

NEWS NOTES

Australian Society of Archivists

The Second Biennial General Meeting of the Australian Society of Archivists was held at International House, University of Sydney, on 18 and 22 May, 1979. Forty-four Society members attended the B.G.M. Reports on work accomplished during 1977/79 were presented to the Biennial General Meeting by the Society's Executive Officers and the following Council Committees: Constitutional Review, Public Issues, Industrial, Conservation, Promotions and Information, Training and Membership. A.S.A. *Rules* revisions effected at the B.G.M. are detailed in the *Minutes* of the Meeting, which have been circulated to all members. The *Rules*, as revised, will be published later this year and distributed to members. The Biennial General Meeting declared the following office-bearers elected for 1979/81: Margaret Jennings (President), Olga White (Vice-President), Frank Upward (Secretary), Gunna Kinne (Treasurer), Baiba Irving (Editor), Gerald Fischer (Past President, ex-officio), Pennie Pemberton, Doreen Wheeler, Paul Brunton, Christopher Hurley and James Varghese (Council).

The Second Conference of the Australian Society of Archivists was held concurrently with the Biennial General Meeting, from 19 to 22 May 1979. Approximately 200 people attended the Conference. The majority of participants were from New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria, but an impressive number were from further afield: South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, Queensland, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea. Conference sessions dealt with the following topics: Archival Priorities; the Genealogical, Educational and Research Uses of Archives; Conservation; Church Archives; Bank and Company Archives; School Archives; Archival and Related Legislation; Maps and Plans; Finding Aids; Training; Appraisal and Disposal; Archival Developments in the South-West Pacific; Records Management; The Archival Implications of Technological Change; The National Heritage; Audio-Visual Archives. The majority of papers presented to the Conference were published as *Archives Conference 1979* and were available to Conference participants. A supplementary volume of papers presented to the Conference, but not available for publication prior to it, was issued in November 1979.

International Archives Week was celebrated in Australia from 21 to 27 October 1979. For IAW, the Society issued two pamphlets: on the Australian Society of Archivists and on Archives and the Archival Profession in Australia. The Melbourne Branch issued car stickers with the slogan *Archivists Make It Last Longer* and these were distributed to all regional branches. The Adelaide Branch organised a meeting on 24 October on the topic "Agency vs. public orientation" and issued a pamphlet on IAW; the Archives Branch of the South Australian State Library mounted a display on "The Archives and its Users". An IAW exhibition was mounted at the Archives Office of Tasmania in Hobart. In Sydney, a workshop was held on 26 and 27 October to assist custodians of historical records in the management of their collections; other Sydney IAW activities included a Film Evening and a dinner.

The most active A.S.A. Regional Branches continue to be Adelaide, Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney. Branch Annual General Meetings were held in Adelaide on 1 August, in Canberra on 29 June, and in Melbourne on 26 June. David Lance, Keeper of Sound Records, Imperial War Museum, London, addressed the Canberra Branch on 27 August and the Sydney Branch on 11 September. Dr. Richard Bingle, Assistant Keeper in Charge of European Manuscripts, India Office Library and Records, London, spoke to an informal meeting of the Sydney Branch on 25 August. A seminar on School Archives, organised jointly by the L.A.A. (Schools Section, N.S.W. Branch) and the A.S.A. (Sydney Branch) was held in Sydney on 15 September. Details about A.S.A. Branch activities are published regularly in the Australian Society of Archivists *Bulletin*.

Australian Archives

Correspondent: Professor R. G. Neale

Organisation and Staffing

Two new sections have been created in Central Office — User Services Policy and Access Regulation Policy — to carry out the functions of the former Reference and Access Policy Section. This will allow development of services to users, including liaison with user groups, and more attention to access policy matters. The Senior Archivist and Archivist Grade 2, Reference and Access Policy, Max Franklin and Brenda Robinson, have become Senior Archivist and Archivist Grade 2, Access Regulation, and the Archivist Grade 2, Survey and Accessioning Policy, Venetia Beale, has been promoted as Senior Archivist, User Services.

Positions of Archivist Grade 2, Survey and Accessioning Policy, Central Office, Disposal and Appraisal Policy, Central Office, and Access, A.C.T., have been filled on promotion by Anne Picot; Ian Gray and Sue Rosly (all of Survey and Disposal, A.C.T.); and Moira Della Rodolfa (Access, A.C.T.) respectively. Peter Robbins has been promoted as Manager, ACT Repositories; Murray Millar and Neville

Corbett, at present Conservators in the ACT and NSW, to new positions of Conservator 2; and Ian Harvey as Officer-in-Charge, Tasmania.

