

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF INDEXERS

Office bearers - 1976-77:

President: Clyde Garrow, C.S.I.R.O., 314 Albert Street,
East Melbourne.

Vice-President: John Simkin, City of Moorabbin Library,
161 Jasper Road, Bentleigh.

Secretary: Sylvia Ramsden, 62 Don Road, Healesville, 3777.

Treasurer: Joan Haughton, 74 Normanby Road, Kew, 3101.

Committee members: Jean Hagger, Department of Librarianship,
Royal Melbourne Institute of
Technology.

John Hawker, 26 McIlwrick Street, Windsor.

Ed Lewis, 1 Psychological Research Unit,
Commonwealth Department of
Defence.

Coral Muntz, C.S.I.R.O.

Newsletter editor: John Simkin, City of Moorabbin Library,
161 Jasper Road, Bentleigh,
Victoria, 3204.

Membership fee for 1976-77 has been set at \$10. The membership year is from October 1 to September 30. Cheques should be made payable to the "Australian Society of Indexers" and forwarded to the Secretary at the above address.

The Editor writes:

Having received a number of complimentary comments about the first issue of the Newsletter (unnumbered, but in fact "volume 1, number 1") the editor now emerges from anonymity to issue a request to members to send material for future issues.

The Society has been set up as a body representing the profession of indexing in Australia. It aims to draw together all those who are practising in this field and those who have an interest in indexing whether they are practising or not.

The Newsletter can play an important part in this work. I am particularly anxious to receive news of work in progress and experiences in the field as well as articles on any aspect of indexing.

The Committee is interested in hearing from members who have suggestions for the development of the Society - its programmes, its membership - and especially from interstate members who can help to extend the activity in other parts of Australia.

Many members have expressed interest in practical training in indexing techniques. The first meeting for this year (see frontcover) will be devoted to an introductory talk, with practical exercises, by Michael Ramsden, Senior Lecturer of the Department of Librarianship, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

John Simkin, Editor.

Several members have requested that the membership list be printed in the Newsletter. The list below includes some names of members who have not yet renewed their subscription for 1976-77:

Mrs. P. Alonso, South Yarra, Victoria

Mrs. N. Phillips, Australian Dictionary of Biography, A.C.T.

Mr. N. J. Guenane, Australian Government Publishing Service, A.C.T.

Mrs. A. C. Batt, University of Tasmania

Mrs. E. Binkowski, National Library of Australia

Mrs. C. C. Bishop, Hawthorn, Victoria.

Miss A. Burgin, Royal Children's Hospital, Victoria

Mrs. J. Challis, Canterbury Girls' High School, Victoria

Mrs. J. M. Cunningham, South Melbourne

Miss R. Doig, Australian Administrative College, Mount Eliza, Victoria

Miss M. Doolan, Department of Education, Woden, A.C.T.

Miss B. S. Everett, EDINK, Richmond, Victoria

Miss J. Foreman, Fairfield Hospital, Victoria

Ms. P. Forster, National Gallery of Victoria

Mrs. O. J. Fox, Croydon, Victoria

Mr. H. Godfrey Green, Maryborough, Victoria

Mr. H. Haughton, Kew Victoria

Mrs. J. Haughton, Kew, Victoria

Mr. J. Hawker, Peter Isaacson Publications, Prahran, Victoria

Ms. J. Korn, Australian Society of Accountants, Melbourne

Captain E. Lewis, Department of Defence, A.C.T.

Mrs. R. McLean, Bendigo College of Advanced Education

Mrs. M. Michell, Taringa, Queensland

P. Y. Navaretti, Brunswick, Victoria

Mr. M. Dua, Aeronautical Research Laboratories, Fisherman's Bend, Victoria

Mrs. P. Ray, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, A.C.T.

Mrs. T. E. Sharples, Tasmanian College of Advanced Education

Miss V. Stevenson, Australian Medical Association, Victoria

Ms. P. Stormont, Australian Paediatric Journal, Melbourne

Mrs. J. Tonnior, Townsville, Queensland
Ms. P. Toy, Bendigo College of Advanced Education
Mrs. A. Tully, Clayfield, Queensland
Mrs. J. Uhl, Blackburn, Victoria
Ms. M. Vincent, School of Liberal Studies, Canberra
College of Advanced Education
Mrs. V. M. Wicks, Brotherhood of St. Laurence, Fitzroy,
Victoria
Ms. W. Wilkins, Mentone Girls' High School, Victoria
Australian National University, Research School of
Social Sciences
Miss M. L. Baxter, State College of Victoria at Coburg
Miss A. Beaumont, State Library of Victoria
Mr. K. A. R. Horn, Library Council of Victoria
Mr. D. Borchardt, La Trobe University, Bundoora, Victoria
Mr. P. Dawe, C.S.I.R.O.
Mr. C. Garrow, C.S.I.R.O.
Mr. I. Crump, C.S.I.R.O.
Mrs. C. Muntz, C.S.I.R.O.
Mrs. E. J. Golding, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria
Miss J. Hagger, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
Mr. M. Ramsden, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
Mrs. S. Ramsden, Healesville, Victoria
Miss J. McGovern, Parliament of Victoria Library
Mr. J. G. Martindale, Oakleigh City Library, Victoria
Mrs. R. W. Mills, Port Melbourne, Victoria
Mrs. V. Duncker, Eastern Metropolitan Regional Library,
Ferntree Gully, Victoria
Mr. J. Simkin, City of Moorabbin Library, Victoria
Mr. R. D. Croll, Australian Science Index, C.S.I.R.O.

