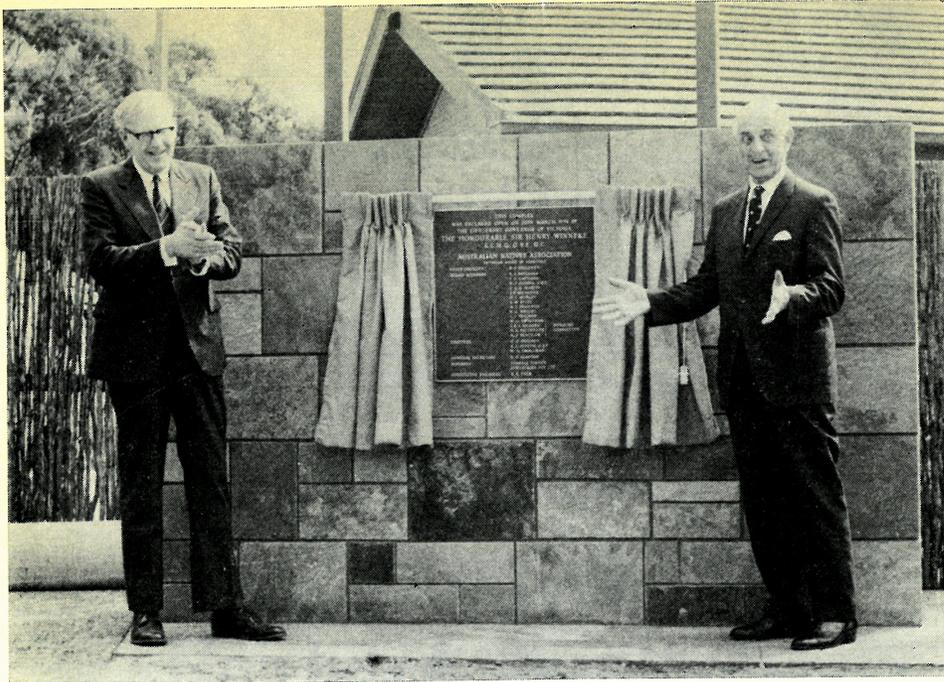AUSTRALIAN NATIVES' ASSOCIATION

The ANA—
A Forum To
Advance Australia

By BRYAN J. KELLEHER, B.A., B.Com.

(Federal President, ANA)

Melbourne, 1980

Sir Henry Winneke, Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, officially opened the ANA Holiday Homes at Hall's Gap, Victoria, on March 20, 1974. On the left is the then Chief President of the ANA in Victoria, Mr Bryan J. Kelleher.

When the Australian Natives' Association was formed in 1871 it combined the advantages of a friendly society with those of a mutual improvement and national organisation. Its meetings were open to the public and dispensed with unnecessary formalities. It prohibited discussions on religious questions or issues of a "party political" nature so that members would direct their attention to matters of national concern.

In its friendly society work the ANA believes that, in days of prosperity, it is paramount to provide against adversity or ill-health; and as a national organisation it aims to attract to its ranks, on an equal footing, those Australians who desire to exchange ideas regarding the welfare and advancement of their native land. It fosters a sincere love of country, encouragement of a high standard of life and living, the stimulation of Australian art, literature and science and the development of Australia's resources and industries in a scientific way and to the fullest extent. It believes that Australians should enjoy the highest ideals of social freedom and that Australia should be built into a powerful but peace-loving nation.

Probably there has never been a time when the Australian Natives' Association did not need new members. Most organisations need to maintain the intake of new members and ensure that there is some proper representation of the views of all age groups. However, the ANA puts no barriers in the way so far as age is concerned and offers every encouragement to its members to interest themselves in, or better still participate in, the decision-making processes within its wide range of activities.

B. J. K.

ANA House

114 Albert Road

South Melbourne, Victoria, 3205

May, 1980

THE ANA — A FORUM TO ADVANCE AUSTRALIA

By BRYAN J. KELLEHER, B.A., B.Com.