Ros Fraser, of Reference and Access, ACT, has taken twelve months leave to undertake research for the Institute of Aboriginal Studies on records relating to aborigines. Mariya Ignatievsky and Marilyn Hopkins, Archivists Grade 2, Disposal and Appraisal Policy, Alistair McLauchlan and Bronwyn Browning, of Arrangement and Description, ACT, and Robert Darby, of Survey and Disposal, ACT, have respectively been promoted to positions in the Departments of Education, Home Affairs, Administrative Services, Transport and Employment and Youth Affairs, while Clare Cowling, Archivist Grade 2, Disposal and Appraisal Policy, and Lorraine Fietz of Survey and Disposal ACT, have resigned to travel to the UK, and Michael Orchard of Survey Registration and Description has been promoted to a position in the Records Management Office of New South Wales.

We welcome the following new members of staff: John Howells, Manager, NSW Repositories; Ian Emery, Officer-in-Charge, Queensland; Neva Kastelic, Senior Archives Clerk, Survey, Registration and Description, Central Office; June Edwards, Senior Archives Clerk, Access, ACT; June Hallinan, Senior Archives Clerk, Access, NSW; Drew Cottle, Archives Clerk, Disposal and Appraisal, NSW; Allan Neate, Archives Clerk, Survey and Disposal, Vic; Warwick Peberdy, Assistant Conservator, NSW; and Harold Thornton, Gregory Kerr, Kim Berryman and Michael Murray (ACT) and Robin Champ and Margaret Chambers (Vic), Assistant Research Officers.

The Manager, NSW Repositories, Mr Ron Britton, retired on 27 March after 23 years service with the Australian Archives. A farewell function was held at Villawood on 9 March.

Activities

Conferences and Workshops

The Director-General, Professor R. G. Neale, gave a paper to the recent International Conference on Indian Ocean Studies in Perth on the subject 'Archival resources in the Australian Archives relating to the Indian Ocean'.

The second conference of the heads of regional branches was held at the Villawood repository from 1-3 May.

In July, while on holiday in Europe, Ms Marie Markey, Archivist Grade 2, NSW Branch, was recalled to duty to attend a meeting of the International Association of Sound Archives in Salzburg, Austria. Ms Markey was a speaker at the inaugural meeting of the Australian Branch of the Association in Canberra in August.

Mr Neville Corbett, Conservator in the NSW Branch and Honorary Conservator of the Society of Australian Genealogists, conducted a weekend workshop for the Society in March.

Conservation Tour of China

In December, Timothy Walsh, of Central Office Repository Management Section, visited China with a group of people working in the conservation field, on a tour of museums, libraries and historic buildings organized by the Canberra College of Advanced Education. In slightly pre-Pinyin Canton, they visited the Museum and a porcelain factory; in Shanghai, the Museum and the house where Sun Yatsen lived during the twenties; in Peking, the Summer Palace, the University, the Museum of Chinese History, the Library, and the Forbidden City; and in Tatung, on the Inner Mongolian border, the Yunkang Caves, and an ancient Buddhist monastery. They observed both traditional and modern methods of repair being used on paper wall paintings, ancient silk scrolls, books, prints, ancient maps, porcelain found at archaeological sites, old bronzes, textiles, items of jade, pottery, lacquerwork, gold, silver and cloisonne, carved statues, and timber buildings. Mr Walsh was impressed and fascinated, particularly with the traditional methods, some of which he felt had considerable relevance for conservation in Australia. However, he felt that the Chinese in turn have much to learn about modern chemical analysis of materials, and that some of their techniques, especially for conserving paper, can be questioned.

Visit to A.P.P.M.

In February, several members of our repository management and conservation staff paid a visit to the Nowra mill of Associated Pulp and Paper Mills Ltd., in order to (a) gain a fuller understanding of the causes of deterioration of paper which are inherent in its manufacture; (b) study methods for recycling waste paper; and (c) try to establish whether the company could assist us in the destruction of time-expired accessions. Members were given a very detailed tour of the mill and were shown all stages of paper-making, including the preparation of pulp, beating, filling and colouring, quality control, sizing, watermarking, slitting and cutting, packaging, and testing for folding endurance and tensile and burst strength, as well as the procedure for recycling paper waste. They discovered that it was technically possible to produce an acid-free paper in Australia, and economic to do so in amounts of at least 15 tonnes. A.P.P.M. already produce a special paper for the Victorian Government which, although not alkaline buffered, is longer lasting than other papers produced in Australia. A sample of this was given to our Canberra Conservator for testing. If a suitable long-life paper could be developed in Australia at an economic price, we would recommend that the Commonwealth Government adopt its use for all records which are likely to be of permanent value, so that the present impossible situation where most permanent records do or will require conservation work to prevent their disintegration will not be perpetuated.

