

# Emoh ruo? Dunroamin'? No, it's LAA House!

A RECEPTION was held on Friday, November 26 to mark the official opening of the new premises of the LAA and to announce the name selected for the building.

Miss Judith Baskin, 1982 LAA President, declared the building officially open, saying '... we have a building which is adequate for our current and future needs and is also a significant capital asset for the Association. It provides space not just for the office but also a significant meeting space so that our major meetings can be held here too, truly a national focal point'.



1. Judith Baskin (right) 1982 President of the LAA, talking to Harry Bahlin, President of the Children's Libraries Section and Mary Maltby, Treasurer of the LAA.

A ballot had been conducted to select a name for the building, and the suggested names were considered by General Council. Their vote was for LAA House. 'We must continue', Miss Baskin said, 'to present the Association as an important factor in Australian life ... the name Library Association of Australia ... will be a further way of keeping the Association before the public'.



2. Susan Acutt, Executive Director, with Professor John Ward, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney, Alan Bunsell, Treasurer of the LAA and Mrs Dulcie Stretton, President of the Australian Libraries Promotion Council.



3. The reception area in the new building.

Miss Baskin explained that only the top floor was intended for use by the Library Association of Australia, and that the ground floor was to be leased. (This has since been arranged, and the new tenants, Photographs, moved in on January 1.)

The building, at 376 Jones Street (on the corner of Jones and Quarry Streets), Ultimo, was built in the late 1930s and reflects the style of industrial architecture of that era.

The LAA office area has been skilfully redesigned and renovated by architect Ian Little and builder John Deane, and decorated in colours suited to the period of the building.

## Landmark Conference on Library Workforce

A HIGHLY successful and stimulating national conference organised by the Victorian Group of the Education for Librarianship Section was held in Melbourne from 22 to 24 November, 1982. The program focused on three major themes:

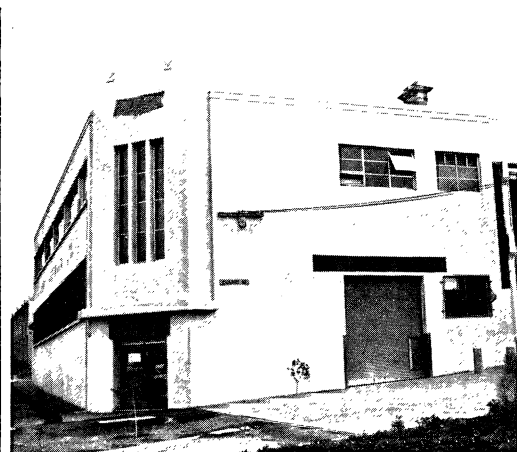
- the need for a reliable manpower planning methodology
- the role and responsibilities of the library schools in an era of possible oversupply of librarians, and
- the workplace and the implications for employers, employees and unions when faced with an increasingly static workforce and the growing use of technology.

Many significant issues were discussed during the three days, including the need to learn from overseas experiences in human resources planning and forecasting, the role of women in the profession, the role of library technicians, the growing need for continuing education to help professionals keep abreast of change and perhaps as an aid to motivation and job satisfaction, and the need for library schools to broaden the horizons of their graduates in looking at alternative employment in which librarianship skills and expertise would be pertinent.

The conference concluded with a number of resolutions which went to the General Council of the LAA and the following were passed:

1. That Council create a short-term committee on the status of women in librarianship.
2. That Council initiate steps to monitor regularly gender-based differences in salaries, conditions and career advancement (referred to the Industrial Officer).
3. That the study on library and information work (Bourne, Hill and Mitcheson) be further analysed and interpreted and that the most important findings be presented in a summary report easily comprehensible to members of the profession.
4. That a copy of the recommendations from the Conference be published in *InCite* and sent to all elements of the LAA for comment.
5. Council deferred to its next meeting a recommendation that a Library Workforce Standing Committee be established to:
  - regularly monitor the supply and demand for librarians and technicians in Australia.

continued on page 14



4. LAA House.

Ultimo is one of the inner city areas at present being refurbished. The part of Quarry Street on which LAA House stands is now closed to traffic, and the area paved and laid out with gardens. Jones Street too is currently undergoing some beauty treatment, with repaving and garden areas being laid out.

At times the noise associated with the actual work of the beautification is quite considerable, but LAA staff are attempting to remain calm and philosophical, remembering the long-term benefits which will further enhance their already vastly improved working conditions!

## Your 1983 membership fees are now due!