

PROJECT MIND

... a column Meeting the Information Needs of the Disabled

Reading and writing aids

Sometimes conditions such as arthritis, rheumatism or debility limit reading and writing activities. Simple solutions to these problems may be found by providing inexpensive elementary equipment.

Reading may be limited by the reader's inability to grasp or steadily support a book. Provision of a reading stand can be a solution. In more extreme cases the application of a book-stand incorporating a page-turning device may be necessary.

Writing is often made difficult by the need to grasp a slim pen when the writer's hand has lost flexibility or strength. By artificially 'fattening' the pen it may become easier to manage. This applies to both the elderly and to very young children.

Advice on suitable products is available from Independent Living Centres, physiotherapists and agencies. An inexpensive book-stand, the Easi-reader, and a slip-on vinyl grip for pens and pencils, the Grip-E-Z, are handled by Crana Holdings of Castle Cove, 2069.

Films about disability

Focal Communications have a special collection of 16mm films on disability. The films are available for either hire or purchase. Reviews of the films can be arranged.

Topics include management, behaviour modification, explanation about disabilities, and portrayal of life experiences of disabled and handicapped people. Further information from 50 Clarence Street, Sydney.

Recorded books

Professionally produced cassette books are available on a hire or buy basis from Recorded Books, PO Box 79, Charlotte Hall, Maryland, 20622, USA. They also have for sale a range of ex-hire cassettes at reduced rates.

Identification of gifted children

According to Dr Diane Bretherton of the Institute of Early Childhood Development in Melbourne, it is now possible to tell from a very early age if a child is exceptionally gifted.

graves, Brian Easterbrooke, and the President of the Special Libraries Section, Jenny Adams.

The organisers hope that the tour and seminar will attract not only special librarians but also university, state, public, school librarians, library technicians, library students, and other interested persons. Fees are \$25 for LAA members, \$35 for non-members and \$20 for students; however all those who register before November 1 are eligible for a \$5 discount. The registration fee covers lunch on both days, bus travel on the Friday, morning and afternoon tea, and wine and cheese on the Saturday.

For further information contact Jill Adamski (002) 23 5555 or Jan Hamilton (002) 38 9292.

Mark Bennett

PUBLIC LIBRARIES GROUP, QUEENSLAND.

Nominations are now called for the positions of President, Secretary-Treasurer and for 6 Committee Members.

All financial members are entitled to nominate and second candidates, or to be nominated themselves for positions.

Forms must be signed by a nominator, a seconder and by the nominee and should reach: The Secretary, Queensland Branch LAA, PO Box 212, West End, Qld 4101, no later than 31 October 1982.

VICTORIAN BRANCH

The Branch is holding an evening meeting entitled 'Who needs MARC? A discussion of some issues related to the provision of machine readable cataloguing'. Doug Down and a panel of librarians will comment on a number of issues. Doug has suggested that while not many would argue against the development of machine readable cataloguing procedures, when some libraries have to pay for what they don't want in a cataloguing data base, one can't blame their librarians for asking questions like:

'What bibliographic standards are applied in the data base?'

'How much must be given so that a library can take?'

'Are any alternatives available?'

'Do we need to share cataloguing data?'

'Whose cataloguing data?'

It is hoped that the speakers' contributions

will stimulate some valuable discussion on the subject. Further details in 'Happenings'.

LAA 22 Overseas Speakers

Victorian members were fortunate indeed in having the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with three of the overseas speakers, namely Dr Fred Ratcliffe, University Librarian, Cambridge, Dr Patricia Cianciolo, Professor of Children's and Adolescent Literature at the College of Education, Michigan State University, and Mr Charles Robinson, Director of the Baltimore County Public Library system. All sessions addressed by our visiting speakers were well attended and enthusiastically received.

Book House Beer Seminar

A second 'beer seminar' is planned for Thursday, 4 November at Book House featuring Dr Dean Hutton of the Curiosity Show (South Australia). Dr Hutton will present his ideas on the impact of technology on information, with special reference to the impact of video-disc. His visit is to be jointly funded by the Branch and the Australian Council of Educational Technology. Watch 'Happenings' for further details.

Australian Children's Magazine

The Branch has approved in principle a grant towards the proposed project of the Victorian Group of the Children's Libraries Section. The group aims to produce a pilot video program entitled the *Australian Children's Magazine* to be distributed by Open Channel, a non-profit community-access television organisation in Melbourne. Copyright ownership of such a program could pose problems, so the Branch is to negotiate with the relevant bodies to clarify this issue.

Downtown Lending Library for Melbourne

The Branch has received a reply from the Shadow Minister for the Arts, Mr Peter Block, in response to its request that a delegation from the Branch be permitted to see him in order to put the case for a downtown lending library. Mr Block has asked to be furnished with further information before receiving a delegation.

Christmas Function

The Fortuna Village has been booked for Friday, 3 December for a nine-course Chinese banquet. As this function is designed to bring together members of all sections, we do hope it will be well subscribed. The restaurant has an excellent reputation and we're anticipating that an enjoyable time will be had by all. Further notices will appear in 'Happenings'.

Angela Bridgland

Sydney City Library on the move

After 83 years continuous occupancy of the Queen Victoria Building in George Street, Sydney, and to make way for its restoration, the City of Sydney Public Library will be moving to

321 Pitt Street, Sydney

The Library will be closed for moving from 28th October, 1982 and will re-open at the new address on 6th December, 1982.

N.B. We regret inter-library loan services will be suspended from 18.10.82 until 6.12.82.

Sarah Walters
Director, Sydney City Library
and Information Centre

News from the Divisions

SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION — TASMANIAN GROUP

A special point of view'

The newly formed Special Libraries Section, Tasmanian Group, is conducting a tour of special libraries in Hobart on Friday, November 12, 1982, followed on Saturday, November 13, by a seminar — 'A special point of view' — a look at Tasmanian special libraries. Twenty-five libraries will be visited on the tour — participants will have a choice of three walking tours in the morning, and a choice of two bus tours in the afternoon. Buses will take all the 'tourists' to the Police Academy at Rokeby for lunch and a look at the Academy's library.

The seminar on the Saturday will be held in the University Common Room from 9am to 5pm. A total of eight speakers will look at the development of Tasmanian special libraries past, present and future. Speakers will include Leslie Cooper, Len Brasch, Dorothy Shea, Pat Durrant, Glory Lewis, Marita Har-