

LAA to 'hit the road'?

In August 1979 the LAA General Council commissioned a Working Party to investigate the location of LAA Headquarters. The Working Party is to report in 1980. The membership of the Working Party is Barry McIntyre, Victorian Branch (Convener); Brenda Gerrie, ACT Branch, and Pixie Crook, Queensland Branch.

Council also gave authority for the Association to sell a property it owned in Canberra. The sale price for the property was \$44,750 and the sale yielded \$42,022 after deducting legal fees and agent's charges. This amount is now invested in an interest bearing deposit. Annual rent for the existing headquarters is \$14,500, and maintenance and electricity charges for 1980 are expected to be \$4100. The lease expires in July 1982.

The Working Party is prepared to receive submissions outlining any facts and/or opinions that any division or individual member believes to be relevant to this enquiry. In particular, the Working Party is interested to hear what members believe are the most important functions of the LAA Office and which Australian city (or cities, if the Headquarters was decentralised) would offer the optimum location for the performance of those functions.

The existing functions performed by Headquarters are:

- (i) clerical and administrative support to the Executive Committee, General Council, the Board of Education and other standing committees;
- (ii) membership services;
- (iii) industrial relations and employment-related issues;
- (iv) provision of some meeting and storage facilities;
- (v) serial and monograph publishing and distribution;

NO DISCRIMINATION

LATE last year the Victorian Branch of the Association suggested that a statement on Non-Discrimination in the Employment of Library Staff should be adopted by the Association. It is published now at the request of the Executive for comment by the members of the Association prior to it being presented for the consideration of General Council.

The Library Association of Australia, in what it believes to be the interests of the community, adopts the following statement in principle:

- 1 All staff employed in libraries should be appointed without discrimination on the grounds of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, disability, economic circumstance, individual lifestyle or political or social views.
- 2 Persons responsible for the selection of library staff at every level are encouraged to base their selection of staff for library employment solely on the basis of the suitability of their qualifications, experience and individual merit for appointment to the position to be filled.

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All contributions and advertisements should be addressed to the Editor, Irene Strachan, Library Association of Australia, 35 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW 2000. Telephone (02) 29 7724.

(vi) co-ordination of continuing education programming and support for conference planning; and

(vii) promotion of libraries and librarianship, including careers information.

It has been argued that the location of the Headquarters also may be important to the success of lobbying activities and co-operative ventures with the various levels of government, public administration, and other organisations that share some common interests with the Association's objectives and services.

For the information of submission writers: the Sydney office, apart from an *ad hoc* job placement service, offers no more support to NSW divisions than is given to those in other states and territories.

The deadline for submissions is 31 May 1980. They should be mailed to the Convener at 78 Jeffrey Drive, Ringwood, Vic 3134.

Barry McIntyre

Technological change

Continued from page 1

fact that in many instances material supplied to it is patchy or speculative.

Summing up, Professor Encel refused to make large statements about the impact of technological change. Technology has shown that it has the power simultaneously to create new opportunities and new jobs while rendering others obsolete. Increased job opportunities may result in the short term, however unemployment may also increase in many areas.

Together with Professor Jarlath Ronayne from the School of History and Philosophy of Science, Professor Encel has just received a \$70,000 General Development Fund Grant from UNSW. They will use it to set up a program concerned with the relationships between technology, science and society, with Professor Encel concentrating his attention initially on the impact of technological change on the Australian economy in the past 30 years.

Marilyn Bryce

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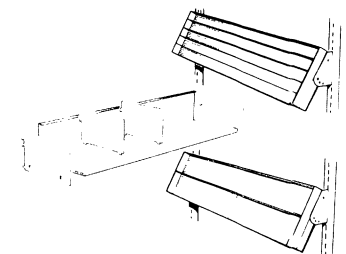
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