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MEDICAL LIBRARIANS' GROUP(VICTORIAN BRANCH.)NEWSLETTER, FEBRUARY 1975.

Minutes of the meeting held 6pm. on Tuesday, February 18th. at College of Nursing Library.

Mrs Inara Emers and Mrs. Joan Martin, both from the College of Nursing Library, provided delicious sandwiches and a variety of liquid refreshments for members at the meeting. It was decided to conduct business from the pleasant and comfortable staffroom, as the library was undergoing some renovations.

1. Apologies were received from the following members:- Mrs. B. McNiece, Miss Heather McDonald, Miss Virginia Stevenson, Miss Anne Shepherd, Miss Judith Tuiliter, Mrs Jo Marshall, Miss Jean Foreman, Miss Anne Burgin, Miss Gay Russ, Mrs. Bronwyn Pearl.

2. Membership dues. A list was compiled of non-financial members:- some, particularly those from the University Libraries, have changed positions and are no longer working in the field. Librarians were asked to remind their staff of the \$2 subscription.

3. Amy Bush suggested the value of a "Directory co-ordinator," who would be kept posted of any changes in Libraries' staff, hours, etc., and would circulate regular newsletters informing all member libraries of these changes. Anne Harrison has volunteered one of the Brownless library staff for this position - to be followed up. Miss Diane Reilly, editor of Vibia, has mentioned to the co-convenors that the magazine is most anxious for contributions from different library groups regarding meetings, staff changes etc. This could be another task of the directory co-ordinator.

More visits to country libraries have been made by the members of the Consultative Panel of the Medical Librarians' Group. An excellent report was written by Amy Bush and Enid Meldrum following their visit to Mooroopna Base Hospital, and consisted of recommendations and comprehensive appendices. Fay Baker visited the Geriatric Centre at Mount Eliza at the invitation of the Assistant Secretary, Mr. William. Much interest was shown in Mrs Baker's suggestions, but, unfortunately, finances at the Centre are too limited to allow any progress at the moment. Mr. Williams is to be contacted in late February to see if any decision has been made about library services.

On 10th. February, Fay Baker and Jac Baillie visited the La Trobe Valley Hospital and discussed the future development of the Hospital Library with Dr. Mair and Mrs. Riley, the Municipal Librarian at Moe. Mrs. Riley would be prepared to give assistance to Dr. Mair's secretary in looking after the Library, but only to the extent that this extra work would not interfere with her Municipal Library activities. Copies of prototype cards, Mesh, core lists etc were left with Mrs. Riley, and it was felt that a basis had been laid for immediate development of the Hospital Library.

The most recent visit was made to the Western Regional Community Health Centre, a department of the Trade Union Clinic and Research Centre, Ltd. The Clinic was begun about 10 years ago by the Meat Workers' Union for the benefit of its employees, but is now operating basically as a community health centre. It is becoming accepted by the A.M.A. and is affiliated with Monash University. The long term plan for the library is that it should become part of a large community project, which may mean affiliation or cooperation with the Footsgray Municipal Library. At present the library is being established with a form of centralized filing system, general textbooks, specialized reference works and journals. The position would be of interest to a part time librarian with professional experience and initiative. This visit and comprehensive report was made by Enid Meldrum and Marion Rock in February, after the meeting of the Group, but it was decided to add a summary of the report to these Minutes for members' interest.

The question of petrol and out of pocket expenses was raised, and it was decided that the library visited by members of the Medical Librarians' Group consultative panel should be asked to pay any incidental expenses incurred by the members in the course of their consultative activities. There is here the underlying assumption that our members are acting in an advisory capacity at the invitation of the visited libraries.

Conference Workshop: A firm statement of the title of the MLG Workshop has been sent to the organizers of the LAA Conference; it is as follows:

"The Librarian in the changing World of Medicine:

The workshop will examine the future role of the Medical Library in meeting the changing needs of the medical profession and the developing needs of the paramedical professions, and how this role can best be fulfilled."

The programme of the workshop was discussed, and it was suggested that there should be greater emphasis placed on the manner in which the needs of both the medical and paramedical professions can be met through a single library service.

Letters have been sent to prominent people in the medical and library worlds, inviting them to address the Workshop. We are awaiting their replies.

The business part of the meeting over, Mrs. Inara Erasers kindly showed members over the College of Nursing Library, and for most it was the first time it had been seen, and so was of particular interest.

It was decided that the next meeting should be held on a Wednesday evening, at 6.30pm. The venue is yet to be decided. A note was made to inform interested librarian's in nursing libraries of the existence of the MLG, and of the dates of meetings.