Throughout the 109 years of its existence the Australian Natives' Association has taken a keen interest in national questions ranging from constitutional reform, uniform traffic laws, control of hard drugs, the need for national expansion of rail services, afforestation, the nationalisation of the uranium industry and the development of Northern Australia to restrictions on the operation of foreign-owned banks in Australia and so on.

It is difficult to define any limits on the activities of the ANA when, as a national organisation, it seeks to attract to its membership "those Australians who desire to exchange ideas regarding the welfare and advancement of their native land." The scope for participation in a democratic atmosphere, by way of numerous branches, is there and members are encouraged to contribute their own ideas in their own way, at their own pace. It is immaterial whether the ideas emanate from the member's own work environment, leisure time pursuits or other sources; but by bringing them to the Australian Natives' Association they are given the chance to gain greater strength, purpose and direction through a forum designed and dedicated to advance Australia.

Perhaps it needs to be said that, whilst the ANA seeks to have its own members join its own benefit funds on the friendly society side of its activities, it doesn't follow that they must so join. The ANA accepts that, for a variety of reasons, people may have that aspect of their needs covered elsewhere, (or may have chosen not to have any such cover if it comes to that) yet wish to participate in some way in what has been broadly categorised as the "national questions" side of the ANA's activities. An honorary membership on this basis is welcomed.

The wide-ranging nature of the Association's activities has caused the name of the Australian Natives' Association to become linked with a variety of interests. Some of these are mentioned in the material which follows, but no attempt has been made to present a conspectus or a panoramic coverage of the ANA's efforts to advance Australia and the Australian people.

*   *   *

ANA HOLIDAY HOMES

The idea of the Australian Natives' Association interesting itself in the provision of holiday homes for its members arose from a resolution of the Victorian ANA Conference at Sorrento in 1965. Construction soon began on a group of 12 units at seaside St. Leonards, near Geelong. It was a $100,000 project and was officially opened on September 24, 1967. Much thought and planning had gone into the project beforehand and ANA members were kept abreast of much of the detail by way of sketch plans of the types of units and so on, vide "Anapress" of March, 1967, pages, 1, 5 and October, 1967 pages 1-4. In his address to the 1969 Victorian ANA Annual Conference the then Chief President, H. A. Patterson, JP, said "I would like to say how delighted I am with the way the members of our Association have accepted these homes as part of their Association. It augurs well for their future as a first-class benefit to be able to show a surplus between income from rents and expenditure during the first year of operation."

It soon became evident that the St. Leonards project could not meet the demand for holiday home accommodation from ANA members. By March, 1974 the ANA had expanded the holiday homes idea and opened a $500,000 project at Hall's Gap in the Grampians in Western Victoria. It contained 24 units plus over 40 caravan sites, with all modern amenities, service blocks and a small conference or recreation hall. In 1979 a School Cabins complex was added to the project at a cost of approximately $100,000. This accommodates 40 students. Some details of the Hall's Gap project are given in "Anapress" of June, 1974, pages 2, 8-9.

Late in 1977 the ANA purchased more holiday homes at Rosebud on the Mornington Peninsula. These involved an outlay of some $230,000, and, as with St. Leonards and Hall's Gap, have proved popular with the ANA's membership. The Trustees of the ANA have a responsibility for these ANA properties as a capital investment. In considering the operational surplus as a return on the capital investment concerned they have regard to the point that a social and recreational advantage accrues to the ANA members in having these holiday homes at their own disposal.

South Australia

In 1969 the Australian Natives' Association in South Australia decided to establish holiday homes at Port Elliot. Ten units were built and a further four units added in 1977. In all there are now nine two-bedroom and five single bedroom units there. The site selected was one of the best available along the coast, being sheltered by a stand of pines in front and having a commanding view over the coast. More details of this project are given in "Anapress" of June, 1978, at pages 18-19. As in Victoria the project has been well accepted by ANA members. The accommodation is top quality and the tariffs are attractive.

