



IN THE NEWS

IBBY and Loughborough team up

Among the special events planned for next year, which is International Youth Year, is a combined IBBY and Loughborough Conference, to be held in Perth from 1-5 September 1985.

The 'Loughborough' seminars on children's literature were initiated in the 1960s by Roy Stokes, then Head of the Department of Librarianship at the Loughborough Technical College in the United Kingdom, to bring together an international gathering of authors, artists, publishers, librarians, and others interested in children's literature to share information, ideas, and problems. Since then Loughborough conferences have been held regularly in various places in Europe and North America. During the 1983 Loughborough Conference at Aberystwyth, Wales, it was suggested that in 1985 the conference should be held in Australia.

As a result of local discussions, it was decided to combine the IBBY Australia conference with Loughborough '85 in Perth. The conference theme, 'Brave New World: International Understanding Through Books', expresses the aims and ideals of both organisations, and links them to the themes of International Youth Year — participation, development, peace. An associated Book Fair will run from 30 August to 5 September, and a pre-conference seminar on book supply in the local region will take place on 31 August and 1 September. Pre-conference and post-conference tours will be organised so that participants can see something of Perth and Western Australia.

For further information, write to the Conference Organisers, Brave New World, GPO Box T1777, Perth, WA 6000.

Exceptional people

The Queensland Chapter of the Australian Association of Special Education has recently published the proceedings from the 8th National Conference of Australian Association of Special Education, held in Brisbane in 1983.

Entitled *Exceptional People: A Lifetime Commitment*, Proceedings of the Eighth National Conference of The Australian Association of Special Education, Volumes I & II, 1983, it costs \$20 and is available from AASE/Brisbane Branch, PO Box 2070, Brisbane, 4001.

n brief

Christine Crocker, BA, ALAA, has been awarded the James Cook Bicentenary Scholarship for 1984/85. She will be studying library services at British universities.

One of the best known families in librarianship has gained a new member. Stevan Daniel Borchart, son of Max, grandson of Dietrich, was born on June 13, 1984.

Papua New Guinea Information Network

The Library of the University of Papua New Guinea has received funding to establish a three-part project to be known as the Papua New Guinea Information Network.

The project will include the publication of a 5-volume bibliography of printed materials about New Guinea; the establishment of a database on printed items about New Guinea and a document delivery service which will involve extensive microfilming of New Guinea titles.

Funding for the project came from IDRC and its cataloguing software was donated by the British Council.

School Library Conference

The International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) which got under way in Sydney in 1970 is a member of IFLA and WCOTP and works with international bodies including a project in co-operation with UNESCO 'Books for school libraries in developing countries.'

The organisation holds annual conferences in different parts of the world. The 1985 conference is to be held in Kingston, Jamaica, July 28-August 2, 1985, the theme being 'Libraries and information; Towards a policy for schools'. Papers will be presented on the following topics: The way forward in schools; Designing a policy for school libraries; Implementing a policy for school libraries; Programming for the effective use of school libraries; Reviewing the school library policy.

For more information contact Valerie Packer, 4 Godfrey Road, Artarmon 2064. Donations for the UNESCO project mentioned above may also be sent to that address.

Order now!

The proceedings of the very successful IBBY conference held in Sydney last year have just been published. Entitled *Changing Faces: Story and Children in an Electronic Age*, copies are available at the special price of \$15.00 (plus \$2.00 postage).

Anyone fortunate enough to have attended this conference will remember the interesting range of speakers there, including the fascinating talks by Aidan Chambers. Send orders to IBBY Australia, PO Box 194, Edgecliff NSW 2027.

More In The News overleaf

OBITUARY

Professor Melvin Weinstock

Professor Melvin Weinstock died very suddenly of a heart attack in Houston, Texas on 28 October, while on study leave. He had just attended the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science in Philadelphia and was on his way to lecture at the University of Texas School of Library Science at Austin.

Mel Weinstock was appointed Professor and Head of the School of Librarianship at the University of New South Wales in 1976. Since 1979 he had also been Warden of Philip Baxter College within the University. He was a member of the Executive Board of Shalom College and on the Advisory Committee of the Australian Ensemble, the University's chamber music group. Mel was also a member of the University Library Committee and of the University's Research and Higher Awards Committee.

Mel came to the University from the Institute for Scientific Information, where he had worked from 1969 as Director of Marketing and then as Director of New Product Planning. For five years before that he worked for Herner and Company in Washington, D.C., doing contract research on medical and scientific information systems design. Some of his papers on citation indexing and on marketing information products have become classics in the literature.

Mel's first degree was a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Research from Rutgers, and he later completed a Master of Science in Information Science at Drexel.

Some of his early life was spent in a farming community in Michigan and he spoke of those days often as evidence of the impracticality of socialist idealism. Wealth there may not have been, but there was obviously a rich intellectual life in his family, from which Mel drew his considerable knowledge of American Jewish heritage of which he was so proud. Mel also drew respect for individual freedom. His ability to trust and not to meddle was a quality much appreciated by his staff and by his students in the School and the College.

His most enduring legacy to the School of Librarianship may well be the resources of people, premises and facilities which his political skills gained for it. He also made many contributions to other facets of University life and all his activities were marked by his warmth and humour which discouraged pomposity and dismantled rule-bound rigidities.

Mel is survived by his wife, Ruth, who will continue to live and work in Sydney, and by his two sons, David and Bobby in the United States.

