

Telecom Australia to award WCY prize

To mark the designation of 1983 as World Communications Year, Telecom Australia will present a special prize in conjunction with the ALPC Public Relations Awards for the year. In recognition of the complementary roles played by libraries and telecommunication systems in the total communication process, Telecom will contribute \$1,000 to the acquisitions programme of the library which mounts the most effective promotion of the theme 'Libraries and Communications'. The award will be presented at the National Opening of Library Week in Sydney on Friday, September 16.

Public interest in World Communications Year '83 will be further stimulated in Australia by the youth art competition being sponsored by the Department of Communications. Winning entries will participate in the world-wide competition 'Youth in the Electronic Age '83', to be judged by an international jury, whose choices will be announced at a World Telecommunications Exhibition called TELECOM '83, to be held in Geneva in October.

TELECOM '83 is the fourth in a series of quadrennial exhibitions organised under the auspices of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), which has been designated the lead UN agency for world-wide preparation and celebration of World Communications Year '83, co-ordinating the efforts of the National Co-Ordination Committees set up by Member States. The Australian Co-Ordination Committee for World Communications Year '83 is convened by the Department of Communication, and includes representatives from major communications-oriented organisations throughout the country.

In addition to the activities outlined, the Co-ordination Committee will be involved with a number of other events, since World Communications Year is intended to represent a great deal more than a public relations exercise for the telecommunications industry!

World Communications Year was defined by the ITU as 'a specific set of activities to increase the scope and effectiveness of communications as a force for economic, cultural and social development', with the major emphasis on 'the expansion and refinement of communications infrastructures as a catalyst for and essential element of development'.

In support of these aims seminars are being organised by tertiary institutions across Australia, and Telecom will host meetings of delegates from overseas communications authorities to review communications policies essential to economic and social development in the modern world. Given the vital role which communications technology must play in the world's continuing development, the library community must ensure its involvement in all aspects of the programme.

200 years of war tunes in National Library



An extraordinary collection of marches and songs of wartime in two centuries has been bought by the National Library of Australia.

The collection comprises 914 pieces of sheet music, of which almost 500 are marches recalling the American Civil War, the Crimean, Boer and two World Wars and British military "expeditions" of the 1800s.

The music, which is in well-used condition, was the personal property of Permanent Army gunner Cyril Fitzmaurice, who was born in Hobart in 1920 and died in Fremantle in 1967.

Gunner Fitzmaurice joined the Army after the family moved to Fremantle in 1937. He never became a bandsman, but played the piano at Army singalongs and dances, which explains the presence of some popular songs, operettas and jazz in his collection.

The marches and songs of the earlier wars, which the Library regards as the most important part of the collection, include works by many famous bandsmen-composers, mostly British and American, but with such Australians as Edward H. Tyrrell, of Wallsend, NSW, among them. Several famous lithographers, too, are represented in the colourful pictorial covers of some of the music.

After Gunner Fitzmaurice's death, the collection passed to his twin, Alan, who was also a full-time soldier, and when Alan died last year, to their sister, Mrs. P. C. Purcell, of Deakin, ACT. It was from Mrs. Purcell that the Library acquired the music.

The Fitzmaurice collection will soon become available to researchers and others in the Library's music section.

Status of Women in Librarianship Special Interest Group formed

AT THE March meeting of the General Council, approval was given to petitioners who wished to form a special interest group concerned with issues relating to women's participation in the library workforce.

A steering committee of volunteers drawn from the Victorian Branch have agreed to work on establishing the group.

The proposed objectives of the SIG (Special Interest Group) are as follows:

- To help develop guidelines and programmes designed to enhance the opportunities and the image of women in the library profession.
- To promote and initiate the collection, analysis, dissemination, and co-ordination of information on the status of women librarians and other 'information' professions, thus raising the level of consciousness concerning women.
- To provide General Council and Membership with reports needed for the establishment of policies and actions related to women in librarianship.
- To establish contacts with committees on women's affairs and equal opportunity within other professions and government.

All members of the Association are invited to join regardless of their gender or status. Members who signed the petition for the establishment of the SIG are automatically included on the mailing list. If you are interested in participating please contact the Interim Convenor or the Sydney office, preferably before June 1 as it is proposed to survey members regarding the proposed objectives and government of the SIG and their suggestions for possible activities for the latter part of this year and 1984.

The Steering Committee is investigating the possibility of establishing a career assessment centre for librarians modelled upon a successful North American venture. It is open to all librarians but women in particular have found the centre helpful in bolstering self confidence, identifying appropriate career goals, and planning effective personal development plans.

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