

HAPPENINGS — contd.

SA

MAY 30 MS Read-a-thon. MS Read-a-thon actively encourages children to read. Registration forms available now. Contact: G. Lill (08) 266 2311.

JUNE 7-8 SDC/ORBIT Training Courses. New User, Advanced. Contact: Katie Blake/Tina Reedman (02) 922 9308 or toll free (008) 22 6474.

JUNE 14 LAA Children's and Public Libraries Sections SA Groups Meeting 'New Books for Adolescents' 7.30pm Adelaide High School. Contact: Bernice Bird (08) 52 9225.

JUNE 14 LAA Cataloguers' Section SA Group Meeting 'Introduction to URICA: on-line cataloguing with a bibliographic database and on-line authority file maintenance' 7.30pm Room 47, Main Building, SAIT (North Terrace). Speaker: Frank Austin (AWA). Supper provided. All welcome. Contact: K. Baudinette (08) 275 2063 or S. Gray (08) 260 2055 ext 2119.

JUNE 15 Special Libraries Section Children's Day Luncheon 12.30 pm Madisons, 28 Peel Street. RSVP by 10 June. Contact: Irene Doskatsch (08) 45 0222 ext 373.

JULY 13 Special Libraries Section SA Library Visit 12 noon Public Buildings Department Library, 9th Level, Wakefield House, 30 Wakefield Street, Adelaide. Contact: Lynne Carmichael (08) 49 0400.

AUGUST 12 LAA Special Libraries Section SA Group Dinner for Queen Sirikit's Birthday 12.30pm Bangkok Restaurant, 28 Regent Street. Contact: Irene Doskatsch by 5 August (08) 45 0222 ext 373.

WA

MAY 30 MS Read-a-thon. MS Read-a-thon actively encourages children to read. Registration forms available now. Contact: D. Knight (09) 451 4488.

JUNE 13 WA Branch Council Meeting 4.30 pm Conference Room, 102 Beaufort Street, Perth. Contact: Hon Sec Roy Stall wk (09) 328 7466 or hm (09) 339 2859.

JUNE 22 Medical Librarians' Group of WA Meeting 6pm Repatriation General Hospital. Contact: C. Hamill.

JUNE 29 LAA Special Libraries Section WA Group End of Financial Year Bash / Celebration / Outing. Contact: Kerry Smith (09) 322 4033.

JUNE 29 Special Libraries Sect WA Group Chinese Banquet 7.30 pm China House Restaurant, 159 Onslow Road, Shenton Park. Cost: \$14 per head. BYOG. Partners welcome. Contact: Kerry Smith (09) 322 4033.

JULY 4-8 Insearch/DIALOG. DIALOG Introductory, System Refresher, Search Strategy, Chemical Information, Biosciences and Scitech Seminars. Perth. Contact: (02) 264 6344 or (02) 218 9790.

JULY 15 WAIT/ Special Libraries Sect WA Group Project forms in to Peter Maskell, Dept of Library & Information Studies, WAIT, Kent Street, Bentley WA 6102. Contact: Peter Maskell (09) 350 7256 or Kerry Smith (09) 322 4033.

Victoria

MAY 31 Ausinet Database Specific Courses: ANB, APAIS, AFRE. Melbourne. Contact: Hazel Williams, Computer Search Services, NLA (062) 621 607.

JUNE 1 LAA Ballarat Regional Group Meeting 'Bookselling or merchandising?' 7.45pm Auditorium, School of Mines and Industries, Lydiard Street, Ballarat. Speaker: Robert Webber. All welcome. Contact: Ainslie Morris (053) 31 2499.

JUNE 1 Medical Librarians Section Vic Group Meeting. Contact: Susan Liepa (03) 561 4243.

JUNE 1-3 ACI Computer Services. AUSINET New User and Advanced User Training Courses. Melbourne. Contact: Leigh Baker (03) 544 8433.

