

**LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
ARCHIVES SECTION**

**NEWSLETTER No. 6 – AUGUST, 1973**

**1. The Conference**

The main details, inasmuch as they concern archivists, of the Conference, to be held in Perth from August 20-24, were given in the last issue of *Archives and Manuscripts*.

**2. Committee of Enquiry into Poverty**

The Association made a brief submission to this Committee and has indicated its willingness to give evidence if required.

The submission dealt mainly with the importance of libraries in providing the necessary information for those in lower income groups and in supporting the education of such groups.

**3. Interim Committee for the Australian Schools Commission**

A submission was made to the Karmel Committee drawing attention to the essential role to be played by the library in the school and stressing the importance of training for school librarians and of creating awareness among teachers of the library's role. Suggestions for training and for demonstration programmes as well as for research were also made in the submission. The submission was accompanied by a background paper prepared by Miss N. Hall, Convener, Committee on Federal Government Aid to Libraries in Schools.

Members will be aware that some 44 million dollars has been approved for libraries in schools as a result of the Karmel report.

**4. Pilot survey on library services to migrants in New South Wales**

At the request of Dr. R. Klugman, the Association prepared a submission for the Migrant Task Force Committee N.S.W. This submission, which was accompanied by an interim report on the survey by our consultant, Miss F. M. T. Thomas, set out suggestions for immediate and long term action. These included the appointment of field officers to State Library Boards to provide liaison between library authorities and migrant groups in identifying needs and providing services, and the establishment of multi-disciplinary planning teams to provide an integrated approach to problems on a community level. Recommendations were also made for programmes of training and for research.

**5. Library services to the community**

A sub-committee of the Standing Committee convened by Mr. W. L. Brown has made preliminary investigations on this topic. The Association has authorised funding of this Committee's work and an initial investigation will be carried out by Mr. Brown in the Albury/Wodonga area with a view to identifying areas of concern and the need for further research.

**6. Freedom to Read**

The Victorian branch has been most active in opposing the Police Offences Act in that State. The branch is continuing its opposition and the Association's President, Mr. H. Bryan, is in consultation with the branch on appropriate action to be taken.

**7. Brisbane City Council – advertisement for Administration officer – Libraries**

The Queensland branch has been involved in discussions with the Brisbane City Council on the appointment of a City Librarian. The Association's President is also in correspondence with the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Alderman Clem Jones.

In order to ensure that a professional librarian would be appointed to the position, the General Secretary sent a circular to a number of larger public libraries throughout Australia drawing attention to the advertisement.

**8. Industrial information officer**

Steps have been taken to formalise the gathering of industrial information for various types of libraries.

It is likely that an appointment will be made later this year.