

The Tech Connection

THE TECH Connection is the name chosen for the 7th National Conference for Library Technicians.

It will be held in Adelaide 22–24 September 1993 at The Terrace Hotel.

The Conference Committee is planning an exciting program of speakers and workshops focussing on the themes of Technology, Environment and Opportunity. These are all areas of concern to

library technicians.

New technologies can mean that work practices change, some jobs disappear and others are created.

Work environments are changing as employers take into account such things as occupational health and safety issues, as well as making collections more accessible to disabled patrons.

New opportunities are being created by library technicians who

are applying their skills in areas such as desk top publishing and editing, establishing a community information data base, and computer networks.

The committee is aiming to give the conference a special South Australian flavour for delegates by arranging tours to local wineries as well as to libraries. Contact the Conference Manager at ALIA National Office for more information. ■

Permanent paper for Parliament?

Peter Clayton, ALIA representative and AALC Chairman, reports on recent discussions with the AGPS

THE USE OF permanent paper for Australia's publications of enduring value has long been of concern to the Association. At the most recent meeting of the Australian Government Publishing Service (AGPS)—ACLIS Liaison Committee (AALC), a report on AGPS's use of permanent paper was received. In general, AGPS as publisher use the paper quality specified by the author agency, rather than attempt to impose their own standards. AALC was advised that paper of suitable archival quality is being used for Acts, Statutory Rules, Hansard and the

Gazettes (Haven Opaque Book Offset); and for Votes and Proceedings, Journals of the Senate, and Documents on Australian Foreign Policy (Perpetuum Wove). However, librarian members of the committee were concerned at the use of Angelo Drawing Cartridge as end-paper stock for Acts, Statutory Rules, Hansard, Votes and Proceedings, and Journals of the Senate: this paper's archival life was described as '[possibly] 20 years—depends on storage'. Further information was requested about the archival properties of the binding boards used. It appears that the Commonwealth

Parliament has specified the use of appropriate archival paper for its publications, but not for the bindings which encase these.

Other matters raised at this 11 June meeting of AALC included the free issue scheme, which Cabinet has now agreed will be extended to the new universities; a 10-month backlog in AGPS cataloguing due to severe staff shortages, now overcome—cataloguing will now concentrate on current material first; and changes to the structure of AGPS itself, which are not expected to affect its library customers. The absence of ISSNs in some annual reports and monographs in series was reported to be the responsibility of the author agencies. The librarian members of the committee agreed to identify items lacking ISSNs and write to author agencies, pointing out the need for these to be included. ■

All in a day's work

Promotional video for the profession

THE ABC SCREENED a segment on working in library and information services in their series *All in a day's work* in June 1992. The segment stars Associate Professor Joyce Kirk, Head, School of Information Studies, University of Technology Sydney, Kuring-gai, and staff at the Stanton Library, North Sydney. The tape is available in Department of Employment, Education and Training libraries and will be used in some CES offices. If you are looking for promotional material or thinking of developing your own, take a look at this one. ■



Australian landscapes, from beaches to the outback, have been used to promote everything from motor cars to Aboriginal land rights. The use and abuse of Australian imagery in advertising and popular culture is the subject of an unusual exhibition at the National Library of Australia. The Lie of the Land is open until 25 October. It shows Australia from many perspectives through a range of colourful posters, a Hills Hoist hung with tea towels, a car bumper bar with memorable stickers and a line-up of provocative t-shirts. ■...