JUNE 7 Geelong Regional Group Meeting 'BIN — Barwon Information Network' 7.30pm for 8pm Staff Room, Deakin University Library, Waurin Ponds. Contact: Ian Jamieson (052) 47 1351.

JUNE 8-17 Insearch/DIALOG. DIALOG Introductory, Government Documents, Business, System Refresher, Search Strategy, Medline and Excerpta Medica Seminars. Melbourne. Contact: (02) 264 6344 or (02) 218 9790.

JUNE 9 LAA Library Technicians Section Vic Group Meeting 'Changes in libraries and the effect on technicians' 6 for 6.30pm State Library Theatre. Speaker: Margaret Broadhead (College Librarian, Victoria College). Chairperson: Faye Pattinson. Wine and cheese. As this subject is of concern to all technicians, technician employers and educators, we are looking forward to a good attendance. Contact: Margaret Munro (03) 233 1211 ext 261.

JUNE 16 Australian Book Publishers Association Seminar 'Bar Codes' 10am to 12.30pm Trade Function Room, 87-101 Roden Street, West Melbourne. Cost \$20 per person. Contact: ABPA (02) 29 5422.

JUNE 9-17 Insearch Ltd/DIALOG. DIALOG System (Introductory) Government Documents, Business System Refresher, Search Strategy, Medline and Excerpta Medica Seminars. Melbourne. Contact: (02) 264 6344 or (02) 218 9790.

JUNE 18 LAA Children's Libraries Sect Vic Group 'Poems with Punch: sharing poetry with children' 2.30 to 9.30 pm Oakleigh Public Library, 148 Drummond Street, Oakleigh. Cost: LAA members \$5; non members \$7.50. Limit — 35 participants. Contact: Eileen Nelson (03) 568 1011.

JUNE 20 - JULY 18 Australian Society of Indexers Short Course in Indexing. Five weekly classes conducted by RMIT, Department of Librarianship. Contact: Course Registrar, GPO 1251L, Melbourne, Vic 3001.

JUNE 27 UCLS Section Vic Group Half Day Seminar 'Budg-

Online data analysis service

HOW DOES a corporate librarian determine whether a new service is needed? Is it because a certain number of requests have been made for particular information? If so, then what happens when a system that provides unique capabilities becomes available, a system based on a new concept?

Librarians are the first to recognise that in the present economic environment in Australia executives are seeking cost effective procedures to help them in decision making. Up-to-date, accurate information is needed on which to base these decisions.

I.P. Sharp provides the world's largest collection of online numeric data bases, making available over 30 million series, stored on a central computer and accessed through a terminal or micro-computer in your office. We differ from other information services in providing systems that allow for manipulation and charting of data in addition to simple retrieval programs. We provide the capability to combine data from several sources in one report or graph, a service becoming essential to brokers, corporate planners, economists and financial analysts.

We know this because there have been instances recently when we have received 4-5 inquiries from different departments within a particular corporation; not a very efficient situation.

We have found that librarians are by far the best people for clarifying and organising the overall needs of the employees, and are usually able to get the information needed more quickly, when given the opportunity.

Hence, the impetus of this article, to go directly to the source and inform librarians of an online data analysis service that is extremely beneficial for people who are making financial decisions. We have received enquiries from all levels, yet they are seldom initiated by librarians.

The I.P. Sharp Online Data Analysis service

Users of the company's data network have access to time series on a variety of levels.

At the aggregate level, data bases such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Australian Stock Exchange Indices and International Financial Statistics are ideal for economists. Another data base lists fifty economic forecasts in text for 35 countries, predicting a country's economy, discussing the factors influencing it, and predicting precisely the gross domestic product and other important indicators.

At the company level, STATEX and AGSM (Australian Graduate School of Manage-

ment), provide yearly balance sheet information as well as some already calculated facts, to allow faster analysis of a company's performance. These include an accounting BETA, which is a measure of the risk involved in buying shares in a company; and the ZSCORE formula of Castagna-Matolcsy, which has been successful in the prediction of corporate failure. Daily trading statistics on the Sydney Stock Exchange are also available on this level. I.P. Sharp has company data for the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom for those interested in overseas markets.

