overnment publications

e Australian Government Publishing Ser-
e — AACOBS Liaison Committee met in May
the first time in nearly two years. During
s time AGPS has adopted a corporate plan
ned at improving internal efficiency and is
w hoping to be able to introduce a number
changes:
- production of cataloguing copy to a higher
  standard
- publication of a forward list of those titles
  AGPS will be marketing
- major changes to AGPS financing. At pre-
  sent this is from an appropriation, plus a
  publications trust account, plus a govern-
  ment printing trust account. It is planned
  that from 1 July 1986 there be a single
  trust account with the appropriation one
  line within that. This will give AGPS much
  greater flexibility and enhance its ability
  to make cost recoveries to the govern-
  ment. The result should be a much more
  market-oriented publisher.

The Secretary of the Committee carried out
urvey of libraries to seek comments on the
PS Annual catalogue. Many responses were
tical of its bulk (and hence price), and saw a
ed for improved indexing. With the likely

changes to AGPS financing, which until now
has contained the format of its catalogues, and
a new Director, Publishing, suggestions for
improvements to all the AGPS catalogues
would be welcome.

A second survey of libraries canvassed titles
thought suitable for microform publication.
Many libraries wished to continue to receive
hardcopy, seeing microform suitable mainly
for backsets or second sets. Titles suggested
more than ten times for possible microform
publication were:
- reports and associated material from Royal
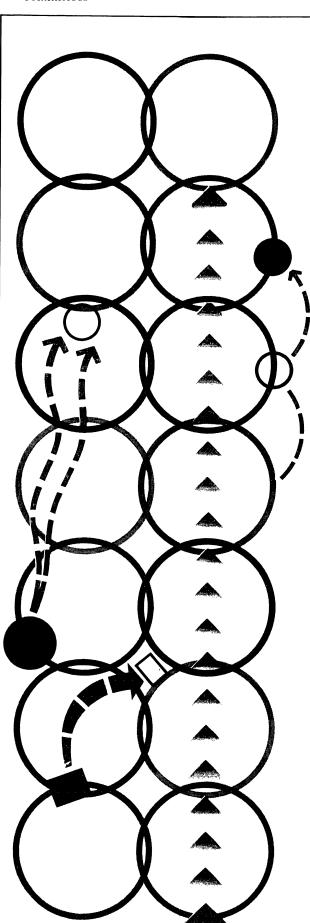 Commissions and Parliamentary
  Committees

- Parliamentary papers (including the H.R.
  Misc. series, currently not readily
  available)
- Commonwealth of Australia *Gazette*.

Copies of the brief reports on these two sur-
veys are available from me or from the Secre-
tary of the Committee (Michael Harrington,
AGPS, GPO Box 84, Canberra ACT 2601).

Finally, the AGPS *Style manual* is being
completely rewritten. Preparation has been
delayed, and publication is now hoped for in
early 1988.

Peter Clayton
LAA representative, AALC
Canberra College of Advanced Education

National Interlending Conference

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Information Retrieval Protocol and
Authority Records Exchange. Geac
will make those dreams real, too.