

## People in The news

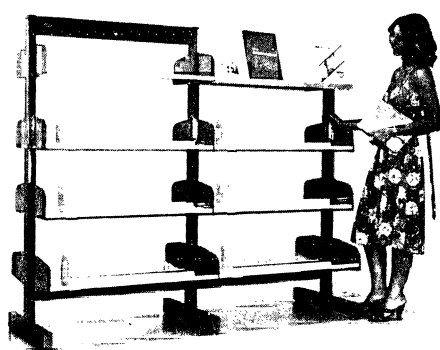
FROM Western Australia comes the news that DAVID PIKE has been appointed Assistant State Librarian of the Library Board of Western Australia. David, who was previously employed by the State Library of Queensland as Administrative Officer, was closely involved with the Library's ORACLE system. PETER BLOOMFIELD has been appointed Executive Librarian, Business Information Centre, Library Board of Western Australia. Peter was formerly a librarian in the Science and Technology Library of the State Reference Library. Last year he was seconded to the Department of Library and Information Studies at WAIT and has continued this year as a part-time lecturer.

KATHLEEN YOUNG has been appointed La Trobe Librarian, State Library of Victoria. Miss Young had been Deputy La Trobe Librarian since 1973. She replaces Patricia Reynolds who retired in March, 1980 after serving as the La Trobe Librarian since the opening of the Library in 1965.

ROSS GIBBS has been appointed Deputy La Trobe and La Trobe Reference Librarian in the State Library of Victoria. Mr Gibbs was appointed from the Public Libraries Division where he had been Field Officer for the past year. He had previously worked in La Trobe as Research Librarian (1977-1979) and Acting Manuscripts Librarian (1976-1977).

MISS DIANA DRAKE, Reference Librarian, State Library of NSW, began long-service leave on 22 August, prior to her retirement on 21 October 1981.

Miss Drake joined the State Library 21 years ago. She became Deputy Reference Librarian in 1970, and was appointed Reference Librarian in 1978.

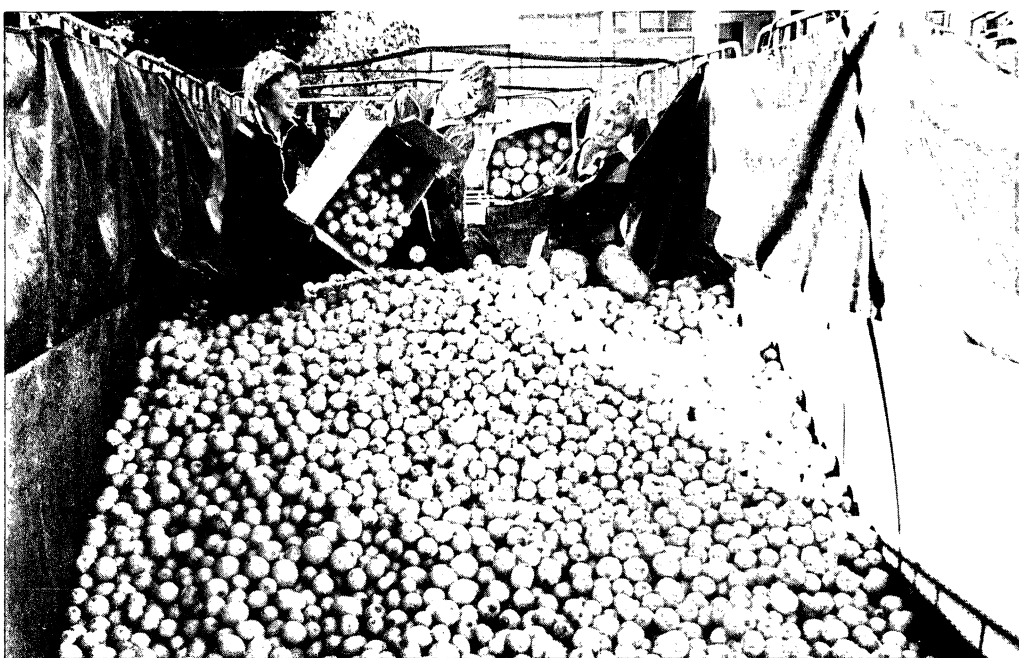


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## Short of money? Maybe the answer's a . . .



This big load of lemons was collected as part of a fund-raising campaign to buy books for the Churchland's High School Library, W.A. Members of the school's Parents and Citizens' Association collected 15 tonnes of lemons, which had been donated from all over the metropolitan area. They have been sold to a cordial manufacturer. Here, some of the students help load the lemons on to a truck. Photograph courtesy of West Australian Newspapers Limited.

## BAUDY BITS... COLUMN OF ONLINE NEWS

**B**ASED IN CANADA, I.P. Sharp now offer an international access to their extensive range of computer services and products. In addition to international socio-economic and financial data I.P. Sharp are developing a range of Australian databases.

These include STATEX and ABS TIME-SERIES. STATEX data is provided by the Research Department of the Sydney Stock Exchange. It consists of yearly financial statistics such as reported sales, earnings per share and market capital on over 300 companies over the last 10 years.

Hundreds of time series make up the Australian Bureau of Statistics file, the basic information coming from the magnetic tapes made available by the Bureau itself. Series include the consumer price index, labour force data, demographic and social statistics.

As well as providing the basic data, I.P. Sharp have developed a wide range of application packages which enable manipulation of the data. Among these packages are statistical analysis and a general-purpose computer graphics system. I.P. Sharp also offer a system for the development of planning, forecasting and control models, actuarial and portfolio management packages and an electronic mail facility.

For further information contact Chris Sanderson in Sydney on (02) 232 6366, or I.P. Sharp's Melbourne office on (03) 24 4417.

Pocket terminals are coming! The *Online Newsletter* (Information Intelligence) recently carried two separate items announcing mini-terminals. GR Electronics have one which is the size of a standard pocket calculator and costs US\$395. Micor Inc have one which fits in a briefcase and includes digital display and built-in modem. It should not be too long before they are available in Australia (we hope!) and the big question is whether they will be Telecom-approved.

AESIS is now online! Previously available only in a batch mode via CSIRONET, AESIS (Australian Earth Sciences Information Service) is now available online through AUSINET. AESIS provides the most comprehensive coverage of Australian geoscience documented information both published and unpublished, including open-file reports. It covers 1976+ and there is a program under way to provide retrospective input back to 1965.

It is co-ordinated by the Australian Mineral Foundation in South Australia, and is only one of many services they provide. These include active interlibrary lending and borrowing services, a book review service, consulting services for the creation, organisation and control of technical library services and information systems, and retrospective search services on a wide range of databases.

The online community is fortunate in having such an important national database as AESIS available online.

The NSW Online Users Group and the Auckland Online Users Group are interested in having an 'Online Dinner' during the NZLA/LAA Conference in January 1981. It is thought that the best night for this dinner would be Monday, 19 January, type of food probably French, approximate cost \$12-15 per head. Numbers would have to be limited to about 50. Would anyone interested in attending such a dinner contact Katie Blake (02) 266 344. I would be particularly interested to hear from Online User Groups in other states to hear their comments or suggestions. It should be an ideal time to get together and compare notes and discuss problems, and just to share the funny stories which seem to abound in onlining.

Contributions to this column should be sent to Katie Blake, PO Box J36, Brickfield Hill, NSW 2000, (02) 26 6344.