Records

The NSW Parliament has transferred custody of the records of the National Australasian Convention 1891 and the Australasian Federal

Convention 1897-1898 to the NSW Branch of the Australian Archives, prior to their transfer to the ACT Branch. When funds are available it is intended to microfilm the records and to place a copy of the film in each regional office of the Australian Archives. Professor La Nauze has already prepared records of the Committees of the 2nd Convention with notes and comments and hopes to continue this work with the records of the "secret" Committees recently transferred to the Australian Archives.

The NSW Branch has recently received a further transfer of Mr Whitlam's papers and a transfer of papers of the late Hon. Frank Stewart. Other significant accessions include the original Registers of British Shipping for the period 1834-1903, transferred by the Bureau of Customs (microfilm copies have been held since 1967); composite prints of the Australian Film 'Scobie Malone', from the Australian Film Commission; and a further consignment of Senator Anthony Mulvihill's personal papers. The Branch is also undertaking a survey of computer records in all Commonwealth Government agencies in New South Wales.

On behalf of the Bank and Special Projects Branch of the Department of Housing and Construction, which is coordinating restoration of the Commonwealth Bank's Head Office building in Martin Place, our NSW Conservation Section is currently carrying out work on the plans of the building, including cleaning, deacidification, repair, encapsulation and binding.

Buildings and Equipment

Canberra

The design competition for the Australian Archives National Headquarters in Canberra was announced late last year. The site is bounded on three sides by Constitution Avenue, Corranderrk Street and Parkes Way, within the Parliamentary Triangle on the north shore of Lake Burley Griffin. It is expected that the building will be completed in the mid 1980's. The Assessors for the competition, who include Mr Tony Powell, Commissioner, National Capital Development Commission; Professor R. G. Neale, Director-General, Australian Archives; Mr C. F. Madigan, a Sydney architect; and Mr J. H. Andrews, Chairman, Architecture and Design Panel, Visual Arts Board, Australia Council, visited the Villawood repository in December 1978 for a tour of inspection. They also visited the new building of the Archives Authority of NSW.

Our ACT regional conservation laboratory, one of the best equipped in the Southern Hemisphere, has now been established in our Fyshwick repository in Canberra.

Sydney

Items of conservation and other equipment recently purchased include an intra-lux fibre optics remote light source, for the microscope; an electric power guillotine; a special vacuum device for document cleaning; a new thermohydrograph; a self-contained breathing apparatus; and a

Threshold Limit Value 'Sniffer' to measure the concentration of ethylene oxide in the new low temperature vault, while the Newton Hobbs Studio is being equipped with videotape facilities and other archival services for video material.

Adelaide

The South Australian regional office moved into the newly completed Collinswood extension in May 1979, and transfer of records to the new shelving has commenced. The new extension provides air conditioned permanent storage, temporary records storage and security vault storage, and has areas set aside for controlled atmosphere vaults and a conservation laboratory. Upgraded public research facilities are also included.

A.N.U. Archives of Business and Labour

Correspondent: Michael Saclier

The main item of news is that a decision has been made to move the Archives out of the H. C. Coombs Building into what is currently known only as "the Acton Tunnel Structure" but which it is hoped will eventually be known officially as "The Catacombs". When the Molonglo Arterial Road was built through the University a tunnel was constructed under a ridge running down from the university to Canberra Hospital. Above this tunnel was to be an underground parking station. Fortunately the Universities Commission would not permit such a structure and the Archives is to be the beneficiary.

Totally underground, the accommodation will provide approximately 300 sq. m. of office and work space (compared to our present 240 sq. m.) and will permit us a considerably improved level of public accommodation and service while maintaining our current standard of workspace.

The repository area (on the same level) will consist of 2,800 sq. m. of floor space. This is not as splendid as it sounds since the floor has a load limit of c. 3 kPa (60 lb/sq. ft.) but it will still permit us a theoretical storage capacity of approximately 14,500 shelf metres of records which is approximately three and a half times our present holdings.

Planning has started on the conversion and it is hoped to move in the second half of 1980. Because of financial stringency our accommodation is unlikely to be luxurious but it should be acceptable — both for human workers and records.

Archives Office of New South Wales

Correspondent: Amanda Barber

The Archives and Records Management Office is being restructured to enable it to fulfil additional needs and functions arising from the move to the new State Archives Building in the Rocks and initiatives in records management. The joint office establishment is now 56 permanent

positions, which is supplemented by a further 20 supernumeraries. Three staff have recently been promoted: John Cross (Chief Archivist); Dawn Troy (Senior Archivist, Technical Services) and John Burke (Senior Archivist, Repository Services). Five positions of Assistant Senior Archivist will be filled shortly. Three new archivists have been appointed: Jane-Ann Juhasz; Barbara Evans and Laurel Catchpool. John Davies was appointed Consultant Conservator earlier in the year and this facet of operations has benefitted by the recent addition of a manuscript restorer and a photographer.