Reciprocal Arrangements

The ANA Federal Council, meeting in Sydney in December, 1978, recommended that all State organisations of the ANA publicise these holiday homes among their respective memberships. In fact further developments have taken place as arrangements have been reached with other friendly societies on the availability of holiday homes, subject at all times. to preference being given to the owning society's own membership needs. The locations, etc. are: Queensland — Manchester Unity, Caloundra (Gold Coast); South Australia — Hibernian Society, Port Elliot; NSW — Manchester Unity, Hawkes Nest, Port Macquarie, Cronulla; Grand United Order of Oddfellows, Port Macquarie and Toowoon Bay; Victoria — Manchester Unity, Rosebud and Lakes Entrance.

* * *

ANA PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETIES

After much painstaking groundwork had been done in the period 1960-1964 the Australian Natives' Association Permanent Building Society was formally registered under the Building Societies Act 1958 in Victoria on July, 20, 1964. It commenced its lending operations in April of 1965.

By 1966 its capital was derived from the ANA Trustees ($50,000), the Board of Directors and Branches ($79,000) and some $4,000 in deposits from the public. The ANA PBS was motivated by the concept of a fair return to depositors and a reasonable rate of interest for the borrowers, but it realised also that its potential to grow would, in the long run, depend significantly on its ability to attract deposits from the general public.

By 1970, after about five years of operations, the funds from public depositors were on the increase and the Directors reported that they "could look forward to a period when we are controlling funds on behalf of our members well in excess of $1 million". The $1 million funds target was reached in 1972, and only one year after that the subscribed capital and deposits reached $2.53 million. The pressure for loans exceeded the availability of the Society's funds, notwithstanding the increasing flow of deposits from the various sources. The Victorian Government Statist required the Society to hold negotiable securities as a "standby amount" to meet any possible call on the deposits made by the public, but the level set for the value of these securities was so high as to enforce an irksome "mark time" stage in the Society's activities. The Directors felt this was keeping the Society outside the mainstream of reasonable growth, consistent with the principles of good management, and that a far less conservative approach should be adopted by the Victorian Government Statist in this matter of the "standby amount". This eventually came about and the ANA PBS once again moved ahead.

By April 1979 the Capital of the Society was at the maximum required level of $2 million, deposits were $10.79 million and assets were $12.95 million. The Society was rendering a good service to members of the ANA requiring housing loans and also extending its operations out to various branches in an endeavour to give greater service to the depositors themselves. For further background on the ANA PBS the reader is referred to "Anapress" of September, 1973, pages 1-2 and the Annual Reports of the Victorian Board of Directors to the ANA's Annual Conference.

The ANA in South Australia established, in 1969, the ANA (SA) Permanent Building Society. Steady progress was made and by 1977 the level of assets stood at $1.66 million. The growth pattern has continued, although there have been times when the demand for housing loans has slackened off somewhat, reflecting the general trends in the building industry in South Australia.

When the ANA Federal Council met in Sydney in December, 1978 it recommended that the ANA in each State "keep under continuous review the possibility of establishing (where not already so established) an ANA Permanent Building Society as an added service to members of the Australian Natives' Association."

* * *

ANA CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES

Soon after the great economic depression of the early 1930s the ANA began to take a closer interest in plans of the State Government in Victoria for housing. The idea of putting people in mass tenements did not appeal to members of the ANA and they soon began to voice their opposition to the notion at branch meetings and Annual Conference. They much preferred some system under which people would be enabled to purchase their own homes, and saw the Commonwealth Bank of Australia as one of the major sources from which finance, at low interest rates, should be forthcoming.

In November of 1945 the ANA in Victoria decided to sponsor the formation of a Co-operative Housing Society. On May 15, 1946, No. 1 ANA Co-operative Housing Society was registered; and this was followed by the incorporation of No. 2 Society on May 20, 1947 and No. 3 on November 28, 1950. The finance for the three societies, $1,300,000 in all, came from the Trustees of the ANA.