Members of Parliament, please note!

So essential did I consider an index to be to every book, that I proposed to bring a bill into Parliament to deprive an author who publishes a book without an index of the privilege of copyright, and, moreover, to subject him for his offence to a pecuniary penalty.

Lord John Campbell 'Lives of the chief justices of England', volume 3, preface. (1857)

NEWS ***** NEWS ***** NEWS ***** NEWS

Anzaas Conference: Section 33 of the Anzaas Conference to be held in Melbourne in August concerns "Communications in science" and will be considered under three headings -

1. Man to man
2. Man to machine
3. Scientific communication with society.

Fees for indexing: The Society of Indexers has announced the issue of "Problems in determining fees for indexing: some hints for beginners", by Richard S. Haig-Brown, edited by Neil R. Fisk.

Although the paper has been issued as a basis for confidential discussions by members of the Society it is hoped that copies will be available to our Society to help us in compiling guidelines for charges for various types of indexing in Australia.

Register of indexers: As a first step to compiling a register of practising indexers in Australia the Committee has invited three members of the Australian Society of Indexers to form a panel of assessors. The membership is - Coral Muntz, Josephine McGovern, John Hawker.

Programme for 1977: The programme of meetings for 1977 has been set provisionally as follows:

16th March - Introductory talk on indexing techniques, with practical exercises, by Michael Ramsden.

11th May - The consumers' requirements: why employ indexers? Also accounts of work in progress.

20th July - The solution of indexing problems.

12th October - Annual general meeting.

ISO bibliographies on international standards:
Bibliography 7/November 1976, International Standards for Documentation and Terminology, has now been received by SAA, the Australian member body of ISO. In Part I it lists ISO International Standards and ISO draft International Standards, etc., and in Part II international standards and normative documents developed by other international organizations, under the following headings:

- Documentation
- General and terminology of documentation
- Reference, bibliographic descriptions, abstracts and indexing
- Presentation of documents
- Conversion of written language
- Document copying. Microforms
- Bibliographic control
- Libraries and information systems
- Mechanization and automation in documentation
- Classification and controlled languages for information storage and retrieval
- Terminology (principles)
- Annex 1 - Other reference sources
- Annex 2 - Abbreviations and addresses.

Bibliography 7 is available on order from Standards Association of Australia offices.

Work in progress and completed: Thesauri, with classification schemes, on the following subjects have been compiled by the students of the Department of Librarianship, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology as part of their course work.

In all cases the work forms a framework of indexing terms, while in some cases the schemes are comprehensive.

The projects as presented can be viewed at the Department by arrangement with the Senior Lecturer, Michael Ramsden.

- Agricultural machinery
- Automobile engineering
- Christian theology
- Cocker spaniels
- Cricket
- Fashion design
- Food analysis
- Geomorphology
- German literature
- Integrated electronics
- Interpersonal relationships
- Mountaineering
- Personality
- Water and air pollution
- Weaving.

FAMOUS AUTHOR: "INDEXES LEAD TO IDLENESS"!!!

The whole course of things being thus entirely changed between us and the ancients, and the moderns wisely sensible of it, we of this age have discovered a shorter and more prudent method to become scholars and wits, without the fatigue of reading or of thinking. The most accomplished way of using books at present is two-fold; either, first, to serve them as some men do lords, learn their titles exactly, and then brag of their acquaintance. Or, secondly, which is indeed the choicer, the profounder, and politer method, to get a thorough insight into the index, by which the whole book is governed and turned, like fishes by the tail. For to enter the palace of learning at the great gate requires an expense of time and forms; therefore men of much haste and little ceremony are content to get in by the back door. For the arts are all in flying march, and therefore more easily subdued by attacking them in the rear. Thus physicians discover the state of the whole body by consulting only what comes from behind. Thus men catch knowledge by throwing their wit into the posteriors of a book, as boys do sparrows with flinging salt on their tails. Thus human life is best understood by the wise man's rule of regarding the end. Thus are the sciences found, like Hercules's oxen, by tracing them backwards. Thus are old sciences unravelled, like old stockings, by beginning at the foot. Beside all this, the army of the sciences has been of late, with a world of martial discipline, drawn into close order, so that a view or a muster may be taken of it with abundance of expedition. For this great blessing we are wholly indebted to systems and abstracts, in which the modern fathers of learning, like prudent usurers, spent their sweat for the ease of us their children. For labour is the seed of idleness, and it is the peculiar happiness of our noble age to gather the fruit.

Jonathan Swift 'The tale of a tub: a digression in praise of digressions'.
(1704)
