

LAA OBJECTIVES 1984/85 continued from page 4

Item	Progress to date	Action required	Date due	Action Officer
7. Legal responsibility of librarians	Brief consideration by GC. WP established convened by John Levett.	Paper to GC on implications for profession and action required by the LAA.	March 1984	J. Levett
8. Standards for library service	Committee established to monitor the need for standards, convened L. Beveridge. Public library standards Draft policy and performance guidelines prepared and adopted by March GC.	Outline of areas requiring action to be prepared by GC. Publish.	November 1984 August 1984	L. Beveridge M. Garlick
9. Lobbying 1) Briefing of Ministers	President and ED met with Ministers for Science and Technology and Home Affairs. Sought meetings with Min. for Communications and Education no success.	1984 Pres. and ED to meet with Duffy and Ryan and other Ministers as necessary.	Ongoing	Pres. and ED
2) Attendance at Nat. Techn. Conference.	President attended on behalf of LAA.	Ensure LAA is invited to a second conference if held.	1984	Pres. and ED
3) IAC Inquiry	LAA presented submission. Barrie Mitcheson, Doreen Parker, Bert Cornelius presented evidence. Draft report has appeared.	Response to report to be prepared.	December 1983	JCIT, Barrie Mitcheson
4) Funding for public libraries	Section and Sectional Groups invited to identify target areas for funding. Working Party established to identify priority areas for attention.	Approach government on funding identified areas.	Throughout 1984	Gen. Council Exec. Director
5) Private enterprise		Publicise the benefits of using information and employing qualified library staff.	Throughout 1984	Gen. Council Exec. Director.

List to be continued

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

The Australian Government Publishing Service — AACOBS Liaison Committee met in July, discussing several issues of general interest.

Changes to the Commonwealth Acts Interpretation Act now authorise courts to draw on a wider range of materials as aids to the interpretation of Commonwealth laws. These are:

- any relevant reports (e.g. reports of Royal Commissions, law reform commissions, committees of inquiry) laid before Parliament before the provision in question was enacted;
- any treaty or other international agreement referred to in the legislation in question;
- the explanatory memorandum and Second Reading Speech relating to the legislation in question;
- any document that is expressly declared by the legislation in question to be relevant;
- any other relevant material in the Journals of the Senate, the Votes and Proceedings of the House, or the Hansard record of debates.

Libraries concerned will now need to keep all this material. These changes took effect on 12 June 1984, the date of a press release from the Attorney-General which will appear in the *Commonwealth record*.

An AGPS *Charter of printing and publishing activities* was tabled in the House of Representatives on 6 March this year. It sets out the role of AGPS and its relationships with Parliament, departments and authorities. However it is a general statement which fails to mention that some federal agencies, including the National Library of Australia, have exemption from using it. A serious weakness is that no sanctions are available to oblige agencies to work with AGPS, with consequent problems in the availability and bibliographic control of publications. Copies of the Charter will be distributed without charge from the Director, Publications, AGPS, GPO Box 84, Canberra, ACT 2601.

Users will have noticed the AGPS *Annual catalogue of Commonwealth publications* 1982 format has been changed to incorporate full entries in each index sequence. Naturally this has increased its size and cost, and I should be happy to pass on any comments on the format.

Finally, the AGPS-AACOBS Liaison Committee (AALC) is producing a *Review of activities, 1980-84*, which will be distributed to deposit and free issue libraries. Copies will also be available gratis from the AALC Secretary, Mr. Michael Harrington, AGPS, GPO Box 84, Canberra, ACT, 2601. There is no restriction on copying this Review. *Peter Clayton*
LAA representative, AALC

(Canberra College of Advanced Education)

APOLOGY

In the review of *The Convict Priests*, *InCite* Vol 5, No 9, p 6, it was stated that the author was a descendant of the priests. We have been advised that this is not the case and that the relationship is made clear in the book. Our apologies to the author and his family.

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