The demand for finance for co-operative housing remained strong and the ANA spared no effort in trying to form new societies. Housing was a particularly acute problem in the years immediately after World War II as residential building had virtually ceased during the war.

ANA Co-operative Housing Society No. 24 is now in operation. Over the years the societies administered by the ANA have received finance from the Commonwealth Bank ($3.1 million), the Home Builders' Account (Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement) ($2.75 million), Home Purchase Assistance Account ($0.7 million), ANZ Bank Ltd. ($0.41 million) and the State Bank of Victoria ($0.2 million).

Further detail on the ANA Co-operative Housing Societies may be found in "Anapress" of March, 1964, page 6 and the Reports of Proceedings of Annual Conference of the Victorian ANA. In addition to the societies administered by the Head Office of the ANA other societies have been formed by the ANA Metropolitan Committee and by the Ballarat and Bendigo Branches of the ANA.

* * *

ANA INSURANCE CO. LTD.

At the 1947 Annual Conference of the ANA in Victoria the Merbein Branch successfully moved that the Board look at the desirability and practicability of the ANA undertaking the insurance of fire, accident and general insurance risks, and "if satisfied that such a project could be satisfactorily carried out, to proceed immediately to establish the necesary organisation."

Thus it was that the Board appointed its Treasurer, Mr T. R. Davey, and its Vice-President Mr R. Joseph, as a committee of investigation which reported favourably on the idea. The Board decided to proceed and so recommended to the 1948 Annual Conference. On July 16, 1948 the ANA Insurance Co. Ltd. was registered with a nominal capital of $200,000. The initial working capital of $16,000 was provided by the Board's Management Fund. It commenced operations in January, 1949 with Mr Lindsay Brooks as Manager, and with many ANA Branch Secretaries throughout Victoria appointed as agents.

The enterprise has prospered. The authorised capital is now $500,000. Since June 30, 1979 an amount of $50,000 has been allocated to the purchase of further shares to bring the subscribed capital of the ANA Insurance Co. up to $375,000. The service which the ANA Insurance Co. provides adds to the overall strength of the Australian Natives' Association.

* * *

THE ANA AND AUSTRALIA DAY

Since 1885 the Australian Natives' Association has taken a keen interest in the celebration of Australia Day as a National Holiday, with January 26, as

a fixed day. On that day in 1788 the settlement of Australia began. Captain Arthur Phillip RN, landed at Sydney Cove, raised the flag and took possession of the continent, saying:

"I do not doubt but this country will prove the most valuable acquisition Great Britain ever made. We have come here today to take possession of this fifth great continental division of the earth on behalf of the British people and have founded here a State which we hope will not only occupy and rule this great country but will also become the beneficial patron of all the nations of the Southern Hemisphere. How grand is the prospect which lies before this youthful nation."

Some ANA Initiatives

In the years prior to 1900 the ANA's representations to State Governments regarding the recognition of Australia Day ran into problems, not so much over the date of January 26, itself but as to the uniform acceptance and adoption of the name Australia Day. It was referred to as Foundation Day, Anniversary Day, ANA Day, Pioneers Day and so on. The ANA continued to be the leading advocate on this issue. It persisted in spite of the lack of interest shown in many quarters; and it was not until 1935 that the title Australia Day came into use throughout the nation.

Since 1944 the ANA in Victoria has adopted the practice of holding an Australia Day Reception in its Board Room. The State Governor of Victoria, consular representatives and leading public figures have customarily attended. Since 1927 the Metropolitan Committee of the ANA in Melbourne has organised an evening social function to celebrate Australia Day and Government and Opposition representatives from Federal and State spheres have attended. The venue was usually the Melbourne Town Hall, but in recent years this has been changed to the Dallas Brooks Hall in East Melbourne.

