

A GUIDE TO MANUSCRIPTS RELATING TO AUSTRALIA AND THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Archives and Manuscripts. Vol. 2, No. 7, November 1964, pp. 3-9, contained my address to Section E, History, of the 1964 Congress of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, entitled "Recording of Manuscripts of Australian and Pacific Interest held abroad". In this address I outlined a scheme for preparing a Guide to such manuscripts in the British Isles. I mentioned that I had been given a Visiting Fellowship in the Department of History of the Research School of Social Sciences of the Australian National University, January to June 1964, to do some preliminary work in Australia collecting information on our existing knowledge of manuscripts in the British Isles.

During the six months I visited State Libraries, University Libraries and Departments of History, or members of these Departments, in Canberra, Sydney, Newcastle, Armidale, Brisbane, Melbourne and Adelaide and corresponded with State Libraries and scholars in Perth and Hobart. In August I spent a fortnight in New Zealand and visited the Universities of Otago and Canterbury, the Victoria University of Wellington and the University of Auckland as well as the Hocken and Alexander Turnbull Libraries and the Auckland Institute and Museum. Naturally I took the opportunity of discussing methods of preparing a Guide to manuscripts in the British Isles and of asking for advice. I was given a great deal of valuable information.

While visiting and while corresponding with libraries I made notes of all transcripts, typescripts, photostats, photographs and microfilms of manuscripts held in the British Isles and these "Notes" form the main body of a report on my six months work. In the "Notes" I included some of the information I collected on uncopied material and some of the hints given me, but the bulk of the "Notes" consists of entries for copies in Australia so that a draft list or catalogue of such copies can be extracted from them. I must admit it would be a very first draft towards a union catalogue of copies in Australia of manuscripts in Great Britain and Ireland. A great deal more work would have to be done to make a catalogue definitive at a given date.

Such as they are however my "Notes" should be useful to scholars and I have been given permission to place copies in the National Library, Canberra and the Mitchell Library, Sydney. This has been done.

The "Notes" are compiled from copies I examined in various libraries, chiefly the National Library and the Mitchell Library, from information received from many librarians and scholars, and from lists of the microfilms prepared under the Joint Copying Project.

Among hand transcripts the Bonwick Transcripts comprise the greatest body of material. I could give only a summary of their contents, Appendix 2 of my Notes, pp. 74-81. They merit much more detailed description for, as is well known, they are not all printed in *Historical Records of Australia* nor in *Historical Records of New South Wales*.

The papers in the Public Record Office also receive very summary treatment in my "Notes", pp. 23-37. I could not attempt to list the Joint Copying Project microfilms of British government records so my note is a list of what guides exist, both guides to the contents of the Public Record

Office and guides to the Joint Copying Project microfilms. These lists of guides are followed by entries for other copies I found in Australia.

The full title of the "Notes" is *Notes on Manuscript Sources for the History of Australia, New Zealand and the South West Pacific existing in Great Britain and Ireland*. They are in typescript, quarto, and, including a name index, run to 127 pages.

Early in 1964 funds were guaranteed by the Australian National University and the National Library of Australia to finance the survey in the British Isles. The Institute of Commonwealth Studies of the University of London, 27 Russell Square, London W.C.1., has generously made a room available and work began in November 1964. It is hoped that in three years enough information will be gathered to warrant publication.

Phyllis Mander-Jones

MINUTES OF THE 1965 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SECTION

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Archives Section, Library Association of Australia, held in Physics Lecture Room No. 6, School of General Studies, Australian National University, Canberra, on Wednesday 25th August 1965, at 5.30 p.m.

Present

Miss M. F. F. Lukis (President), Misses Joan E. Murray, J. D. Hine and S. Mourot; Messrs. J. L. Cleland, R. F. Doust, G. L. Fischer, R. K. Flanagan, K. Green, A. Horton, R. C. Sharman, D. B. Street and A. Wilkes.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Messrs P. R. Eldershaw and G. D. Richardson. Mr Richardson was representing the Archives Section at a meeting called by Miss M. Ramsay, Convener of a Committee on Sections, Divisions and Regional Groups. The meeting had been called for the same time as the Annual Meeting of the Section.

Minutes

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Section held in Sydney on 17 Aug 1964 were read and confirmed.

Matters Arising From Minutes

The matter of uniform archives legislation, having been included in the Secretary's progress report, was deferred until after the reading of that report.

Overseas Visitor

Oral reports had been received from Messrs Richardson and Fischer relating to the possibility of arranging for an overseas archivist to visit Australia at the time of the 1967 Library Conference. After discussion, it was resolved that the President of the Section should be empowered to lay before the Executive Committee of the Association, with a view to arranging for an overseas archivist to make a survey of the Archives situation in Australia and incidentally to speak at the 14th Biennial Conference, a