

## NEWS NOTES FROM STATE ARCHIVES INSTITUTIONS

### New South Wales

Mr R.F. Doust has taken over the duties of Senior Archives Officer, formerly carried out by Mr D.J. Bluford. A new salaries agreement with the Public Service Board in New South Wales covering salaries for officers of the Public Library, including the staff of the Archives Office, was signed on 1 November 1962. This provides for a new position of Senior Archivist, who will be in charge of the Archives Office, and will be responsible, under the general direction of the Principal Archivist (Mr G.D. Richardson) for the management and control of the New South Wales state archives. It is expected that this appointment will be made early in 1963.

### Queensland

Miss F.C. Dolan has been appointed Librarian of the Teachers' College, Kelvin Grove, Brisbane, and the position of Assistant Archivist is therefore vacant. A new records repository, in the Anzac Square Public Buildings, in the centre of the business area of the city of Brisbane, has been allocated for use by the Archives Section. This is a ground floor room, over 4,000 square feet in area, which has been provided with Compactus shelving throughout. It will accommodate some 16,000 cubic feet of records, and has a forced-draft, filtered air supply, although it is not air conditioned. It will serve primarily the Departments located in the Anzac Square Building, which include the Titles Office, Stamp Duties Office, Company Registration Office, Public Curator Office and Housing Commission.

### South Australia

A French Government bursary to attend the 1963 Stage International d'Archives at the Archives Nationales, Paris, has been awarded to Mr B.S. Baldwin, M.A. (Cantab.), a member of the South Australian Archives staff. A three-months' lecture course will be followed by three months investigating sources on the French exploration of South Australia.

### Western Australia

Miss Margaret Medcalf, of the staff of the W.A. State Archives and Battye Library, was granted nine months' leave of absence by the Library Board of W.A. to follow three months' long service leave this year, in order to study and gain further experience in archives administration overseas. She has visited the Indian Archives at New Delhi and the Archives of West Germany at Koblenz. In May she attended the conference of the Society of Archivists at Plymouth, and she then took

a post in the London County Council Archives under Miss Ida Darlington - they had a temporary position available for four months pending the appointment of a new member of staff. She was retained as personal assistant to Miss Darlington for the remaining period (about two months) she was able to devote to full time work, and was then going to spend a month or so looking at special aspects of work with records in the Public Record Office, British Museum and various of the other county archives. She will return to her position in Western Australia at the end of January 1963.

### Tasmania

The main item of news from Tasmania relates to the removal of the archives from their basement premises under the Supreme Court in Macquarie Street, Hobart, to the new Library building at the corner of Murray and Bathurst Streets. Approximately 4,000 linear feet of archives were so moved, the principle determining what should occupy the new accommodation, and what should remain in Macquarie Street, was student use. Although an attempt was made not to split record groups, those archives occupying the new building are the ones most often in demand for student reading, and include the valuable collection of Tasmanian newspapers. Records remaining at Macquarie Street were mostly those still being referred to by the departments which created them, although certain municipal and local court records, even though they have long since ceased to be current, were also left behind. The accommodation left vacant in the Macquarie Street building will be used for further transfers of semi-current material, which is already beginning to arrive. The staff left the old premises with mixed feelings, and they still remember the congenial, if musty, atmosphere with nostalgia. They are, however, gradually becoming used to the new aseptic environment. Public approval of the change is reflected in a rise in attendance, and stricter controls are now necessary in the use of the archives.