

AUSTRALIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SERVICES

The Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services (AACOBS) appointed the following members to its Standing Committee at its annual meeting of 25th August :

Mr H. Bryan (University of Sydney)
Miss B.C.L. Doubleday, O.B.E. (C.S.I.R.O.)
Mr A.P. Fleming, O.B.E. (National Library of Australia)
Mr A.R. Horton (University of N.S.W.)
Mr K.A.R. Horn (State Library of Victoria)
Mr R.K. Olding (State Library of South Australia)
Mr S.L. Ryan (State Library of Queensland)

Mr Horn, Mr Olding and Mr Ryan are new to the Standing Committee.

Mr G.D. Richardson O.B.E., (Library of New South Wales), the retiring Chairman of the Standing Committee, Mr F.A. Sharr (Library Board of Western Australia) and Mr F.D.O. Fielding (University of Queensland) did not seek re-election to the Committee.

The Standing Committee is elected each year by the Council from its own members to make recommendations to the Council and to assist in the implementation of the Council's decisions.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE FIELD OF LIBRARIANSHIP

At its annual meeting in August, AACOBS appointed a committee of three members to investigate the whole area of Australian research and development in fields of interest to librarians. Members considered that Australian librarians need guidelines for the practical implementation of developments in new areas such as audiovisual collecting and library automation. It was also decided that AACOBS would be an appropriate body to investigate the possibility of providing some list of priorities for library research and seeking funds for such research.

Other areas which the Committee, consisting of Mr Dietrich Borchardt (convener), Miss Jean Hagger and Mr Milton Simms, might investigate the state of Australian subject bibliography, means of funding bibliographical work and the available publishing outlets for this work.

REGISTER OF RESEARCH

At its annual meeting held at the National Library on 25th August, members of AACOBS expressed concern at the lack of any published Australian register of research in progress in fields of interest to librarians. A register of this kind is needed not only for the benefit of Australians engaged in research, librarians, and other interested persons who wish to keep abreast of this research, but also to satisfy inquiries from overseas.

The AACOBS Standing Committee has been asked to investigate the feasibility of producing such a register and to report its findings to the Council.

CELESTIAL REVIEW OF AACOBS ACTIVITIES

At its annual meeting on Friday, 25th August, AACOBS resolved to appoint a working party of seven to review the role, function and method of operation of the Council.

AACOBS was established in 1956 to plan and recommend to appropriate authorities, measures for the further development of Australian library and bibliographical services and to co-operate with international bodies on library matters. The original working party which set out AACOBS role, function and method of operation was appointed in 1953, so that the present organization of AACOBS dates back almost twenty years. Important changes have occurred in the Australian and world library scene over those years and the Council agreed that it was time for an examination of its position to see if it still achieves the objectives it originally set out to achieve and if these objectives are appropriate to the present situation and likely developments in the future. The plan is for AACOBS to continue functioning in its present form while the working party reviews the whole system of its operations and then reports to AACOBS.

Mr D. Borchardt, librarian of La Trobe University, was appointed convener for the initial meeting of the working party.

COMPUTERS AND ARCHIVES — An Addendum

Mr P.D. Wilson contributed an article on "Computers and Archives" to the August issue of *Archives and Manuscripts* (vol. 4, no 8, August 1972, pp.11-18). He writes:

As the perceptive watcher of the literature will have noted, I owe an apology to the Public Record Office for my remarks about the progress of their work with automation. I trust I may be able to offer the following references by way of penance:

P. Summons, L. Bell and M. Roper — "PROSPEC: a computer application for the Public Record Office", *Journal of the Society of Archivists*, vol. 4 (5), April 1972, p. 423.

M. Roper — "Modern departmental records and the Record Office", *Journal of the Society of Archivists*, vol. 4 (5), April 1972, pp. 400-412.

My only excuse is that the relevant issue of the *Journal* did not come into my hands until I had despatched the article.

P.D. Wilson