

The Editors

Newsletter

P.O. Box 567, Neutral Bay Junction, 2089

MEETING JUNE 25, 1986 Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre

Speaker: Peter Eastway, Accountant and Editor of *Camera Craft* will speak on "Taxation and Editors", a very important subject at this time of the year. There will be ample opportunity to raise issues of general interest. Venue will be the Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre, 16 Fitzroy Street, Kirribilli.

Time: 6.30 pm. Cost: \$3 for drinks; \$12 for meal and drinks.
RSVP to RITA 888 3655 by Monday June 23.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT: NAME CHANGE

In a recent issue of the newsletter of the Melbourne Society of Editors, John Bangsund, the periphrastic compiler of same, made another of his frequent calls for the union of our profession. I agree with him that a common organisation for all editors would be beneficial, but I believe it to be some years away. However, to encourage a common identity, I would like to foreshadow a change to our constitution. I think I am supposed to give notice of an intended change of this sort one meeting before the meeting when the vote is to take place (Bruce, where are you?). Anyway, to cut bureaucracy off at the pass and roundup the steers, as they don't say where I come from, the change would be in our name. I propose we start calling ourselves "The Editor's Society" instead of just "the Editors". Is anybody going to ride his or her bronco (I'd prefer their) from the chaparral, raise up their six-gun and go to battle on this? Are we going to have a shoot-out at the Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre? Somehow I doubt it, but it would be refreshing to see our ranks enthused.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Does anyone have any suggestions for a Christmas party? How did people feel about last year's do in Regent Street? Please let your committee know your feelings. Do you wanna dance, do ya, do ya, all through the night, or shall we just eat for it is "strange to see how a good dinner and feasting reconciles everybody" (Pepys).

NEW PUBLISHER IN TOWN

The Lilyfield Press is looking for freelance editors/writers etc. Contact Gary Baulman, The Lilyfield Press, Top Level Institute Arcade, 332 Darling Street, Balmain NSW 2041. (phone: (02) 818 1399; (02) 818 1511). They haven't let us know what they publish, or how, or when, but they do say they're newly established. Good luck to 'em!

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

Last year, the Committee decided to subscribe to *Publishing History*, a journal devoted to the social, economic and literary history of book, newspaper and magazine publishing. Volume 19 has now arrived. Macquarie Library is presently playing host to our miniscule library. This volume contains a great article on Japanese language newspapers in Malaya and Singapore

ADS!

With our copy of *Publishing History* we received brochures for the "Cambridge Studies in Publishing and Printing History". There are some very interesting titles planned for this series; alas, they will be very expensive by the time they reach these shores (contact C.U.P. for details). Mansell Publishing (6 All Saints Street, London N1 9RL) is also publishing books of interest to editors and publishers. Ask your local librarian for details of *Irish Booksellers and English Writers* (Cole) and *The Newspaper Press in Britain* (a bibliography - Linton and Boston). Again, these books are very expensive, but maybe your local librarian has just sold her/his BHP shares!

COPYRIGHT ISSUES

Copyright Agency Limited Begins Full Scale Operations

The Executive Officer of the Copyright Agency Limited (CAL), Mr. Michael Fraser, has announced that CAL inspectors are now beginning regular inspections of photocopying records at educational institutions.

Since 1981, all educational institutions have been permitted by the Copyright Act to make multiple copies of copyright works for teaching purposes. The institutions must make a record of all multiple photocopying done, and must pay the owners of the copyright, if they or their agents request payment. The fee for photocopying has been set by the Copyright Tribunal at two cents per copy page.

CAL was incorporated in 1974 as a non-profit company with the sponsorship of the Australian Copyright Council, Australian Society of Authors and the Australian Book Publishers Association, to act as the agent of authors and publishers who are CAL's principals. Authors and publishers appoint CAL as the agent for their works by completing the CAL Agreement. CAL will inspect the photocopying records at educational institutions, collect and pay the fees found owing to authors and publishers (less CAL's deduction for running expenses).

Inspections of records are underway. Educational institutions may send in copies of their records. When records are not sent in CAL inspectors will visit educational institutions to inspect the records. CAL inspectors are required to give seven working days notice of an inspection.

CAL will begin inspecting the records of 90 Universities and Colleges of Advanced Education in Australia and then proceed to TAFEs and schools.

CAL's trial inspections indicate that at Universities and CAE's alone there may be over 185 million copy pages on record. A clear trend of copying at both government and non-government schools has not yet emerged. Nevertheless it seems apparent that at the fee of two cents per copy page, CAL will claim large sums of money on behalf of owners of copyright.

Commenting on CAL's work the Vice Chairman of CAL, Mr William Mackarell, said "I believe that it is in the interest of the community that authors and publishers receive payment for the use of their work by photocopying so that we may continue to be provided with good books and journals that form a foundation of education."

Contact: Michael Fraser, Executive Officer, phone: (02) 959 4727

AJA AWARDS

Recently, the President attended an AJA meeting which was called to discuss the Book Editors award. Information was taken from a questionnaire the AJA sent out to its Book Editor members last year. (The President points out the membership of the AJA is available to all members of the Editors, and strongly recommends it as a defence against bad practices for both in-house and freelance members.) The current awards are fairly low and have had no revision for quite some time. It was interesting to see that many (a majority) of respondents to the AJA questionnaire were being paid above the award. There are presently 3 scales: trainee, book editor, and senior book editor. The AJA is proposing to add another year, with increase of pay, to the trainee level, and escalate the book editor rate over five years (annual increments). There would probably be a rescaling of the Senior Editor rate into A, B and C (grades, depending on the actual work being done.

The President feels that this new proposal is sound and has indicated his support for it to the AJA. It will be interesting to see what publishers make of it. From our point of view, it is important that there be some legal recognition of the financial importance of our work to publishers.

The AJA is also proposing that houses need not have a tiered number of editors (i.e., 1 senior editor, 2 book editors, 6 trainees, for example). This would obviously be impossible for the industry in its present form. What is proposed is that "editors" who are carrying out senior work, and "trainees" who are carrying out editor's work, receive the appropriate compensation.

The President would be pleased to receive member's views on this matter on a confidential basis (please correspond to 145 Union Street, Erskineville, 2043, or deliver comments personally at our meetings). The AJA would also be interested in hearing our views. Their offices are at 403 Elizabeth Street, Sydney, and their phone number is 212-1609. Megan Pikett is the person to speak to.



WE NEED YOU! PLEASE PAY

A number of members have not yet sent in their fees for 1986. If you are one of them, you will have received a membership form with this newsletter. Please return it with your remittance promptly. If you do not, you will be deleted from our computer file and so will not receive any more reminders or newsletters. That's a threat, isn't it? Remember, you can claim membership of the Editors as a tax deduction, but only if you have paid by June 30!

President, Jeremy Fisher, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 8883655

Committee

Sue Butler, Weldon-Hardie, 9295677

Sue McGrath, TAFE, 4986843

Maureen Colman, freelance, 6602302

Heather Dalton, freelance, 9224620

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