

the close of one of the many chapters in the saga of Gordon Richardson's contribution to the affairs of the L.A.A. The Association's thanks and good wishes were conveyed to him.

16 SYMPOSIUM OF EDITORS OF DOCUMENTATION, LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES JOURNALS

Mr D.H. Borchardt, Librarian of La Trobe University, attended a Symposium of editors of documentation, library and archives journals held under the auspices of UNESCO in Paris in May 1972 as the official delegate of the L.A.A.

Resolutions included recommendations concerning the abstracting and indexing of literature in the field and that UNESCO should carry out a feasibility study. There was an extended discussion on the relevance of the Symposium to archives work and the considerable differences in archival practice in the many countries represented suggested that archivists had less to gain from a meeting of this kind than librarians. A suggestion was made that an Association of Editors of Documentation, Library and Archives Journals be formed and it was suggested that library associations and similar bodies might care to consider the proposal.

17 GUIDE TO COLLECTIONS OF MANUSCRIPTS RELATING TO AUSTRALIA

As stated in our last *Newsletter* a meeting was held in March of this year to discuss matters relating to the *Guide*. It was decided that a new introduction and new instructions should be compiled for inclusion in the *Guide*. Drafts of both have now been prepared and circulated to contributing libraries. The categories to be included are private papers, including copies (microfilm etc. but not material from the Australian Joint Copying Project), closed or restricted collections, oral history collections and fugitive official collections. Government archives are not to be included except in cases where they exist outside the national or state archives office where it would be presumed they would be held. There was discussion on a change of title for the *Guide* but it has been decided that no alteration will be made and the original title will be retained.

18 INDEX TO AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT MICROFILMS

A calculation has been made by the National Library as to the possible time and cost involved in compiling a detailed index to the microfilms covering Colonial Office Series 280. The result showed that it would take approximately two man days to index each reel and there are 1,558 reels which brings the total time to 13-14 years. Working on a salary of \$6,000 per annum for the indexer, the total cost would be \$100,000.

NEWS NOTES

QUEENSLAND STATE ARCHIVES

During June, the Archivist visited a number of centres along the Queensland coast from Brisbane to Cairns. The transfer of 1,600 linear feet of records from the Northern Registry of the Supreme Court of Queensland was arranged. Some of these records belong to the original establishment of the Court in Bowen in 1874.

The Archivist visited all the Queensland Harbour Boards in connection with the eventual transfer of their records to Queensland State Archives. The Gladstone Harbour Board intends to transfer its correspondence, ledgers and cashbooks for the period 1914-1950 later in 1972. Negotiations are proceeding with the Rockhampton Harbour Board.

During September, the Archivist visited Roma to collect the copies of the *Western Star* newspaper for the years 1898-1929, so that they can be microfilmed.

A notable visitor to the Archives during August was Professor Turrentine Jackson, Davis Campus, University of California. Professor Jackson is engaged in research on a comparison between British investment in Australia and the United States in the late nineteenth century.

LA TROBE LIBRARY, STATE LIBRARY OF VICTORIA

The Royal Institute of Public Administration, Victorian Regional Group, has embarked on a programme for interviews with notable public servants and politicians who have recently retired. The tapes, which are intended to increase insight into the way in which government operates, will be deposited in the La Trobe Library in the State Library of Victoria. In order to ensure close co-operation between the La Trobe Library and R.I.P.A., Mr J. Thompson, Deputy Manuscript Librarian at the La Trobe has recently attended the training sessions for interviewers conducted by Dr Graeme Little of the University of Melbourne.

MISS REYNOLDS'S VISIT TO U.S.A. AND EUROPE

Miss Patricia Reynolds, the La Trobe Librarian in the State Library of Victoria, returned to Australia in June after a visit of three months to the United States and Europe. As a proportion of this tour was devoted to library duty, Miss Reynolds took the opportunity to visit several major libraries, archival repositories, historical societies, museums and galleries. Included amongst these were the following: the Bernice P. Bishop Museum in Honolulu; the Sutro Library in San Francisco; the National Archives and Record Service in Washington; the Library of Congress; the New York Public Library; the New York Historical Society; the City of New York Historical Society; the National Library of Ireland; the Chester Beatty Library; the British Museum; and the Public Record Office.

While Miss Reynolds was interested principally in the methods of conservation and the collection and organization of manuscript papers and local research of all kinds, she also found it rewarding to see at first hand the reference services of some of the major libraries of the English-speaking world, to make personal contact with the staff, to visit booksellers and print dealers and to study new exhibition and display techniques.

In the field of conservation, Miss Reynolds was interested to learn something of the programme of de-acidification and lamination of documents for long-term preservation in the National Archives and Record Service. It was interesting to note that controversy still continues, particularly in view of the Vapour Phase Conservation experiments being carried out in the Library of Congress. Opportunity was also taken to learn something of the conservation work being done in England, particularly in the Public Record Office.

S. A. ARCHIVES

A large quantity of records has been transferred from the Department of Lands, including soldier settlement files, minutes and correspondence of the Land Board, Pastoral Board, Sandalwood Allocation Board, Vermin Branch, Irrigation Branch, Surveyor General's Office, Crown Lands and Immigration Office and Lands and Survey Office. Some of these are the main series from offices to which the Department of Lands is heir. Covering the years from about 1870 to 1930, with a few records of later date, this transfer almost achieves a long-standing ambition to gather in all the early non-current records of this Department.

A notice, placed at our request in the *Education Gazette*, has prompted the transfer of some good series of school records — admission registers, teachers examination registers, inspectors registers, school journals and the like — some of them covering nearly a century of school life.

In the business field, the most notable recent acquisition is from the Adelaide Festival of Arts, covering all the Festivals from 1960 to 1970.