There are data bases on the international level ranging from information on currency exchange rates to facts on the U.S. Economic Statistics, gathered by Citibank Economics Department.

Consistent methods of accessing data allow for combining data from a variety of sources into one single application, whether it be to perform market share analysis, colour plotting, forecasting, year-to-year comparisons, analysis of trends, or simply to report data. If you wish you can also store your own private data on the I.P. Sharp System for instant searching or retrieval. The ability to combine your own company's data with public data provides a very powerful analysis tool. All these skills can be learned in courses offered by I.P. Sharp.

The Sharp Communications Network provides local telephone access to the time-sharing service from over 500 cities worldwide. These now include Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra and Brisbane. Elsewhere access can be achieved through the OTC MIDAS NETWORK.

I.P. Sharp makes no charge for use of the data over its normal timesharing charges, except in a few cases where the data supplier imposes a charge. That is, Sharp does not impose subscription fees for any data base, nor charge for the number of data items read. The system can be accessed with an assortment of different terminals or with a micro-computer with communications capability. Many new users find that they already have the equipment necessary for getting started in their offices. This means that there is no initial investment associated with the service.

I.P. Sharp is a worldwide system proved by time and experience. System developments and improvements have been made continually providing the most elaborate range of both Australian and International financial and economic data available on-line today.

Jody Davies
I.P. Sharp Associates Pty Ltd

eting for Librarians' morning **Melbourne CAE.** Cost: \$15 members, \$20 non members. Contact: Helen Sweeny (03) 819 8184.

JUNE 28 Seminar 'Stock failure in some Victorian libraries' presented by Barry McIntyre and Marianne Broadbent 2.30-5 pm Function Room, RMIT Union Building. Fee: Gratis. RSVP by June 24. Contact: Pam Keeley (03) 341 2313.

JULY 11-14 Insearch/DIALOG. DIALOG Introductory, Patent and Energy and Environment Seminars. Melbourne. Contact: (02) 264 6344 or (02) 218 9790.

JULY 13-14 ABN Conference. Details to be announced. Contact: Dulcie Stretton Associates (02) 357 6862.

JULY 25 & AUGUST 1 RMIT Dept of Librarianship Two Day Continuing Education Programme 'Records Management for Librarians' 9.30 to 4.30pm RMIT Union Function Room. Chief Instructor: Ed Johnson, CRM, Visiting Fellow at RMIT. Contact: Cheryl Schauder (03) 341 2963 or (03) 848 5023.

AUGUST 2 LAA Special Libraries Section Vic Group Seminar 'Overseas sources of information'. Details to be announced. Contact: Ann Forbes (03) 647 7433 or Jan Durkin (03) 602 3666.

AUGUST 2-4 ACI Computer Services. AUSINET New User and Advanced User Training Courses. Melbourne. Contact: Leigh Baker (03) 544 8433.

AUGUST 4 LAA Medical Librarians Section Vic Group Meeting. Contact: Aina Zalitis (03) 602 1333 ext 371.

Overseas

MAY 30-JUNE 3 Sixth Congress of South-East Asian Librarians (CONSOL VI) 'The library in the information revolution' Shangrila Hotel, Singapore. Contact: Miss Wee Joo Gim, Honorary Secretary, CONSOL VI, c/- Columbo Plan Staff College, PO Box 187, Tanglin PO, Singapore 9124.

AUGUST 22-26 NZLA Conference 1983 Palmerston North, New Zealand. Contact: The Secretary, NZLA Conference 1983, c/- National Library of New Zealand, Private Bag, Palmerston North.

Inserts in this issue

Readers in all states other than NSW will receive the registration form for the LAA NSW Branch National Interlending Conference. NSW readers received this with the last copy of **inCite**. There is also a Continuing Education insert for all readers.

Advertising in **inCite** gets results.
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