

INDUSTRIAL NEWS

CAPL

The Victorian Working Group on Multicultural Library Services has prepared a petition in English and a form letter in 10 community languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, Greek, Italian, Macedonian, Maltese, Slovenian, Turkish, and Vietnamese) which call on the Federal Government to provide assistance to multicultural public library services.

Copies of these are available from Louise Lansley at head office.

Status of women

The Association has been advised by the Federal Government's Office of the Status of Women that a wide range of material on Status of Women issues is available from its office and also from the National Women's Consultative Council.

Individual library services wishing to receive this information can be placed on the mailing list by phoning Margaret Pender on (062) 72-4855 or by writing to her care of the Office of the Status of Women, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Canberra, ACT 2600.

Louise Lansley

Manager, Education, Industrial Services

New LAA Section cover story cont'd

historical resources.

Speakers during the evening represented various groups and the interests of the diverse audience. Gail Griffith, Executive Officer, Affiliated Societies (Royal Australian Historical Society) introduced Nick Vine-Hall, Executive Director, Society of Australian Genealogists; Peter Orlovitch from the School of Librarianship, University of NSW; Ian Jack, from the Dept of History, Sydney University; Dr Carol Liston, Historian and Convenor, Affiliated Societies Sub-committee; and Dr Peter Spearritt, from the Dept of History, Macquarie University (Convenor, Bicentennial National Historic Records Search Program) to the meeting respectively.

Nick Vine-Hall took to the rostrum first and commented on the current surge of interest in things historical and the demand that this interest is putting on institutions holding historical resources. The new section will help to form an appropriate new organised national approach to helping the public find and use historical resources.

Peter Orlovitch spoke about the role of the Action Committee on Local Government Records in the creation of policies for preserving the archives of local government. The creation of the Local Studies Section is the next step and it will play an important role in giving access to resources and in creating adequate facilities for reception, storage and use of documents.

Ian Jack drew the audience's attention to

the current 'Bicentennial fever'. He commented that it will take 'flair and far-sighted planning' to make projects begun during 1987-88 continue after 1988. Groups such as the new section will be fundamental to the 'after 88 thrust'.

Carol Liston spoke on the relationship that can exist between local history librarian and other groups, such as local historical societies and professional historians. Pete Spearritt gave a brief account of his involvement in the Historic Record Search and outlined the focus of the program.

This concluded the first part of the evening and the election of office bearers took place. The following people were elected:

Local Studies Section (National)

President: Mrs Margaret Wyatt

Secretary: Ms Chrys Meader

Treasurer: Ms Linda Fairbarin

Local Studies Section (NSW Group)

President: Ms Judy Washington

Secretary/

Treasurer: Ms Michelle Nichols

Margaret Wyatt, the new National President and catalyst of the group, ended the evening by thanking the speakers and by giving special thanks to Pat Ward, Diana Oliver, Jenny Adams and Sue Phillips for their help and advice. She also outlined the priorities of the new section as being concerned with identifying the role of local studies librarians and setting up a network of support. She remarked that as far as the work, enthusiasm and commitment of the new section is concerned 'it's only the beginning'.

National Library fire

Readers may remember the lengthy article by my predecessor on the National Library fire in *InCite*, 26 April 1985. The cause of the fire was a matter of great interest to the Australian library community, and Mr Bryan said at the time that it was subject to a coronial inquiry and the library would comment further when it could.

This inquiry finished late last year with the coroner making an open finding on the cause of the commencement of the fire, saying that it could not be established. He found no suspicious circumstances or evidence of foul play. His conclusion was that the fire commenced

in the roof cavity area of the upper level of the National Library in an area where asbestos removal was taking place, but that any more precise comments were speculative.

We know from inquiries to the library that there has been considerable interest in the Australian library community about any lessons we have learnt from the fire, and in particular what we have since done about counter-disaster planning measures. Dr Jan Lyall, Director, Preservation Services Branch is therefore preparing a comment on this for circulation to major libraries and other interested parties in the near future.

W. M. Horton

Director-General, NLA

BPDC — where the living is easy!



What a difference — attending a conference in an attractive bushland setting. The LAA TAFE Section and Queensland TAFE Section Group have chosen the Bardon Professional Development Centre as the venue for their first National Conference, 8-10 July 1987.

Situated only 8km from the centre of Brisbane, the venue is set in the suburb of Bardon, at the foothills of Mt Coot-tha. Ample car parking is available and buses will be provided each day from the accommodation at Kelvin Grove to the venue. Enquiries should be directed to B. Burgess, C/- Bankstown College of TAFE (02) 707 8566.

60 minutes

Minor book repair workshop is a 60 minute video recording produced by the University of Queensland's Library and the Department of Audiovisual Services.

Based on a workshop conducted by Mr Clive Bennett, supervisor of binding operations at the University's printery, the video now forms part of the library's ongoing insertive training program.

Minor book repair 'covers' rebinding and replacing the spine on a hardcover book and miscellaneous repair techniques such as repairing paper tears and glueing covers.

VHS copies are available at a cost of \$50 each. Orders should be sent to: Library Audio-Visual Services, University of Queensland Library, St Lucia, Qld 4067.

Do you need to discuss something with an LAA staff member? Don't forget about the new toll free line. You can ring us on (008) 221 481 throughout business hours.

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