In 1946 the ANA felt that a move should be made to create a national organisation to concentrate more closely upon the celebration of Australia Day. On October 31, 1946 a public meeting was held in the Melbourne Town Hall, chaired by the Lord Mayor Councillor F. R. Connelly, which resulted in the formation of the Australia Day Celebration Committee — a body later known as the Australia Day Council, and which, for many years, met in the ANA Board Room at 28 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

The Australian Natives' Association has a history of very significant involvement, not only in the naming and recognition of Australia Day, but also in the stimulation of interest in functions and events designed to celebrate our National Day. Its voice was there in times when few others were prepared to express any interest at all.

National Australia Day Committee

On March 27, 1979 the Prime Minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser, announced that a National Australia Day Committee would be formed to give greater attention to the observance of Australia Day throughout the nation. It would focus attention on Australia's achievements and co-ordinate existing organisations. Its members would be selected from "as wide a spectrum of the community as possible to reflect Australia's diversity". Needless to say the ANA was very interested in, and welcomed, such a move. Its claims to representation on the Committee were considered by the Minister for Home Affairs, Mr R. J. Ellicott, who indicated he "will keep this in mind when the decision on the Committee's membership is taken." On September 11, 1979 the Minister announced the membership of the National Australia Day Committee, which would be under the chairmanship of Mr Herb Elliott, an Olympic gold medallist and a Commissioner of the Australian Broadcasting Commission. The Australian Natives' Association was not included in the Committee's membership; but it maintains the view that the contribution to be expected from an ANA representative would be such as to match that which other members could reasonably be expected to bring to the Committee. There the matter presently rests.

Change in the Offing?

On February 22, 1980, the chairman of the National Australia Day Committee wrote to the Australian Natives' Association, among other organisations, seeking general comments on the question of whether Australia Day should be observed as a public holiday on January 26 each year, irrespective of the day of the week on which it falls, or whether it should continue to be celebrated under the present "long week-end" arrangements, i.e. celebrated on the Monday following January 26, when that date falls other than on a Monday. The ANA's views

were also sought on the advantages and disadvantages which might be experienced if the "long week-end" arrangements were changed in favour of taking the holiday on January 26 itself.

When the ANA Federal Council met in Sydney in December, 1978 it had reaffirmed, on a motion from the Queensland ANA, its policy that Australia Day should be celebrated on January 26, of each year. The letter referred to was considered by the ANA Federal Executive meeting in Bendigo, Victoria on March 19, 1980 and the general tenor of the reply proposed was also considered by the Annual Conference of the Victorian ANA as part of "urgent business" very soon afterwards.

Commenting generally, the ANA held the view that Australia Day would assume more significance as our National Day if celebrated on January 26 as a fixed day. As far as it was aware there was no custom and practice in other countries whereby such a thing as a "long week-end" concept would apply to the celebration of a National Day. The ANA ventured to suggest that such an arrangement would not be seriously entertained in most countries as an acceptable alternative for the celebration of a National Day.

Land of the Long Weekend

The present arrangements in Australia appear to have come about largely because it took until 1935 for Australia Day as such and by that name to be accepted in the full national sense. Further, this recognition occurred at a time well prior to that when the Australian Government held its present strong position vis-a-vis that of the States in the Australian Federation structure. In the mid-1930s therefore any arrangements for celebrating Australia Day were wide open to pressures from narrow self-interested groups favouring a "long week-end" approach and not really committed to any wider concepts such as Australian nationalism. This type of thinking had also prevailed beforehand with some other significant public holidays which, like Australia Day, deserved somewhat better treatment than that which they received from the decision-makers of those times. In this vein it is perhaps pertinent to add that the ANA Literature Award for 1978 was shared by two authors, one of whom was Ronald Conway. In Victoria his book is on the prescribed list for 1980 for higher school English — the title "Land of the Long Weekend" was almost certainly no idle choice on the author's part.

Proper Significance

Australia Day would assume its proper significance if celebrated on January 26, and such a move would be consistent with the status accorded generally by countries throughout the world where their National Day is concerned. The importance which Australia attaches to itself as a nation would be enhanced. The many countries with which Australia has trade and diplomatic relations would not fail to note that the "long week-end" syndrome had been cast aside in an important field. A changeover would not present any great problems of adjustment and there is reason to suppose that it would be accepted in much the same way as Christmas Day and New Year's Day are presently accepted within the Australian community. The move towards a fixed day celebration could be seen as consistent with other moves which have taken place in recent years. For example, Australia Post has, since 1978, issued a Commemorative Stamp for Australia Day on the basis that it is a day of outstanding national importance, with special historical significance.

