

NEWS NOTES

Archives Office of Tasmania

Major Staff Changes: A peculiarity in administrative philosophy—we had hoped to have *Anne Picot* as a ‘Diploma-d’ archivist (she had a scholarship from the Tasmanian Library Board), but our masters seem to prefer us to be in-bred and not have a bright new star.

Changes in Accommodation: The compactus keeps on stretching, but plans for the new building have come to a dead stop on one of the masters’ desks.

Significant Accessions: Does anyone else collect the local abattoirs records?

Noteworthy Activities: The arrival of a new batch of computer print-out, which purports to tell where everything is, is showing up some aberrations which justify close checking. A Christmas Party at *Ian Pearce’s* was most memorable.

New Equipment? What’s that? Our microfilm programme becomes a bit luxurious when no new microfilm readers can be bought this year.

Anything else? How to endeavour to preserve Church registers in the absence of enough microfilm readers: spend a fortune on Copyflo, to which the genealogists have self-service access.

M. McR.

The Mitchell Library

During the period July to December 1977 important purchases made by the Mitchell Library included a large collection of papers of A. H. Chisholm up to the time of his death during the year; a collection of Norman Lindsay’s correspondence with Douglas Stewart and others, c. 1922-69; papers of John Shaw Nielson, c. 1900-30; and of Frank Browne, political journalist, c. 1945-77. Notable gifts to the Library included papers of Charles T. P. Ulm, 1920-34, presented by Mr John Ulm; papers of Brigadier Sir Frederick Galleghan, c. 1935-70, presented by Lady Galleghan; papers of the Grant family, pioneer ricegrowers in the Leeton district, N.S.W., c. 1874-1971, presented by Miss Lois Grant, and some King family (Philip Gidley King) papers presented by Sir Edward Ford together with cards used for his bibliography of Australian medicine, 1790-1900. The records of the Young Women’s Christian Association were deposited on indefinite loan.

S.H.

Public Record Office, Victoria

The Public Record Office has the following change of address: Reference Service—57 Cherry Lane, Laverton (telephone 399 3244); City Reference Extension Service and Administration Offices—1 Little Collins Street, Melbourne 3000.

H. W. N.

Queensland State Archives

Important accessions include: Supreme Court, Central District, Rockhampton—Files on Naturalizations (1896-1903), Insolvencies (1896-1928), Liquidations (1896-1927), Public Curator (1899-1930),

Criminal (1896-1930), Ecclesiastical, i.e. wills (1896-1930), Letter-books (1894-1900, 1913-29) (40 metres); Mining Warden, Gympie—Nineteenth-century records relating to all aspects of mining in the Gympie area (2 metres); Railways Department, Chief Mechanical Engineer's Office—General correspondence 1886-1930 (32.4 metres); Surveyor General's Office—General correspondence c. 1900-70 (9 metres); Lower court records from Eidsvold, Rosewood, Gatton, Cairns, Gympie and Nambour; Registrar of Companies—Registers of companies incorporated in Queensland (2.45 metres).

Extensive renovations in the Conservation Room are presently being carried out. The sinks are being relocated and a fume extractor installed. Workbenches are being covered with grey laminex.

Jim Bruce, Conservator at Queensland State Archives, is currently inspecting the map collection to see what repair work is required. So far about 12,000 maps have been inspected and 1,800 maps have been set aside for repair. Of these, about 500 require urgent repair and a further 30 are in such bad condition that any handling at all is likely to result in almost complete destruction. In view of the general concern over the problems associated with lamination, we are considering polyester encapsulation of these maps after the usual preliminary cleaning, deacidification and so on. It is hoped that this will have the additional benefit of providing a smooth surface which will allow maps to slide in and out of plan drawers more easily, thus reducing the risk of damage.

L. McG.

South Australian Archives

The staff bade regretful farewells to Mrs *Christina Marie Reardon*, M.A. (Madras), who resigned on 5 September 1977, and has since given birth to a son, and Mr *Colin Gregory Kerr*, M.A. (Adel.), who retired on 4 October 1977. Mr Kerr's experience as a writer and historian stood him in good stead when he came to the Archives in 1966. He has left his mark in the polished style of research notes, series lists and correspondence drafted by him, not to mention his contributions to *South Australiana*. It is pleasing to know that Mr Kerr and his wife and co-author Mrs Margaret Goyder Kerr are to continue to produce the monographs of popular history by which they are becoming increasingly well known. Mr Kerr has also published a number of more academic studies, his earliest book being *Tanks in the East* (1945).

There have been three replacements to the staff. *Robert D. Olifent*, B.Sc., arrived on 11 November 1977. He was joined on 21 November and 19 December, respectively, by *John Sutterby* and *Colleen McEwen*, both graduate diplomates from the School of Librarianship, University of New South Wales. *Rodney D. Teakle* has completed his degree of B.A.

Recent notable accessions of non-government records include papers of the Stirling and related families, c. 1840-1970 (1 metre), records of the South Australian Community Recreation Association (originally Our Boys' Institute), 1888-1970 (2 metres), and further records of the Society of Friends in South Australia, 1836-1974 (1.5

metres). Government records transferred since August include correspondence files from the Lands Department, 1931-48 (500 metres), and from the Treasury Department *State Taxation Office: Stamp and Succession Duties Division*, c. 1875-1935 (200 metres).

B.S.B.

A.N.U. Archives of Business and Labour

There have been no staff changes except for the return of *Judy Day* from long service leave and the departure of *Pat Barnard* on a six month's visit to England.

The receipt of a magnificent collection of records from the Graziers' Association of N.S.W. covering the period 1890 to 1970 (the main series being the correspondence files c. 1902-60) is the main event of note in the accessions area but this has meant a filling of available shelf-space to the extent that the repositories are now virtually full. A number of initiatives have been taken to remedy this which (hopefully) will be reportable in a positive sense in a future issue.

The other major item of news is the fact that a pilot file has been successfully tested with a view to producing a computer based interrogatable catalogue of the Archives holdings of maps and plans—an extremely heterogeneous collection ranging in date from 1825 to the 1960's. Work is continuing and it is hoped to have this operational by mid-1978 and the programme will be reported on in detail shortly thereafter.

M. S.

ERRATA

Volume 7, Number 1, pp. 36-37: Statistics given should read: Cannon Hill, Brisbane, 42,000 metres (*not* 420,000); Collinswood, Adelaide, 24,000 metres (*not* 240,000 metres); Perth, 27,000 metres (*not* 927,000).

ADDENDUM

Volume 7, Number 1, pp. 49-51: J. R. Thompson in his review of *Catalogue of Manuscripts from the Hayes Collection in the University of Queensland Library* pointed out that a bibliography referred to in the text as being part of the publication had apparently been omitted. The publishers of the *Catalogue*, having subsequently discovered this omission, have produced a copy of the bibliography. This is available on application to the publisher, the University of Queensland Library.