

NEWS NOTES

Queensland State Archives

The Queensland State Archives reports three important transfers received since that institution last supplied news notes for this journal. These were: Land Court Decisions from 1884 onwards, measuring 449 feet; records from the Georgetown Court House measuring 83 feet; and school annual returns and school admission registers 1860s to 1960s measuring 198 feet.

Mr Jim Bruce has been appointed to the position of Document Repairer/Bookbinder, and Mr Don Green as male assistant has taken on the duties connected with the fumigation of records. Various items have been purchased for the repair/bookbinding work, including a gold blocking press, two nipping presses – one 24" x 18" and the other 16" x 15" – one 30" sewing frame, and one 36" board cutter. Mr Bruce is using a new material in connection with document repair – it is non-stick Teflon-coated cloth.

A Fuji microfilm camera L2 with the interesting feature of back-lighting has been installed in the room provided for its use. Recently work was commenced on the development of the south-east corner of the Ground Floor Archives building, which will be used as a security room for microfilm storage. There is also a provision for a special bell system and security light to be placed on the first floor as safety measures for this room.

The Archives also reports the acquisition of a Multilith Offset Printing Machine, and the operation of this machine has been added to the list of Mr Green's duties. The microfilm camera has been tested by experts from the Public Service Board and the Main Roads Department, and is now ready to produce archival quality microfilm, which will be processed by the Microfilm Service Bureau of the Main Roads Department. Mr Stan Ellis, formerly of the Survey Office Photographic Section, has been appointed Photographic Assistant.

Archives Office of Tasmania

The long awaited move of the Archives Office of Tasmania into Phase II of the State Library building now seems likely to take place in December. The delays have been a mixed blessing, providing on the one hand an extra 6 to 8 months to prepare and on the other a period of intolerable strain on facilities.

The only staff change of note has been the resignation of the Deputy Principal Archivist, Mrs Mary McRae who took up a scholarship to conduct research leading to a Ph.D.

Commonwealth Archives Office

In May 1971, following the abolition of the Prime Minister's Department, the Archives Office became part of the newly established Department of the Vice-President of the Executive Council, which was shortly afterwards renamed the Department of the Environment, Aborigines and the Arts.

Mr J.P. Dunner took up appointment as Director at the end of May, following the transfer of Mr K.W. Pearson to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The Chief Archivist, Dr K. Penny is on furlough until November 1971 and will be visiting Archives institutions in Britain and on the Continent during this time. Miss T.M. Exley is acting as Chief Archivist in his absence.

In May, Mr B.T. Burne, who had re-joined the staff of the Archives Office after three years in Zambia, commenced duty as Director of the Central Archives of the Western Pacific High Commission.

Work is in progress on the first stage of the new repository building at Villa-wood, N.S.W.

The Reserve Bank of Australia

Mr H.E. Hayward, M.A., Litt. B., has been appointed the Archivist of the Reserve Bank of Australia, in succession to Mr K. Polden, who has been promoted to the position of Assistant Secretary. Mr Hayward joined the Bank in 1949, and before taking up his present position he was the Bank's Recruitment Officer.

The University of New England Archives

1. Work on the new wing of the U.N.E. Library is now in progress. The first link between the old and new buildings is to be through the Archives (which is on the lower ground floor, on the south side of the present building). Part of the south wall of the Archives has been removed, and a temporary dust-proof wall of half-inch fibreboard has been erected, cutting off a rectangular area measuring about 6 ft x 30 ft which was previously occupied by a large sorting table and three study carrels. As a result the Archivist -- already short of space -- finds himself in more cramped quarters than ever before. No relief can be expected until late 1972, when the new wing should be ready for occupation.

2. An Archives Advisory Committee has been formed, on the initiative of the Archivist, with the aim of increasing liaison between the Archives Division and those departments whose staff and students are most likely to benefit through wider use of the archival collection.

It is hoped that the Committee will also prove to be a helpful source of ideas regarding the future direction of the records collection programme.

The Committee will be made up of the Librarian, the Archivist and members of the academic staff representing the departments of History, Economic History, Sociology, Education, Geography and Politics. The inaugural meeting will probably be held early in third term, 1971.

Archives of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea

Mr Moeka Helai, B.A (a graduate of the University of Papua and New Guinea) has been appointed to the staff of the Papua/New Guinea Archives.

Charles E. Wilson Archives

Anderson College, Anderson, Indiana announces the opening of The Charles E Wilson Archives, a research facility for use by serious scholars. The archives contain the personal papers of the late Charles E. Wilson, President of General Motors Corporation, 1941-1953 and Secretary of Defense, 1953-1957. The collection includes approximately 180 manuscript boxes of personal correspondence, 35 bound volumes of speeches, press clippings and photographs. The collection also includes a wide range of personal correspondence spanning the years 1926-1961 and should be of special interest to scholars of twentieth century America, American business history, the Eisenhower administration and United States foreign policy. The collection will be open for search about September 1, 1971 and scholars may request search privileges from the Archivist, Dr Larry G. Osnes, Anderson College, Anderson, Indiana 46011

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

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Dr J Hagan is Senior Lecturer in History at the Wollongong University College.

Mr Graeme Powell is Keeper of Manuscripts at the National Library of Australia.

Miss Anne Beggs is on the staff of the Manuscripts Section of the National Library of Australia

Miss Elizabeth Berry is with the Tasmanian State Archives