

in each of the two grades “higher professional” and “intermediate professional”.

The recommendations of the report are that:

- (a) A regional institute of archival science should be established in association with the proposed national school of librarianship and archives, Malaysia, and with the University of Malaya at Kuala Lumpur.
- (b) A project should be drawn up and submitted at the appropriate point to UNDP providing for the appointment of a project director to take responsibility for the development and running of the regional institute, assisted by short-term consultants.
- (c) It should be the duty of the regional institute and of the project director to organise short courses or workshops in various participating countries towards the training of intermediate or sub-professional staff.
- (d) The arrangements for associating the regional institute and the school of librarianship and archives of Malaysia should follow the recommendations of the UNESCO/SARBICA* symposium.

* South East Asian Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives. The recommendations of the UNESCO/SARBICA Symposium are given in an appendix to the Report.

NEWS NOTES

Australian National University

The Archives Unit has along with other institutions in Australia attempted over the years to provide some form of published guide to its holdings. The term “finding aid” would be misleading in this context. Since there is a dearth of other news of the kind which is usually mentioned in this section — staff changes, major organizational developments and so on — and since the usual standby of important acquisitions doesn’t really help much, it is proposed to mention existing and projected guides and other developments which may be of future importance.

There are at present two lists available, one of records of companies and firms, the other of records of employer, employee and professional associations. The first edition of these lists in their present form was published in 1968, and updated versions were produced in November 1971 and November 1972. A new edition of each up to 31 May, 1974, will be available before this appears in print.

These lists are distributed free to libraries, archives and university departments likely to be interested — history, political science and economic history — and, on request, to interested individuals. The lists give in tabular form the deposit number, the name of the organization, date range, quantity of records, types of records, conditions of access and (in the case of companies and firms) the type of business engaged in.

This year or early in 1975, it is still hoped to produce a guide of a somewhat different kind. Although still under development, it is at present visualised as giving the same types of information as the present lists (although in somewhat more detail) and also some indication of the strengths and weaknesses of each deposit. While the value judgement inherent in this last feature is perhaps fraught with some danger it is felt that the advantages to potential users will outweigh this.

Finally, as a long-term development we are beginning an investigation of the practicability of using the computer facilities available to

produce guides and finding aids of various kinds and at various levels and for certain other more or less similar internal operations. If and as these investigations mature they will be reported on further.

Queensland State Archives

The first half of 1974 will be long remembered in Brisbane as "The Wet". After the mammoth deluge of late January, rain seems to have been with us every second day. The operations of Queensland State Archives have now returned to normal after the dislocation caused by the flooding of our cousin Sections of the State Library at South Brisbane and the vast amount of drying and restoration work carried out for Departments whose records suffered total inundation. The team which carried out the salvage operation was led by Lee McGregor (Assistant Archivist), and consisted of Moira Bennett, David Gibson, Roy Navie and Jim Bruce. Their efforts have received formal recognition in the form of a letter of appreciation from the Director of the Department of Children's Services, one of the Departments most seriously affected. An article describing the salvage operation appears in this issue.

Recent transfers of interest include:

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| Department of Justice | Executive Council Minutes | 1967 - 69 |
| | Bill Papers | 1960 - 69 |
| Department of Mines | Inwards Correspondence | 1880 - 1950 |
| Police Department | Bowen Station Records | 1878 - 1962 |
| Magistrate's Court, Rockhampton | Police Magistrate's records | 1865 - 1920 |

Work has started recently on the replacement in relevant series of the estrays returned in 1970 from the private papers of William James Gall (Under-Secretary, Home Secretary's Department, 1913-34). Each document which can be cross checked by Register entry is being replaced in a folder bearing a clear indication that the document was out of custody. There are about two metres of estrays to be dealt with and the process will take a couple of months to complete.

An attempt is being made to compile an index of all local government bodies operating in Queensland from 1859 to the present. So far the municipalities, pre-1879 shires and towns and the 1879-1903 Divisional Boards have been identified and a brief coverage of dates of creation, change or abolition, compiled for each entity. The Shire Councils 1903 to the present remain to be listed in detail.

