

# Film viewing centre for Melbourne

SINCE MAY THIS YEAR, THE VICTORIAN STATE FILM Centre has been operating a viewing centre for the National Library's Film Archive.

Previously, those people wishing to view films from the Archive had to meet the expense and inconvenience of travelling to Canberra to do so. Now the Archive may be viewed at the State Film Centre, Melbourne, the only viewing centre operating outside Canberra.

Students, researchers and members of the film and television industry, now have access to about 5000 titles represented in the National Archive's collection.

Titles include historical and contemporary Australian feature films such as 'The Kid Stakes' (1927), 'The Sentimental Bloke' (1918), '40,000 Horsemen' (1940), 'They're a Weird Mob' (1966) and 'Picnic at Hanging Rock' (1975). Non-Australian feature films made by great directors such as Alfred Hitchcock, Ken Russell, John Ford, Luchiano Visconti and Vittorio De Sica as well as newsreels, commercials, documentaries, shorts and trailers are also available. A catalogue of film titles can be obtained at the State Film Centre.

The National Library has leased premises within the State Film Centre and furnished them with the necessary equipment to enable them to function under the same controlled viewing conditions that are maintained at the National Film Archive in Canberra. The outward and return freight of films from Canberra is paid by the National Library.

Opening hours of the Viewing Centre are 10.30am to 4pm Monday to Friday, but prior booking is necessary and at least 14 days notice is required to allow sufficient time for films to be obtained from Canberra.

For more information about the Centre contact the Librarian, State Film Centre, 1 Macarthur St, East Melbourne, Vic 3002. Telephone (03) 651 1301. The Canberra contact is Reference Officer, National Film Archive, National Library of Australia, Canberra, ACT 2600 (062) 62 1359.



A scene from *Kid Stakes*, one of the many films which can now be viewed in Melbourne.

## Report from NZLA/LAA Standing Committee

THE FIRST FORMAL MEETING OF A JOINT NZLA/LAA standing committee took place in Wellington on 17 September this year. Your LAA representatives were Judith Baskin, Susan Accutt and Euan Miller.

Significant items discussed at the meeting were procedures for the second joint conference in Brisbane in 1984 and a possible third in Sydney in 1988. The LAA made a profit of over \$10,000 from the Christchurch Conference.

Further joint continuing education activities planned include the sharing of conference speakers--George Lovell of Manchester Public Library (UK) is a keynote speaker at their Auckland Conference in February 1982. Arrangements are being considered to bring Mr Lovell to Australia at the same time. The LAA office has copies of the Auckland Conference program for anyone interested.

The LAA will also be looking at our travelling workshops extending their itineraries to NZ in the future.

Sections and Special Interest Groups will be encouraged to establish a liaison with their NZ counterparts. A list of NZ groups and their contacts will appear in a later issue of *Incite*. The NZLA is also interested in closer ties with non-LAA groups and a list of these has been forwarded to Wellington.

Joint representation on international bodies such as IFLA and COMLA was also well supported in New Zealand. In this way we hope to have a more effective voice in international library affairs at a reasonable cost.

Joint publishing and selling of publications was another item that received full discussion. The NZLA has a lot to offer the LAA in its methods of publication and already 20 percent of NZLA income comes from this source. It is hoped to send packs of NZLA and LAA publications to LAA continuing education activities for promotion, order and sale.

Freedom of information was another issue common to both Associations with the NZ Government proceeding with their Official Information Bill. The NZLA appears to have obtained some valuable procedural changes to the future operation of their Act that makes both government publications and non-published official material more readily available. The LAA will take up this matter with the Commonwealth Government for similar improvements to be undertaken here.

Staff exchanges was another item on the agenda. While both Associations agreed that these could best be fostered between libraries themselves, they offered to provide publicity to foster exchanges.

The next meeting will be held at the Auckland Conference on 8 February 1982.

Euan Miller

## WHAT'S IN ... Contents of Australian Journals of Librarianship

**LASIE** (Information Bulletin of the Library Automated Systems Information Exchange) v11, no 1, July/August 1980. Edited by Carmel Maguire, School of Librarianship, University of NSW, PO Box 1, Kensington, NSW 2033.

Viewdata ... three years later by Sue Nielsen;

Data communication protocols: data link controls by R.S. Reid; The University of California's Division of Library Automation.

**LASIE** v11, no 2, September/October 1980.

**BIBLION**: the on-line bibliographical system of the Barr Smith Library by J.R. Anderson; Design specification for BIBLION by P.L. Nissen

Some thoughts on information systems design: An interview with Benjamin A. Saltzer in San Diego.

**ORANA** (Journal of School and Children's Librarianship) v17, no3, August 1981. Edited by Val Watson, 24a Llewellyn St, Oatley, NSW 2223.

Reading Teachers in Children's Books by Reba Pinney; Children's literature for our multicultural society by M.J. Singh; Sexism and children's literature: a perspective for librarians by Christine Nicholls; Australian fantasy and folklore: Part two by J.S. Ryan.

**AUSTRALIAN ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES (AARL)** v12, no 3, September 1981. Edited by D.H. Borchardt, La Trobe University, Bundoora, Vic 3083.

Copyright: a survey of solutions to the photocopying debate by Derek Fielding; Transfer of library resources among merging institutions by Cathy Tweedie; Problems of merging libraries by David Waters; Acquisitions budget control in a CAE library by Lee Ching-Tat; The Serials Department by Alfred Pong.

## SA CHOOSES DATAPHASE

THE STATE LIBRARY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA HAS entered into an agreement for a half million dollar online circulation system with Dataphase Library Systems, Australia P/L, the Chief Librarian, Public Libraries, Euan Miller announced recently.

Dataphase is one of the big two online library packages produced in the US and is currently being successfully operated in over 40 systems in that country. This contract is their first installation in Australia.

The circulation system will service the 1.5 million loan issue of the lending branches of the State Library on North Terrace, the book distribution system of the Public Libraries Division of the 84 South Australian public libraries, and the public library circulations of Munno Para, the Parks and Noarlunga. Other local government libraries may join the system at a later date.

Conversion of existing book and patron records has already commenced with the help of a force of temporary staff, Mr Miller said. It is expected that the system will commence operational testing in December and full service will begin in March 1982. A demonstration computer is already operational in the State Library and is being used for staff training, Mr Miller added.

Initially the data base will contain 1.5 million records and will be expected to handle 2.5 million loans per annum. Thirty-one terminals will be attached to the computer.

At the same time, a state-wide record numbering system has been introduced for public libraries, to enable each item and patron to have a unique number. In this way, Mr Miller said, it will be possible to introduce a state-wide library membership card. The Councils of Unley, Burnside and Salisbury are proceeding to establish their own online circulation systems and the use of the unique numbering system will enable them to take advantage of the item data base as well.