The Mitchell Library has recently transferred a number of archival estrays, among them the *Journal of W. Lawson on a tour from Bathurst to the Liverpool Plains*, November-December 1822. Some other important recent accessions have been Casebooks, Admission registers and Letter books, c. 1848-1950, from the Parramatta Psychiatric Centre, and films from both the Department of Agriculture, Division of Extension Services and the Health Commission.

The Archives Authority has published two kits containing facsimile reproductions of original records in the State archives. The kits are designed to assist teachers in Australian History and school pupils with their studies. They should also prove of value to people interested in Colonial New South Wales. The kits are *The Changing Face of the Rocks* (which includes documents and photographs) and *From Cato Street to Botany Bay*.

There has been a steady growth in the number of readers using the public search room and written enquiries have increased, especially with inquiries from overseas and the other states. The recent purchase of a Microbox camera from Germany will enable the Archives Office to offer improved photographic services.

The Concise Guide to State Archives *Supplement* Vol. 9 No. 4 is now in preparation. Information Leaflets Nos. 13-15 and 19 have recently been published. Inventories on the Governor's Court and Vice-Admiralty Court are ready for publication. A volume indexing assisted immigrants arriving in Sydney, 1880-96 will be available soon.

The Records Management Office of New South Wales

Correspondent: Dianne Patenall

Publications and Training Aids

The Records Management Office is issuing a series of publications entitled *Publications on Records Management*. The following publications in this series are presently available:

Number 1: File Format

Number 2: File Creation

Number 4: Principles of Keyword Classification

Number 5: Manual of Keyword Classification

Number 6: General Records Disposal Schedule

They are available free, upon request from: The Records Administration

Officer, Level 3, The State Archives, 66 Harrington Street, The Rocks, N.S.W., Australia, 2000.

Further publications in this series are being prepared and I would be happy to add to our mailing list the names of organizations who wish to receive future publications in the series.

To assist in training courses in records management, the Records Management Office has both produced and purchased audio-visual training aids. Details of some of these aids and their availability are given below.

Title: *Single File* (16 mm. film)
Running time: 12 minutes
Produced by: Commonwealth Film Unit
Description: The action takes place within a public service department and follows the search for a missing departmental file. The file highlights common records management problems particularly in relation to file movement and communication between officers. It is an excellent "lead-in" to discussion sessions on how many of the problems shown can be resolved and is recommended viewing for both records officers and record users.
Available from: Film Australia, Eton Road, Lindfield, N.S.W., 2070 (Price \$110 at January 1979) and State Film Library of N.S.W., 1 Francis St., East Sydney, N.S.W., 2010.

Title: *A Place for Everything* (16 mm. film)
Running time: 12 minutes
Produced by: Film and Television School, North Sydney Technical College (N.S.W. Department of Technical and Further Education)
Description: This film was made in 1978 specifically for the Records Management Office by 3rd year students of the Film and Television School as their annual project. Post-production work was done professionally with financial assistance from the N.S.W. Premier's Department. The film explains the role and use of the N.S.W. Government Records Repository, Kingswood; the concept of active, semi-active and inactive records; the importance of compiling records disposal schedules. Most of the action focuses on the repository's security features and its file reference service in order to encourage departments to use its facilities.
Available from: Records Management Office of N.S.W. and State Film Library of N.S.W.

Title: **Technology and Records Management** (Sound-on-slide presentation)
Running time: 30 minutes
Produced by: Records Management Office of N.S.W.
Description: This series illustrates the use of new documentation formats such as microfilm, computer tapes/discs and COM, and how technology can be used as a records management tool by replacing traditional manual systems. It was updated in March 1979 and shows organizations actually using these technologies — however it is a series which becomes out-of-date very quickly!

Available from: The Records Management Office has one working copy which is heavily used on training courses. However, given sufficient prior notice, arrangements can be made to show it in our office.

The R.M.O. is presently assisting the Staff Development Division of the Department of Technical and Further Education in making a film about how to establish and operate a small record system. A video presentation on the subject of Records Scheduling and Disposal is also planned. Both should be released in November/December of this year. Details of these, including their availability, will be given in future *News Notes*.

I would be very interested to hear from readers about any other records management training aids which are available and which may further assist this, and other offices, in training courses.

