

# News from the Divisions

## VICTORIAN BRANCH

### ales tax on books and serials

The Branch has written to all parliamentarians representing Victoria on this issue, and replies have been received from several politicians including the Prime Minister. A letter has also been published by the Branch resident in the Melbourne *Age*. The Branch is represented on the 'Please Don't Tax Books' campaign committee which is a joint committee of booksellers, publishers and other interested parties. The Branch will also contribute towards the work of the committee.

### ookhouse

The Branch has decided to accept the National Book Council's offer of use of the newly established Bookhouse in Carlton for telephone answering, mail, general secretarial assistance and some meetings.

### ideotex

The Branch will follow up the Executive Director's protest to the Minister for Communications concerning the Government's decision to exclude Telecom from offering a videotex service, and to rely wholly on private enterprise. There is a serious possibility that public access to videotex services will be impeded. A campaign on this issue will be mounted at the Victorian level.

### ensorship laws

Branch Council is concerned at the possible implications of the recent announcement in the Melbourne *Age* that Australia could soon have a uniform system of censorship laws. A delegation from the Vic Branch will attempt to meet soon with the Victorian Attorney-General, and a formal application will be lodged to have *More Joy of Sex* removed from the list of restricted publications.

### oint use libraries

The Branch President will convene a sub-committee to provide input to the Inter-Departmental Committee of the Ministry of Arts and the Education Department of Victoria on library co-operation. The Committee is currently working on standards for joint use libraries.

### lections for 1982 Council

Mrs B Fincher will be the Branch President for 1982. In the recent election William Linklater was elected Vice-President and Sean Badger, Margaret Findley and Angela Bridgland were elected Councillors at Large.

### ask a librarian

'Ask a Librarian' buttons are available for \$1.00 each from the Branch Secretary, Jan Lindner (phone (03) 819 8407). Proceeds will go towards sponsoring a young New Zealand librarian to attend the next LAA Biennial Conference.

### YDP kit

The 'YDP Kit for Libraries' is almost completed and will be distributed free in the near future to all Victorian libraries.

*Doreen Parker*

## MID-NORTH COAST REGIONAL GROUP

Pat Ward, NSW General Councillor, was the guest speaker at the October meeting of the Mid-North Coast Regional Group at Kempsey Shire Library on 25 October.

Several librarians from Kempsey schools, as well as Peter McCormack, School Libraries Advisor for the North Coast Education Area, and Vicki Esmonde-Morgan, Chief Librarian of the Clarence Regional Library Service, joined members to hear Pat speak on a wide range of matters.

Numerous publications and leaflets of interest to the group were also tabled. Letters of greetings to the group from the Australian National Section of IBBY, Children's Library Section NSW Group, and NSW Group of the School Libraries Section were received and greatly appreciated.

Topics which attracted prolonged discussions were: equal opportunity employment in the Education Department; training for library technicians; the LAA's continuing education program; communications within the LAA.

The group has formed an organising committee for a seminar on resource sharing which it hopes to hold in Kempsey in April 1982. Pat Ward's visit has re-inforced how valuable it is to have speakers from Sydney on a regular basis.

*Adrienne Crossley*

## NSW CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES

A large audience attended the Children's Libraries Section NSW Group/Storytelling Guild combined one-day conference entitled, 'Haven't I heard it before — a new look at the same old tale', held at the end of October.

Maurice Saxby spoke about 'The 500 Cinderellas', and traced their history through Perrault, Grimm and others — similar stories and motifs occur from Germany to Vietnam.

Hazel Hume spoke about the use of film in storytelling, and provided an extensive filmography for children and for introducing librarians to children's films.

Jean Chapman, author of *Pancakes and Painted Eggs*, spoke about the impact of children's stories on her childhood, and the problems of writing for the child whom the author never sees and so has no chance to explain her purposes.

We were also entertained by a number of talented storytellers at various stages of the conference.

*Rosemary Moon*

## NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL GROUP

Following its reconstitution in September, the New England Regional Group held an opening meeting on 11 November in Armidale, NSW.

The recorded membership of the Group totals 56 and almost 40 people were in attendance. Several of the audience came from other parts of the region — for example, Tamworth — or from adjoining regional group areas — such as Grafton and Coffs Harbour.

The meeting began with an election of office-bearers for 1982. As no additional nominations had been received, the interim Committee elected in September was confirmed for 1982: President: Karl Schmude, University of New England Library; Secretary/Treasurer: Jill Harrington, Memorial Library, Armidale. Committee: Judith Wood, CSIRO Library, 'Chiswick', Uralla; Rosemary Brewer, University of New England Library; and Mary Anne Lea, Armidale CAE Library.

The meeting was addressed by Susan Acutt, (LAA Executive Director), whose topic was 'The LAA — its value for the country-based librarian'.

Susan outlined the broad nature of the Association's activities, many of which benefit all librarians including those outside the metropolitan centres. However she acknowledged that the Association had to make a greater effort to bring continuing education programs to country based librarians in an effort to provide a similar level of value for money as is received by city members.

It is intended that a series of meetings will be arranged for the Regional Group in 1982. Members will be circularised when plans have been formulated.

The Committee would welcome any suggestions regarding potential guest speakers.

*Karl G. Schmude*

## GC Report — continued

in 1982. A successful trial for the management program has been held in NSW and it will be offered in all states and some regional centres late in the year. The industrial relations workshop is being developed for early 1982.

### Timing of conferences and seminars

The congestion which occurs in the scheduling of conferences and seminars has been the cause of some concern. The CE Officer has proposed that General Councillors gather information about proposed activities in their areas so that a calendar of events can be published in *Incite*, No2 1982.

### Activities involving overseas speakers

A recent visit by an overseas speaker has raised the general issue of the responsibilities of divisions, the LAA Office and the speakers in LAA sponsored activities. The CE Officer has been asked to draw up guidelines for such visits.

### Publications Board

A report of the Board's activities in 1981 will appear in *Incite* no2. Other issues discussed by General Council include divisional publications. Council resolved that all proposed divisional publications must firstly seek approval from the Board to ensure acceptable style, format, content and price. At the same time, the Executive is considering the Publications Board's role in divisional publications.

Councillors were reminded that it is obligatory that a deposit copy of all divisional publications must be sent to Head Office.

### Office accommodation

This item is reported elsewhere.

### Biennial Conference

General Council resolved that an LAA Biennial Conference would be held in Darwin in the next decade.

*Susan Acutt*

Executive Director,

\*The above report contains comments on selected items only. The General Council minutes are circulated to all General Councillors and all Branches and upon request may be consulted by any member of the Association.

## AACOBS Index

AACOBS is to shortly publish the *AACOBS documents index 1956-1981* (August to August). The index will sell for \$10.00.