

News from the Divisions

SA BRANCH

Each year the South Australian Branch of the LAA arranges a visit to a country area. This year the venue was Keith, in the upper south-east region, where a new school/community library was opened only a few weeks before the visit on Sunday, September 30 and Monday, October 1.

As participants had to travel long distances to attend, an overnight stay was essential. Consequently the program was designed to begin on Sunday afternoon and to conclude by 3:00 p.m. on Monday. All school and public libraries were told of the conference and asked to indicate which topics they would like included. The preferences were for management skills and adolescent literature, and the organizing committee of Joan Brewer (Branch Councillor), Pam O'Donnell (President, Public Libraries Section) and Lawrie Whitmore (President, School Libraries Section) drew up a program with these needs in mind.

The first session began at 2:30 when Gerrie Stafford, the Branch President, talked about the objectives and activities of the Library Association, showed the variety of publications issued, and explained the lobbying activities of the Association, particularly the success in relation to federal funding for school libraries and proposed activities in relation to funding for public libraries.

Joan Brewer discussed some of the issues on the agenda at the last General Council meeting. Later Pam O'Donnell conducted a session in which groups of three were set up, with each person required to speak to the other group members on a specified management topic. After three topics had been discussed the groups changed, allowing people to talk to everyone present.

In the evening members visited Carolyn Bullen's home, on a farm about 48 kilometres from Keith, for a barbecue.

Monday morning's session began with Anne Simpson talking about new titles in adoles-

cent fiction. She provided a number of lists and had borrowed some books from Adelaide booksellers for display. Maureen Nimon followed with a short session on science fiction and then there was group discussion.

The next session was introduced by brief talks on communication in management by Pam O'Donnell, Felicity Langeveldt and Joan Brewer. This was followed by small group discussion of case studies. The conference ended at 3:00 pm.

The visit was voted a great success by the twenty-four librarians from the south-east who drove such long distances to attend. There were librarians from public libraries, school libraries and school/community libraries. The eight SA Branch members also appreciated the opportunity to meet their country colleagues. Those who attended were Gerrie Stafford, Flinders University and Branch President; Maureen Nimon, SACAE and Branch Vice-President; Joan Brewer, SACAE and Branch Councillor; Pam O'Donnell, Public Libraries Division and President of Public Libraries Section (S.A.); Felicity Langeveldt, Librarian Tea Tree Gully Public Library; Anne Simpson, SACAE; Margaret Day, Public Libraries Division; and Euan Miller, State Librarian.

The South Australian Branch looks forward to another successful country visit in 1985.

Joan Brewer
Branch Councillor

QUEENSLAND BRANCH

Due to the successful rebirth of the Branch newsletter during 1984 there has not been a regular need to use this column. Interstate colleagues may be interested to hear of our current activities.

1984 has been a busy year with the preparations for the LAA/NZLA Conference in addition to the regular pattern of general meetings. Guest speakers included Warren Horton, Alan Bunsell and Jenny Adams, some faces in Sunshine State librarianship (Jim Cox and John McKinlay), the Hon Dudley Erwin on Government publications and Earle Gow on research. The Branch was particularly pleased that General Council was able to reschedule its preconference meeting to allow an encouraging number of observers to attend. The Branch hosted drinks during General Council to allow members to meet General Councillors on an informal note.

For the first time in a number of years, elections for the positions of President and Gen-

eral Councillor have attracted a number of nominations. The need for an election is perhaps an indication of the healthy state of the Branch.

The State Library of Queensland is currently under review with the Board of Review being chaired by Denis Richardson. The Branch is compiling a submission for the review. Allan Callaghan, the Co-ordinator of the Department of Arts, National Parks and Sports will speak about the review at 20 November General Meeting.

Don't forget the AGM (see Happenings)!

Philip Kent

SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION SA

Opening of the Wilmar Library

For many years Mr Glen Ralph, the librarian of the Australian Society of Accountants in South Australia, has been collecting materials on a wide range of social issues. Some of the subjects in which he has been interested have been to a large extent ignored by other collections.

On 18 September Mr Ralph achieved one of his ambitions with the opening of the Wilmar Library, Lockleys, to house his collection and make it available to researchers into social problems. The official opening was performed — complete with musical introduction — by Prof. A. Foskett of the South Australian Institute of Technology.

After the opening, guests were invited to inspect the impressive facilities offered by this newest addition to the State's library resources and then to take part in a discussion about the possible futures for this collection. A lavish supper concluded the evening's proceedings.

The Wilmar Library is listed in the latest edition of the LAA Special Libraries Directory and is open to researchers by appointment with Mr Ralph. As special librarians, we welcome his imaginative initiative and wish the new library every success in fulfilling its objectives.

Lynne Carmichael

MEDICAL LIBRARIES SECTION (SA GROUP)

September was an active month for the Medical Libraries Section (SA Group). A visit to Modbury Hospital early in the month afforded members the opportunity to be shown the finely appointed library by the hospital's librarian Mrs Barbara Miskelly and to enjoy a convivial evening.

At the Section's bi-monthly meeting later in September the final step in the long preparations for the interim GRATISSA periodicals union list was taken when a large turn-out of members collated the typed sheets for the list which had been compiled by individual members of a working party. This interim list is seen as the first concrete result in what is planned to be eventually a regularly updated union holdings list for health related libraries.

Arrangements have also commenced for the AGM in November and to this end the Vice-President, Irene Dorskatsch, is distributing a questionnaire amongst members to ascertain their views on the Section's activities in order to assist the next Executive Committee in forward planning for 1985.

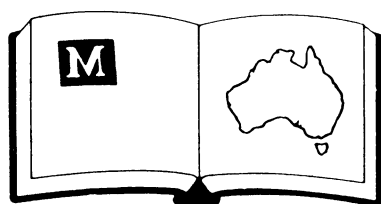
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