University of Newcastle Archives

Correspondent: Denis Rowe

Valuable records from both University and Hunter Regional sources have been accessioned recently in the University of Newcastle Archives. Records from University sources include those of the Foundation Warden of Newcastle University College, the late Dr. Ralph Basden; and papers of Professor Beverley Raphael of the Faculty of Medicine, relating to the psychological counselling of bereaved after the Granville train disaster (restricted). Also from the Faculty of Medicine have come files of Professor Tony Vinson (now Chief Commissioner of the N.S.W. Department of Corrective Services) on various Newcastle community development and welfare organisations in the 1970's. A provisional records disposal schedule has been developed for the records of the Faculty of Medicine to help in documenting the Faculty's activities, notably those in community medicine.

In addition to University records, the University Archives has received significant transfers from the Hunter Region: Letters of 1890 of Cardinal Moran and the Australasian Roman Catholic Bishops, with the archives of the Waratah Deaf and Dumb Institute (c. 1880-1970); a copy

of the Journal of James Silcock (1878-1884), an early Australian potter, who manufactured pottery at Lithgow and Waratah in the last quarter of the nineteenth century; a typescript biography of a victim of the 1930's depression, Arthur Murdoch, who survived by mining shell grit deposits at Port Stephens; correspondence and May Day Greeting cards of the 1950's from the Railway Workers Unions of China and Poland, with the archives of Cardiff Locomotive Workshops Combined Unions Shop Committee (1927-1979). Processing of hundreds of boxes of records (1940+) of a member of the Communist Party, the late Merv Copley of Newcastle, continues. The following 1945 Copley typescript captures the flavour of the collection. It tells how, in that year, despite a prohibition by Newcastle City Council:

. . . over a hundred thousand people thronged the streets to witness a most spectacular procession, and over ten thousand entered the precincts of (Birdwood) park to listen to workers, soldiers and peoples' representatives tell the glorious story of May Day. . .

In lighter vein, the Archivist of the Museum of Performing Arts, Melbourne, has kindly given to the University Archives a copy of a brochure advertising *Splashes of 1923*, a comic theatrical company which performed near Newcastle Beach in that year, to the music of the Splash Orchestra!

The Riverina College Archives and Records Service

Correspondent: Don Brech

In February, 1979, Mr D. C. Brech was appointed Archivist to the Riverina College of Advanced Education in Wagga Wagga, N.S.W. to administer and develop on a full-time basis the embryonic regional archives collection established by the College in 1973 and to initiate a records management program for the College's own records. The Riverina College Archives and Records Service was formally established by College Council in May, 1979 as a separate department within the Information Resources Centre.

Its basic functions, apart from that of research centre for the history of the Riverina, are to provide records management and archival services to the College and the collection, preservation and control of records of administrative and historical importance relating to the Riverina. In carrying out these functions it is conscious of the need to involve the community in the preservation of its archival heritage. As the only permanent archives repository in the Riverina it has a unique and vital role to play within the region, complementing the work at national and State levels by institutions such as the National Library of Australia, the Australian National University Archives, the Archives Office of New South Wales and the Mitchell Library and at the local level by historical societies and others.

Present holdings total approximately 370 shelf metres and include personal, family, pastoral, business and institutional records. The Archives is also an approved repository for the deposit of State archives

and substantial transfers of records originating in the Riverina have been made by the Archives Authority of New South Wales and Government Offices in the region.

In addition to the usual documentary records, the collection includes maps, films, tape recordings, photographs and posters. All deposits of archives and historical record materials are entered in the Register of Accessions and listed. Major collections will be included in future instalments of the *Guide to Collections of Manuscripts Relating to Australia*.

Archives undergo further detailed appraisal and processing. Appropriate entries are made in the Register of Record Series and inventories of series and record items are prepared. These will form the basis of individual guides to person, family and organisation archives. Additional finding aids comprise general subject, name and place indexes and special indexes to certain classes of records such as maps. State archives are given an accession number when deposited but further references are based on the system used by the Archives Office of New South Wales to ensure consistency with entries in Archives Office publications and compatibility with material located in Sydney. Transfers of College records under the records management program are controlled by a Register of Record Consignments and transmittal lists.

The Archives and Records Service is housed in part of the present library building on South Campus (in the city area). The repository is air-conditioned and records are stored on fixed, metal shelving. Early in 1980, when the library moves to a new building on North Campus, the Archives and Records Service will take over much of the space vacated. This will provide additional storage, processing and reference areas.

