 1986. ABC Television has scheduled five half-hour dramas for production in March 1986.

The Literature Board in conjunction with the Australian Film & Television School will offer a scholarship to a selected entrant for a 3 months scriptwriting course.

The *Australian* newspaper has already published a selection of entries in their quarterly Literary Supplement; other outlets for their work will be actively sought by the committee, and will include national literary magazines, school publications and theatre companies. Successful authors will be contacted directly by the organisations proposing to use their work in keeping with the conditions of entry.

The English journal *The Fiction Magazine* has commissioned an article on the project because of its stimulus for young writers and as an example of its kind.

All the organising committee members were strongly impressed at the number of entries, the energy and honesty and the urgency of so much writing by young Australians today. Committee members were: Patricia Adair, Penguin Books Australia Ltd; Tom Shapcott, Director, Literature Board, Australia Council; Chris Farrell, ABC TV; Allan Kendall, ABC Radio; Tony Wiseheart, IYY Secretariat.

HAPPENINGS: Notices for Happenings should be sent to the Assistant Publications Officer by the correct closing date. Notices are then retained on file until the due date, so a second notice is unnecessary unless there has been a change.

Conferences coming up

Conservation is the topic for joint seminars to be held in Vienna in April. The first is entitled Conservation of Library Materials, from April 7-10, 1986, and it will be followed by Teaching of Conservation and Preservation from April 11-13.

See Happenings for further details.