The $13 Problem — and Solution

The Australian Natives' Association was careful to point out that there was one issue which might possibly be seen as an "advantage" by some self-interested groups — one which would need to be nipped in the bud, right from the outset. There is the prospect that a wage payment of one day per 3.5 years would be avoided by virtue of Australia Day falling on a Saturday or a Sunday, e.g. 1969 and 1975 were Sundays, 1974 and 1980 were Saturdays. On average weekly earnings of, say, $220 per week, or $44 per day, some $13 per annum per employee would be involved. Assuming the Australian workforce totals about 6.39 million persons, the monetary amount concerned becomes of the order of $83 million per annum. Whilst this is of marginal significance only when looked at alongside the national wages bill, it is too large to be ignored when set alongside an individual issue and the emotive implications to which it could give rise. The hard cold facts of industrial life in Australia could become ingrained on a point such as this. A reasoned response to any objections is clearly necessary.

Initial resistance to any such change could come about over the $83 million issue if this is seen as a cost to be

borne by the wage-earner or as an outright "bonus" to employers throughout Australia. The economic facts are there, as are the industrial relations facts, since the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration (as it then was) in the mid-1920s began including Australia Day in its Federal Award prescriptions. Any objections on this score could be overcome by adopting a practice widely used when New Year's Day or Boxing Day falls on a Saturday or a Sunday and the following Monday is then proclaimed as a public holiday. This tends also to avoid related objections as to "drought periods" in which a wait of three years would be required for Australia Day to fall again on a week day, for example from 1973 when it fell on a Friday until 1976 when it fell on a Monday. Some people would have thus seen 1974 and 1975 as successive years when a public holiday was "lost" under any changed arrangements; but the solution proposed avoids any problems on this score.

Labour Day and Queen's Birthday Comparisons

Almost certainly there will be claims that Labour Day is given the "long week-end" treatment, along with Queen's (or King's) Birthday, so why should Australia Day be treated in any different fashion? This type of argument has little merit and soon falls down when put under closer scrutiny. Labour Day is known by that name in Western Australia, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia. In NSW it it now known as Six-Hour Day and in Tasmania is known by the title of Eight-Hours Day. Moreover, it falls on different days in different States e.g. in 1980 on March 3, in Western Australia and Tasmania, on March 10 in Victoria, May 5 in Queensland, October 6 in NSW and October 13 in South Australia. Regrettably also, in the historical sense, the original Labour Day concept has, in Victoria, been swamped by the commercially oriented Moomba celebrations.

Queen's (or King's) Birthday is celebrated usually on the first or second Monday in June in all States — except in Western Australia. In that State a Foundation Day (State) holiday usually takes place at or about that time in June and the "Sovereign's Birthday" is celebrated in October instead. The actual birthdate of the reigning monarch was observed on the day until about 1936. After the death of King George V the decision-makers preferred to retain the date of his birthday, June 3, or the nearest suit-

able day for observance of the public holiday. The birthdate of Queen Elizabeth II is in fact April 21, 1926, but even then the celebration of this event is not uniform as to either name or date throughout Australia.

Thus the existing "long week-end" arrangements surrounding Labour Day and Queen's Birthday are not really translatable into an argument against celebrating Australia Day on the fixed date of January 26, throughout the nation. The comparisons being made are not "like with like".

Smooth Transition

In general the Australian Natives' Association did not see any great weight attaching to arguments that a mid-week closure of business and Government services for an Australia Day holiday would be disruptive when compared with a straight three-day closure under the existing arrangements. It asked the National Australia Day Committee to consider that a smooth transition to the celebration of Australia Day on January 26, would be assisted by introducing the change before 1983, in which year Australia Day falls on a Saturday.