Use of the collections by the public for purposes of *bona fide* research is welcomed. A Search Room is provided for consultation of the records and photocopying and photographic facilities are available. Owing to the small number of staff, the Search Room is not open on a regular, daily basis. Researchers are requested to make visits by appointment and are advised to write to the Archivist for applications for Access and Search Tickets. Reference inquiries of a fairly specific nature will be answered by the Archives wherever practicable but if extensive research is required, inquirers are asked to consult the records personally. A lending service is operated for the College administration in respect of College records only.

As part of its policy of making archives more widely known and understood by the public, the Archives arranges occasional exhibitions of records and mounts regular displays of recent acquisitions.

An active acquisitions program is conducted to further the aims and development of the archives collections and an index to Riverina source materials held elsewhere by archives, libraries, public institutions and in private ownership is also maintained. Information on the location of material for deposit or for entries in the index would be appreciated.

University of Wollongong Archives

Correspondent: Laurie Dillon

Recent accessions include film shot for the making of *University — a new way of life*, an award-winning regional television special made by WIN-TV Wollongong in association with the University. Papers of M. N. Fackender have been processed relating to the peace movement in Australia, particularly during the Korean War period 1950-53. Frank McCaffrey, N.S.W. dairying expert and newspaper correspondent, author of *The First century of dairying in New South Wales*, who died in the 1930's, left extensive papers at Kiama which have now been deposited in the Archives. The daughter of Ukrainian poet and patriot Vasyly Grendža-Donskyj (1897-1974) has donated a complete copy of her father's archives to the University. Other copies have been placed with Illinois, Toronto and Harvard. The donation was assisted by archives staff at the University of Minnesota. Associate Professor Colm Kiernan deposited his manuscript of *Calwell: a personal and political biography*. During 1979 records of the University Administration and academic Departments have been accruing at a rate of 6%, with the Union one of a number of new agencies depositing.

The Archives was pleased to receive visits from Archives Office of N.S.W. Chief Archivist, John Cross, and Consultant Conservator John Davies. Certain regionally-valuable state records have now been deposited and a conservation plan is under consideration. The University has approved the enlargement of the Archives' campus office to provide a secure reading room for at least six persons, a small entrance and reference lobby and improved work and storage facilities. The cost will approximate \$10,000. Work should be completed by the end of this year.

Archives Branch, South Australian State Library

Correspondent: Brian Baldwin

John Love returned as Principal Archivist on 23 July 1979 after acting for two and a half years as Assistant State Librarian (a position now abolished).

The state administrative pattern has seen several changes. The Libraries Department, taking the Archives with it, was amalgamated with other instrumentalities on 26 April 1979 to form a Department of Community Development. Following a change of government in September the State Library — with the Archives Branch — has become (perhaps uniquely among state and national repositories anywhere) a division of the Department of Local Government. The proposals for a reorganisation of the state's archival services, drawn up at ministerial request, as mentioned in the last *News Notes*, were still under consideration at the time of the change of government.

The enthusiasm of members of the staff trained at the University of N.S.W. has contributed to a new formalisation of document appraisal procedures.

A comprehensive guide to genealogical sources — the work of Helen Hoskin — has been prepared for distribution to readers.

Interesting non-government accessions include four architectural drawings made by Walter Burley Griffin and partner, in 1939, for a refuse incinerator for Woodville Corporation.

Queensland State Archives

Correspondent: Paul Wilson

Staff changes: Judy Lennon B.A., Dip. Lib. and Ann Birgan B.A. have joined the graduate staff whilst Barbara Bykersma has transferred to the John Oxley Library. Roy Navie, after seventeen years' service at State Archives, has transferred to the Library Service of the Department of Welfare Services. Wendy McFadzean was appointed to the vacancy caused by his transfer and Don Green has taken over Roy's duties as Repository Supervisor. Brian Devanney has been appointed as Book-binder in the Conservation Section. Jim Bruce has been on sick leave but is expected to return to duty in late October.

Activities: Microfilming of the flood damaged correspondence series (1874-1969) of the Mines Department was completed early in 1979. The microfilm camera is now fully employed on electoral rolls and Supreme Court registers and indices. The electoral rolls are processed in a combined operation which involves pulling down the bound rolls, microfilming, conservation (deacidification and repair) and re-binding. Film only will be available to researchers in future.

During 1979 the State Archivist acted as consultant to the Archives Committee of the Anglican Diocese of Brisbane. The Diocesan Archives unit has been established and Mrs Patricia Ramsay, the first archivist, received a brief period of training at State Archives.

Australian Manuscripts Collection, La Trobe Library, State Library of Victoria

Correspondent: Paul McPherson

There have been a number of staff changes in the La Trobe Library following the retirement of Miss Pat Reynolds as La Trobe Librarian. John Thompson has moved from the position of Manuscripts Librarian to become Acting Deputy La Trobe Librarian and Paul Macpherson is now Acting Manuscripts Librarian. The Manuscripts Field Officer, Patsy Adam-Smith, has taken twelve months' leave to work on another book and Patsy Hardy, who was formerly research assistant to Dr. Geoffrey Serle, is Acting Field Officer.

