

ANZTLA AFFAIRS

The Executive Committee met in Canberra on Monday, 13th June (while most people were having a holiday) and dealt with a long list of matters, most of which are reported here.

1988 Conference

Plans were drawn up for the forthcoming conference at Burgmann College, Australian National University, Canberra, 8th-10th September, 1988, under the theme "Preserving the past for the future". All subscribers to the newsletter should by now have received the brochure containing the program and the registration form. If you have missed out, or if you know of others who may be interested, please contact Peter Mendham at St Mark's, Canberra (062.73.1572) immediately.

Future Conferences

The Executive is recommending that the 1989 Conference be held in Auckland, New Zealand, 2nd-4th July. This should be very suitable for our New Zealand hosts and for all states of Australia except Queensland; not only is it during school holidays, but there is an extra week of holidays for sightseeing after the conference. Regarding the latter, the Executive considered that any conferees wanting to tour New Zealand would probably prefer to make their own arrangements, rather than have a group tour organized.

In 1990 and 1991, we suggest that we hold our conference in conjunction with the ANZATS/ANZSTS Joint Conference, i.e. in Brisbane in 1990 and Sydney in 1991.

Nomination

Assuming the membership accepts the proposal of holding the next conference in Auckland, the Executive would like to nominate Judith Bright to serve on the committee for 1988/89.

Standards

The Executive had before it submissions from Victoria, New South Wales, and South Australia regarding the standards document. The following amendments will be placed before the members at the meeting in September as a result of these deliberations:

- 2.i "The place of the library and of the Librarian ..."
- 2.iv. "The Librarian shall be responsible to the governing body or head of the institution ..."

- 2.x. "... in Sections 2. iv-ix above".
- 3.iii. "The appointing body shall ensure that the Librarian and library staff have appropriate professional qualifications in librarianship, management, and theological or religious studies."
- 3.iv. "People shall not be appointed to the library staff unless they are in sympathy with the aims and objectives of the institution".
- 3.v. [Previous 3.iv.]
- 6.iii. "... it will inform the acquisition of materials, whether by purchase, gift, or exchange: ..."
- 7.i. "The institution shall provide a centrally located library building or suitable and sufficient space for the housing of its library resources, proper amenities for the accommodation of students and those engaged in research, and for the work requirements of the library staff".
- 10.i. "... rationalizing collection development and in sharing information".
- 10.ii. "The library shall participate in the national inter-l library loan system and, where practicable, in other national networks".

If you have any further improvements to suggest please let us have them in writing before the Canberra conference.

Newsletter

It was decided to mount a determined campaign to boost the number of members of the association and of subscribers to the Newsletter. All ANZATS libraries who have not yet joined are being approached to become members (at a cost of \$20 including Newsletter subscription). Bible college libraries are also being canvassed to encourage either memberships (at \$20) or subscriptions to the Newsletter (at a cost of \$15). If you know of any individuals or institutions which could benefit from or make a worthwhile contribution towards ANZTLA, please encourage them to become members or subscribers. Our aim is at least 80 subscribers by September. It is intended in future to send a specific

invoice to each member/subscriber (probably with the November issue) and to have a deadline for receipt of payments.

Australasian Religion Index

One hour of the forthcoming conference is being devoted to a discussion of the pilot project to create our own index of religious and theological periodicals. When you have perused the sample issue, please think up some constructive comments to bring up at the conference - to help us to decide whether the project is worth proceeding with.

AULOTS Revision

The revision of the Australasian Union List of Serials in Theological Collections is in progress, but will take some time to complete, as it is being done in the Secretary's spare time. If there is anyone in a position to be able to help in this project, Hans would like to hear from you!

Finances

The financial situation of ANZTLA is a little precarious at the present time, mainly due to the non-receipt of memberships and subscriptions. There was considerable uncertainty as to whether we could afford to hold a meeting of the Executive Committee, because of the travelling costs involved. Nevertheless, the Executive is recommending that membership fees remain at \$20 and subscriptions at \$15 for next year, in the hope of attracting a greater number of members and subscribers. Meanwhile, if you have not paid for the Newsletter you are receiving, please bear in mind that the rest of the association is shouldering the expense!

Lim Chin Chin

Among the one hundred people arrested in Malaysia last October on suspicion of having acted contrary to the interests of the country was Lim Chin Chin, Head of the Resource Unit of the Malaysian Council of Churches. She has been detained without trial for "spreading liberation theology". The Executive believes we should express our solidarity and support for a fellow theological librarian by protesting to the Prime Minister of Malaysia about her continued detention without trial.

Edmund Perrin - Statistician

Edmund Perrin has advised me that he will not be applying for the position of Chief Librarian of the Centre for Ministry, North Parramatta, which is currently being advertised. As he moves out of the field of theological librarianship, we thank him for his contribution to the work of the Association, especially as Statistician, where he has done valuable work in revising the statistical form and designing a computer program to handle the data. Edmund also presented a paper to the 1983

ANZATS Library Consultation, and has been a firm supporter of the co-operative effort over the years. Thank you, Edmund, for your support and God's blessings on your future undertakings!

This move, of course, leaves the position of Statistician vacant and we would be thrilled to hear from anyone who would be willing to take over this important responsibility. An appointment will have to be made in September.

National Library Summit

As President of the ANZTLA, I have been nominated by the Special Libraries Section of the Library Association of Australia, as a person who should be invited to attend the Australian Library Summit in Canberra, October 18-20, 1988.

Actual invitations are issued by the ALS organizing committee; however, the nomination by the Special Libraries Section is already recognition of the importance of theological libraries on the national library scene.

Professional Development

An issue which was not discussed by the Executive, but which I would like to air at the Canberra conference, is that of some kind of basic library education for theological librarians who have had little or no formal library training. Is there a need for, say, a week-long course for such people? Would there be sufficient interest in such a course? Would it be financially viable? Would the teaching expertise be available? Bring your ideas to Canberra!

(Rev.) Trevor Zweck,
President.

NEWS

Luther Seminary Relocation Planned

Following decisions of the General Synod and the General Church Council of the Lutheran Church of Australia, it is planned to relocate Luther Seminary, together with Lutheran Teachers College, on a common campus in a metropolitan area, providing that a suitable site can be found and that suitable arrangements can be made for the working together of the two institutions. If this cannot be achieved within two years, the redevelopment of the North Adelaide site/s will be reconsidered.