

Paper permanence up to standard?

AN INTERIM AUSTRALIAN Standard for the *Permanence of uncoated paper and paperboard*, AS 4003 (Int)-1992, has been released by Standards Australia. It was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Permanent Paper (Committee MS/48) following a request in 1987 from the Library Association of Australia and the Australian Advisory Council on bibliographical Services.

Paper meeting the Standard should be relatively stable and

therefore survive hundreds of years as have papers made in the 15th and 16th centuries. More recent acidic paper soon goes brittle, so that we shall probably lose the original hard copy of much of the published and written records from the 19th and 20th centuries. By defining permanent paper and encouraging its use, comparable future preservation problems should be prevented.

Librarians, archivists, researchers and all those interested in the documentary record of Australia should benefit from the use of

permanent paper for printed materials, documents and other records.

There is currently no directly applicable International Standard, although a Subcommittee (ISO TC 46/SC 10) is involved in the development of Standards for long-term written materials and for materials intended for permanent retention.

For further information contact Leanne Brandis in Preservation Services at the National Library, (06) 262 1596. ■

Brisbane reviews its library service

by Ann McLean, acting City Librarian

THE BRISBANE CITY Council is reviewing its library service, to provide a strategic plan for future development. The Melbourne-based consultancy firm USE (Urban Spatial and Economic Consultants Pty Ltd) has the project, which commenced on 22 July and will run for approximately sixteen weeks.

The Consultant's brief calls for a review of the current library service, leading to recommendations on:

- the core business of a

contemporary, progressive City Library Service for Brisbane and a strategic direction for the Council in this area;

- the products and services which should be provided by that service broadly, and from each branch, within particular communities and to housebound and nursing home residents;
- the most appropriate delivery system for these products and services to service the community, including the number, locations

and performance capability of branch outlets; and

- the most appropriate management structures and processes to support and operationalise this delivery system.

The Melbourne-based consultancy will ensure that the appropriate consultation is undertaken so that the desired outcomes can be achieved for each community.

The results will be reported in *inCite* in due course. ■



Representatives of ALIA and ACLIS at a joint meeting just before the July gathering of General Council. From left are Anne Hazell (Chair ALIA Board of Ed.), Gordon Bower (Exec. Officer ACLIS), Earle Gow (Past Pres. ACLIS), Alison Crook (Pres. ACLIS), Warren Horton (Planning and Advocacy Committee, ACLIS), Philippa Middleton (Gen. Treas. ALIA), Bev Kirby (Pres. ALIA), Jennifer Cram (Vice-Pres. ALIA), Sue Kosse (Exec. Dir. ALIA). ■

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TEN gets exclusive agency

TELEVISION EDUCATION Network Pty Ltd, of Melbourne has been awarded the exclusive agency for all publications by the US Meckler Corporation, a specialist publisher of periodicals, directories and monographs on the management of all aspects of library technology. Meckler is now in its 21st year of publishing; and its periodicals include *Computers in Libraries* and *CD ROM Librarian* the largest circulation optical media review for information professionals.

All Meckler periodicals will be available through TEN from 1 September 1992 and the entire range of monographs will be here from 1 October 1992.

Librarians who have subscribed to Meckler periodicals through the London Meckler office, paying in English pounds, should be pleasantly surprised at the conversion of subscription prices to Australian dollars.

A full catalogue of Meckler publications, with prices in Australian dollars, will be available later this year. All prices will include packaging and posting.

For further information, please contact Kathy Speakman at: TEN Pty Ltd, 2nd Floor, 412 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Telephone: (03) 602 2055; Facsimile: (03) 670 2448. ■