Major accessions include the records of the Victorian branch of the Democratic Labor Party covering the entire period of the party's existence as well as including records of the Victorian branch of the Australian Labor Party prior to 1954; the records of the Graziers' Association of Victoria, 1892-1979; the records of the Prisoners' Aid

Society of Victoria, 1872-1972; the records of the Federation of Victorian Film Societies, 1948-1978; the papers of Edward Dyson, 1885-1960; and the papers of F. T. Macartney, 1917-1978.

Archives Office of Tasmania

Correspondent: Mary McRae

The Cartland Report has now been released and will be commented on in future *News Notes*. The Report confirms the existing status of the Archives Office within the State Library structure.

The pre-1900 records of the Registrar-General's Department will be available for personal public inspection on microfilm from early 1980. It would appear that the Archives Office of Tasmania is the first Australian archives to make this kind of material freely available.

J. S. Battye Library of West Australian History

Correspondent: Margaret Medcalf

Western Australia's 150th anniversary celebrations are drawing to a close. They have generated a good deal of historical delving which has meant an added load for the staff of the Battye Library. However, there have been benefits. Some excellent publications have been produced and numbers of brochures, family histories, etc., have been compiled. Some primary material has also seen the light of day, especially a large quantity of photographs. The Dictionary of Western Australians, with which the Library has been closely associated, has had three volumes published so far. They cover the years 1829-50, 1850-68 (Bond) and 1850-68 (Free). Some excellent exhibitions have been mounted, notably the "Colonial Eye" at the Art Gallery (art in Western Australia from pre-settlement exploration up to 1914) and an exhibition at the Fremantle Museum of paintings and maps executed on Vlaming's 1696 expedition.

The new Art Gallery which opened on 2 October has allowed the Battye Library to use an area of c. 400 square metres in the basement for storage. This is being utilised as a preliminary marshalling area for non-official records prior to permanent housing in the new library building, tentatively scheduled for completion in 1984. Accommodation has been acquired at 160 James Street for the State Film Archives and Jack Honniball has been appointed as the officer in charge. Mrs Beatrice Little is engaged under contract to assist in making the film collection accessible.

The University of Western Australia is in the process of appointing an archivist, initially for 18 months.

New Zealand

Correspondent: Judith Hornabrook

Activity during the year has included the Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting of the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand (ARANZ), which was held in Dunedin on 24 and 25 August.

Brad Patterson was re-elected President; the Secretary is Margaret Retter and the Treasurer, Jane Tucker.

Short Seminars have been held during the year, for example, in conjunction with Library Conference in Dunedin in February; at Hamilton, in August, in cooperation with the Continuing Education Department of Waikato University; in Wellington, with the Workers' Education Association. There have also been further sessions on conservation and participation in records management courses conducted by the State Services Commission.

Currently planning is under way for the observance of International Archives week of which the main feature will be an *Introduction to Archives Practice — A training seminar* to be held from 19-23 November. The course director will be Dr. Michael Hoare of the Alexander Turnbull Library. It is hoped that Peter Orlovich of the University of New South Wales will be able to participate. Plans are also under way for exhibitions, meetings and other special activities to be held in various parts of the country to mark the week.

Wellington archivists have participated in Peace Satellite links with other Pacific archivists and have hopes of an area Conference and training seminar in 1980 or 1981.

The first instalment of the National Register of Archives and Manuscripts was issued in 1979. The work has been carried out by an editorial committee from the Alexander Turnbull Library and National Archives. Progress on a second instalment is already under way. Each instalment will comprise 250 entries, together with a nominal, geographical and subject index, and the aim is to include all archives and manuscripts held in New Zealand wherever they may be deposited.

A 1977 amendment to the Local Government Act sought to further preservation of local authority archives. Included is provision for the gazetting of categories of local authority archives which may not be destroyed without 3 months' notice, unless approval is given by the Chief Archivist. The first such schedule, a lengthy one gazetted in August 1978, caused anxiety amongst local authority administrators. National Archives and local authority representatives are now working together to ensure an acceptable and effective way to fulfill the provisions of the legislation.

Late in 1978 submissions were presented by ARANZ and National Archives to a Committee on Official Information appointed by the New Zealand Government to "contribute to the larger aim of freedom of information by considering the extent to which official information can be made readily available to the public". The Committee is particularly concerned with review of the criteria for applying classifications and, if necessary, is to recommend any redefinition of categories of information which should be protected. An examination of the Official Secrets Act and other relevant legislation is also part of the terms of reference and would naturally include the Archives Act so far as it relates to access to information.

