

upholds the right to freedom of action as well as the right to read and of access to information.

There has been successful action before in the history of our Association. The suppression of the LAA reform group some 15 years ago brought about a surface compliance, but also left a deep-seated appreciation that membership of any group may lead to being used as a pawn by those in power. One reason why 'information professionals' may not join an umbrella LAA is that we still think in 19th century terms. It is hard for those of us who are committed members to realise that 'professional associations' are obsolescent. Devices such as course recognition do help to keep us alive, but also obscure our own failures.

The LAA has failed to convince many library workers that it has relevance for them. The library schools have failed to inculcate a professional attitude, but merely produce people who can pass 'recognised' courses. Individual librarians have failed to show their colleagues the benefits to society and to themselves of becoming LAA activists. How dare we then suggest that the remedy for my failure and your failure, is to cash in on high unemployment by frightening fellow workers into submission?

Don't blame non-members. The onus is on each and every one of us; 'we have to start somewhere, why not in our own workplaces?'

Edward R. Reid-Smith

Classification Research

Since 1982 I have been the Australian representative on the Fédération Internationale de Documentation Committee on Classification Research (FID/CR).

In that capacity I receive information, news and notes on FID/CR activities. The most recent arrivals include the minutes of the business meeting held in The Hague in September 1984 and FID/CR News number 11 (reprinted from *International Classification*).

I would be pleased to pass on copies of these items to any interested persons.

John McKinlay

University Librarian

James Cook University of North Queensland
Townsville, Q. 4811

In appreciation

Would you please accept my thanks and gratitude for the honour the Association has done me in conferring on me a Fellowship. Through you may I also express my appreciation to the office bearers and Council of the Association, in particular the Board of Education, its Chairperson Moira MacKinnon, and the President Warren Horton.

As you know this is an award I value highly and I am sensitive not only to the honor but also, if I may say so, the warmth of its bestowal.

I would be less than honest if I did not say that there is particular pleasure in receiving such a recognition from one's peers. On the other hand, the receipt of such an honour and the generous citation which accompanied it serves to remind one of how much more one might have done. I can hear myself, and numbers of my colleagues saying — it's not too late!

Once again may I express my sincere gratitude to the Association for this honour.

P.H. Dawe Chief Librarian

STOP PRESS

News has just been received of the death of Melvin Weinstock, Head of the School of Librarianship, University of New South Wales.

Mr Weinstock died suddenly from a heart attack in Houston, Texas. He was in the United States on his Special Studies Project.

An obituary will appear in the next issue of *Incite*.

Computer Software Library Services

Mansell Publishing Limited have recently commissioned J.A. Gilman to write a book on computer software library services, scheduled for publication in 1985/6. This book, which grew out of Gilman's article on the same theme in the January 1984 issue of *Library Association Record* ('The Soft Option'), will examine the problems associated with establishing and operating such services, particularly in public libraries in the UK, North America and Australasia — though it will also consider parallel developments in academic, school and special libraries.

Aspects to be covered include: the acquisition and processing of software; its bibliographic description; storage and loans systems employed; integration with book and a/v resources collections; and (where applicable) the availability of hardware for home use in association with software being loaned. Gilman will examine the attitudes of software manufacturers to library outlets for their wares, and discuss copyright difficulties.

In order for the book to report fully on current practice, feedback from librarians already engaged in this field is vital. If YOU have had any experience of operating, initiating

or planning software library services, J. A. Gilman, himself a librarian, would welcome your information, comments and opinions. He promises to reply to all correspondence, and contributions used in the finished book will be fully acknowledged. All aspects of your software services are relevant, including (where possible) actual totals of stocks, staff and finance involved. Please also indicate whether you would be willing to complete a questionnaire.

Any help you can give will be very much valued not only by the author and publishers, but also by your colleagues; the book should be of great practical use to all librarians contemplating entering this new field.

Please reply, preferably by January 1985, to Mr J.A. Gilman, c/o Mansell Publishing Limited, 6 All Saints Street, London N1 9RL, England.

IFLA CONFERENCE CHICAGO AUGUST 1985

This Conference, sponsored by the United States Association Members of IFLA, is open to all librarians and other interested persons. It will prove stimulating and of benefit to those fortunate enough to attend.

Chicago has a number of famous libraries such as the Newberry, and the Chicago Public Library Cultural Center with its mosaics by Louis C. Tiffany is outstanding. Important, too, are the university libraries and special libraries such as those of the American Hospital and American Dental Associations. These will be open for conference visitors and study tours of selected notable libraries will take place.

The pre-Conference Seminar is 'Public Libraries'.

World Travel Headquarters can assist those travelling to the Congress from Australia. If a sufficient number of delegates departs Australia on the one day, say 17th August 1985, World Travel Headquarters will arrange a group tour at a considerable saving in airfare and land costs, yet still enabling each traveller to follow his personal plans for post-Congress travel and return to Australia.

Therefore please register your interest with
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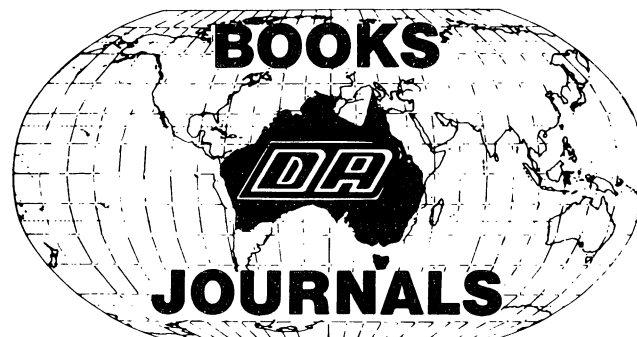
AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY JOURNAL BUILDING REVIEW 1984 and 1985

The August 1986 issue of the *Australian Library Journal* will contain a review of all new, extended or remodelled library buildings completed in the 1984 and 1985 calendar years.

The elapsed time between the conception and completion of a building project can be quite considerable and project details can become dispersed throughout files and plan cabinets. The extraction of these details at a later date can be a tedious process.

In the past the editor of the *Building Review* has sought details of eligible projects at the end of the biennium concerned. In future these details will also be accepted at any time to allow librarians and architects to obtain the required details when this may be more convenient. Data Forms for buildings can be obtained from the *Building Review* Editor, Warwick Dunstan, State Library of Tasmania, 91 Murray Street, Hobart, Tasmania 7000. Telephone (002) 30 2445.

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