Staff changes since the beginning of the year include the resignations of Marie Carter, B.A. (Hons.) and S. R. Ellis, Photographer. Marie had been with Queensland State Archives for seven years. Stan Ellis has moved to the chilly extremities of Tasmania in an attempt to escape the heat and moisture of Brisbane. In place of Marie, Mrs Doreen McLeod, B.A., has joined the staff.

This year we intend to keep the fumigation plant operative throughout the winter. In past years, we have ceased operations when temperatures fell, but by keeping the records to be treated in a closed room and by increasing dosage rates slightly, we hope to keep the effective kill rate at a high level. Results so far are encouraging.

National Library Compiles Research Register

The National Library is compiling a register of current research into librarianship, documentation and related activities.

The register is being created both in response to Australian needs and as a contribution to UNESCO's International Information System on Research in Documentation (ISORID). The register is to cover reports completed from 1 January 1971, as well as research now in progress.

"Research" should be interpreted broadly to include all kinds of endeavours, investigations, searches, and enquiries to discover new facts and principles or to promote their practical application in library and other information services. That is to say, both fundamental and applied research are of interest, together with closely related activities such as "state-of-the-art" surveys, feasibility studies, comparison of information systems or methods, etc.

"Documentation" is intended to cover all activities related to the collection, organization, analysis, and dissemination of information, including all aspects of librarianship and information services. For example, research on information systems analysis and design, data banks, linguistics in information science, machine translation, media and materials in information services, and terminology would all be considered relevant, as would development of new technical tools and other innovations, user studies, and reports on new methods of training for information work.

The establishment of the research register offers a number of benefits.

Investigations by the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services (AACOBS) in 1973 led to the conclusion that a register would help to co-ordinate research, to reveal areas of weakness, and to provide a stronger basis for attracting research funds.

UNESCO studies leading to the ISORID project suggested that research effort in most countries is not fully used, because the necessary information is lacking at the national and international levels. Greater awareness of research already undertaken and its results would lead to better research planning and make it easier to decide the main lines of research to follow, which would in turn raise the standard of library and information services.

The information gathered in Australia will be available through the National Library, and in due course also through an appropriate form of publication.

As at May 1974, 68 countries were co-operating in ISORID, which is intended to produce a current awareness service, cumulative indexes, demand searches, and a text back-up service.

The National Library is contacting schools of librarianship and various other sources, but believes that there will be further university and college departments and other bodies carrying out relevant research.

Contributions or suggestions are invited from any person or organisation involved in or aware of such research. The National Library will provide forms for recording concise information about research projects and reports and will be purchasing additional copies of reports where possible, to be forwarded to UNESCO.

The address for all ISORID enquiries and contributions is:

The Editor,
ISORID Register,
National Library of Australia,
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600.

Directory of Map Collections in Australia

A *Directory of Map Collections in Australia*, compiled by M. Rauchle and P. A. G. Alonso, First edition 1974, is available gratis from the State Library of Victoria, Swanston Street, Melbourne 3000. Over a hundred and fifty collections are listed with information about holdings, specialties, and staff. The *Directory* was compiled from returns to a private survey begun by Mrs Rauchle early in 1973 and during her absence abroad, completed by Mrs Alonso in time to serve as working papers at the second annual Seminar and Workshop of the Australian Map Curators' Circle on 27 and 28 February 1974. Requests for this version from outside the AMCC led to its publication and distribution by the State Library of Victoria. The authors would much appreciate help in amending and amplifying the Directory; please send suggestions, corrections, and new entries from A.C.T., N.S.W. and Q'LD to Mrs Rauchle, 49 Holmes Crescent, Campbell, A.C.T., 2601 and from other areas to Mrs Alonso, 3 Macfarlan Street, South Yarra, Vic. 3141.

MISCELLANY

Association of Archivists

Meetings have now been held in all States and the A.C.T. to consider the matters and questions set out in the Steering Committee's Newsletter No. 1. The results of these will be tabulated and distributed through the corresponding members in the States long before this appears in print. Any interested readers of this section who by chance have not received a copy of Newsletter No. 2 may obtain one by contacting the corresponding member in their State (listed in the November 1973 issue) or, failing that, by writing to me*.

On the basis of the fairly clearcut preferences expressed by the meetings and the suggestions which came from them, the Steering Committee will now proceed to draw up a draft constitution which will be circulated for discussion. Proposed amendments arising from this discussion will again be circulated for consideration before the general meeting to adopt the constitution.

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