Dipoloma in Archives Administration, University of New South Wales

Correspondent: Peter Orlovich

Some internal changes have been effected within the Diploma in Archives Administration course for implementation in 1980. The Subject Bibliography elective will be deleted and the new subject, Records Management (previously incorporated within another subject) will be substituted for it. The preparation of an archival finding aid ("the General Assignment") will, from 1980, be recognised as a separate subject. A component of the revised course will continue to be the Field Project, comprising approximately 28 days of field work, during which students are assigned to a project involving the arrangement and description of the archives of an organisation either within the University or outside it.

Further changes are envisaged within the course for 1981, by which time it is anticipated that the subjects Information Environment for Archivists, Reference Service and Materials, and Subject Bibliography: Government Publications will either be deleted or substantially modified in content in order to make them more relevant to the nature of an archivist's responsibilities and so that provision may be made in the course curriculum for recognition of the important areas of Conservation and Administrative History, both of which are presently subsumed under the titles of other subjects.

Approximately 25 candidates will be admitted to the course in 1980. As the number of applicants usually exceeds the number of places available, entry will be competitive and based upon the applicant's academic results. Applications for enrolment in 1980 are required to be submitted to the Registrar, University of N.S.W., P.O. Box 1, Kensington, N.S.W., 2033, before 31 December 1979.

A new course leading to the award of a Master of Archives Administration (By Research) will be offered in 1980. Applicants for the course need to be (a) graduates of the University of N.S.W. or other approved university at a level approved by the Higher Degree Committee of the Faculty of Professional Studies; and (b) hold the Diploma in Archives Administration of the University of N.S.W. or possess a qualification accepted by the Committee as equivalent. In addition to a thesis, candidates will be required to complete the subjects, Issues in Archives Theory and Practice and Research Methods in Archives, in one year. Further details about the MArchivAdmin are available from the Administrative Assistant, School of Librarianship, University of N.S.W.

Fourteen students will be completing the requirements for the award of the Diploma in Archives Administration at the conclusion of the 1979 academic year. They include students from Malaysia, the Philippines, New Zealand, South Australia, Victoria, and the A.C.T. Four students will be proceeding to the second stage of the part-time course in the 1980 academic year.

Baiba Irving took up the position of Lecturer in Archives Administration and Records Management in April 1979. Visiting lecturers

during 1979 have included: Neville Corbett, Dianne Easter, Paul Mullins, Max Franklin, Marie Markey, Peter Scott, Stephen Stuckey (Australian Archives); Dianne Patenall, Pat Thompson, Robyn Flynn, Ruth Morris (Records Management Office of N.S.W.); Wendy Lowenstein (oral historian, Victoria); Olga White (Macquarie University Archives); John Davies (Archives Office of N.S.W.); Alan Townley (Microsystems Pty. Ltd.); Tony Krouk (Privacy Committee of N.S.W.).

IASA, Australian Branch

The inaugural meeting of the Australian Branch of the International Association of Sound Archives was held in Canberra on 29 August 1979. David Lance, secretary of IASA, was presented at the meeting which was organised by a steering committee headed by Peter Burgis, Sound Archivist, National Library of Australia. The meeting established a new Steering Committee to develop plans for the organisation of the Australian Branch.

Oral History Association of Australia

The O.H.A.A. held its first National Conference and General Meeting in Perth on 18 and 19 August, 1979. The papers delivered at the Conference are to be published in the next issue of the Association's *Journal*. For further information about the Association, contact the Liaison Officer, Mrs Jean Teasdale, 97 Ullapool Rd., Mt. Pleasant, W.A.

Conservation News

Professor R. G. Neale, Director-General of Australian Archives, is Australian Corresponding Member of the Conservation and Restoration Committee of the International Council on Archives. In this capacity he sends regular news notes on conservation matters to Mr Y. P. Kathpalia, editor of the Committee's publication, *Conservation News*. Would Australian archivists please send Professor Neale any news on conservation in their institutions which they feel would be of interest to Mr Kathpalia.

Mothers' Memories, Others' Memories

This extremely interesting exhibition was mounted at the University of N.S.W. from 10 to 22 September 1979. More than thirty people who had been working with their mothers, aunts, grandmothers, and other women, contributed to the exhibition. The records and recollections displayed included photographs, documents, letters, diaries, sound tapes and slides. The project was organised by Vivienne Binns, Resident Artist, University of N.S.W., 1979. Since its completion at the University of N.S.W., the project is being continued in the community of Blacktown, a suburb of Sydney.