*Associate Professor Carmel Maguire
Acting Head of School*

19 November, 1984

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IN THE NEWS continued

New appointment at Lane Cove

Lane Cove Public Library now has a new Deputy Librarian and Information Co-ordinator. She is Lea Rosser and she replaced Jill Peters from Tuesday 2nd October. Lea previously worked at Parramatta Library where she was in charge of the House Bound Reader Service. She completed her B.A. in Library and Information Science in 1982 at Riverina College where she majored in Public Administration. She is currently completing a Bachelor of Business course also at Riverina College.

(Dr) Chris Henderson

Chief Librarian and Information Co-ordinator

Beauty, mate!

The Standards Association of Australia has embarked on an ambitious project to determine the nature of Australian business language.

The primary purpose of the study is to provide information that will enable business educators and personnel officers to design training and test material relevant to the work likely to be encountered in an Australian office. The results of the study should be of broader interest.

The need for the study arose during SAA's preparation of the recently published Australian standard typing speed test (AS 2708) and work just began on a similar standard for shorthand speed tests. The chief stumbling block is the lack of any information on average difficulty levels and vocabulary characteristics of Australian business language. American and English studies are not necessarily relevant to Australia.

Briefly, the study will involve the collation

and computer analysis of a large number of letters, memos and reports from a representative sample of Australian business and government. The analysis will produce such information as common word and usage lists, measures of vocabulary difficulty and information about punctuation and sentence structure.

It is hoped that the proposed shorthand speed test standard, requested by the Canberra College of Technical and Further Education, will be published towards the end of next year.

Talking local news

It's a first for Melbourne — a 'talking local newspaper', the result of co-operation between Nunawading Library, the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind, and the *Nunawading Gazette*.

Melbourne's first Suburban Talking Newspaper is a weekly audio cassette tape for print

handicapped people, and includes excerpts from two local newspapers, the *Nunawading Gazette* and the *Eastern Standard*. Feature stories, public information and notices, and even the occasional description of photographs introduce blind people and others who have difficulty reading to the news and life of the community.

The service is free and started in June this year. Gail Lewis, the librarian who supervises the volunteer readers from Mitcham Repertory Group and Churinga Players, said that there has been a wonderful response to the service. Over 80 residents receive the cassettes each week.

Nunawading Council are providing the library facilities free for the talking papers, and the RVIB provides all duplication equipment and cassettes. The *Gazette* provides pre-production galley proofs of articles. The cassettes are posted around the same time as the papers are delivered.

ON THE INDUSTRIAL FRONT



On a number of occasions recently I have been asked to explain the difference between trade unions and professional associations such as the LAA.

Trade unions are registered *industrial* organisations and as such are the only bodies able to represent employees before various state and federal industrial tribunals in order to negotiate better wages and conditions or to argue for redundancy settlements or the reinstatement of members who have been unfairly dismissed.

As registered organisations, trade unions have conferred upon them certain rights, such as the right of union officials to enter the premises of respondents to their awards to speak to union members and the right to examine the records of a respondent organisation relating to the salaries, annual leave, hours of work etc of employees.

Professional associations on the other hand are generally not able to register as industrial organisations and are concerned with furthering the *professional* interests of their members by sponsoring activities such as continuing education courses, promoting the profession publicly, providing a network of contacts by encouraging the formation of special interest groups, producing publications which are relevant to the profession and helping to maintain the standard of professional courses at educational institutions.

The LAA does all these things and, in addition, it has an industrial information officer; a position which is sometimes confused with that of a trade union official. Because the LAA is not a registered industrial organisation, its industrial information officer cannot directly negotiate improvements in awards and conditions for library staff and does not possess the same rights as a trade union official.

The key word in the title of the position is *information*. The LAA's Industrial Information Officer *can* provide information about industrial matters to members and is in fact in the unique position of being able to monitor industrial matters affecting library staff right around the country. Given the proliferation of trade unions representing library staff in Australia, no other organisation is able to provide an overview of industrial matters affecting the profession as a whole.

Hence the LAA's Industrial Information Officer can produce the annual comparative

Salary Scale booklet and can monitor work level standards and employment prospects across the country. This information is of assistance to individual unions when they are preparing cases for improved wages and conditions for their members who work in libraries. So the LAA's Industrial Information Officer can act as a link between unions and the profession as a whole.

A significant number of librarians and library technicians work in special libraries in private enterprise and (except in NSW) are generally not covered by a union. For these people, the LAA's Industrial Information Officer is their only source of advice about industrial matters. In summary then, trade unions and professional associations carry out quite different functions. The LAA's Industrial Information Officer provides a link between the two but does not perform the work of a trade union official.

Louise Lansley

Industrial Information and Research Officer

National Film and Sound Archive

The National Film and Sound Archive Advisory Committee are asking individuals and organisations to make submissions on the development of the NFSA and in particular on the following matters:

- functions and responsibilities;
- legislation required;
- resources and facilities required, with a program of construction and costs;
- resources and facilities required;
- staffing;
- policies for acquisition of material, cataloguing, conservation, reproduction and access arrangements;
- relationship and co-ordination with other Commonwealth bodies, with the industry and trade;
- regional representation;
- appropriate charges for services;
- preservation program and timetables;
- deposit requirements.

Submissions are to be sent by November 30 1984 to The Chairperson, National Film and Sound Archive Advisory Committee, GPO Box 2002 Canberra ACT 2601.

Enquiries can be directed to Mr. C. D. Pitson, Interim Director, NFSA (062) 671 7111.

The LAA will be submitting comment on those areas in which we have expertise.

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