For further background on the ANA's involvement in Australia Day the reader is referred to "Anapress" in Victoria and "The ANA Advocate" in Western Australia, but the specific references are far too numerous to list here. John E. Menadue's book "A Centenary History of the ANA — 1871-1971" at pages 179-195 is also relevant.

* * *

THE ANA AND AUSTRALIA DAY COMMEMORATION STAMPS

In 1971 the Australian Post Office issued a stamp to commemorate the Centenary of the Australian Natives' Association. The ANA was appreciative of this but the design of the stamp itself raised some mixed feelings among members of the ANA. The question of design was, at that time, a matter internal to the Australian Post Office. Background to this particular stamp issue may be found in "Anapress" of June, 1971 page 14 and December, 1971, Pages, 2, 4.

However the ANA welcomed very much the issue by Australia Post of a Commemorative Stamp to mark the 190th anniversary of Australia Day on

January, 26, 1978. Two "first day" covers were also provided with the issue. The 1978 Australia Day stamp featured the Australian National Flag. It was about this same time that Australia Post announced that its new stamp issuing policy for commemorative stamps required that their issue be related to a matter "of outstanding national importance or of special historical significance" and be "of general interest to a wide section of the community". There was little doubt in the minds of members of the ANA that Australia Day could permanently qualify under criteria of that nature, and that the issue of such a commemorative stamp would add to the significance of Australia Day.

Sydney Cove

The ANA got off the mark quickly and in February, 1978 suggested to Australia Post that an appropriate subject for the Australia Day Stamp for 1979 would be the painting by Algernon Talmadge of the arrival at Sydney Cove of Captain Arthur Phillip RN on January 26, 1788. This topic had been depicted on the cover of "Anapress" of June, 1970. When the ANA Federal Council met in Sydney in December, 1978 it decided that representations should be made to Australia Post in the future as to suitable topics for the Australia Day stamps and that members of the ANA throughout Australia should come forward with their ideas. The 1979 Australia Day stamp was one of 20 cent value and described as "featuring an artist's impression of the flag-raising ceremony at Sydney Cove". The stamp drew favourable comment from many quarters.

Matthew Flinders

Early in 1979 the ANA suggested to Australia Post that a suitable topic, and perhaps a logical follow-on from the 1979 Australia Day issue, would be for the 1980 Australia Day Stamp to feature Matthew Flinders, the man who gave Australia its name. In 1814 Australia, previously known as New Holland, received its name on the recommendation of Matthew Flinders, despite some official reluctance in England to accept any such move. Flinders was one of the great cartographers and discoverers of the world, circumnavigated Australia, and wrote the book "A Voyage to Terra Australis". The Australian people were made more aware of Matthew Flinders through the remarkable story by authoress Ernestine Hill "My Love

Must Wait". A University in South Australia is named after him and residents of Melbourne would well know the statue commemorating Flinders adjacent to St. Paul's Cathedral at the corner of Flinders and Swanston Streets. The ANA was pleased to learn from Australia Post that this topic had been accepted for the 1980 stamp. As with the 1979 Stamp favourable comment followed. The design was first-class and left little, if any, room for criticism.

Suggestions Needed

By November 1979, the ANA had submitted its suggested topic for the 1981 Australia Day Stamp, realising that considerable lead time is necessary for the commissioning of artists, for printing arrangements and so on. At the Annual Conference of the ANA in Victoria held at Bendigo in March, 1980 the Chadstone Branch successfully moved that more encouragement be given to ANA members throughout Australia to put forward suggestions on this matter and that these be channelled through the ANA Federal Council. By November 1980, the ANA expects to have finalised suggestions for the 1982 Stamp. For further background on this subject the reader is referred to "Anapress" of February, 1978, page 7, June 1978, page 11, June, 1979, page 5, December, 1979, page 8, and March, 1980 pages, 17, 22. See also the 1979 Report of Proceedings of the ANA's Annual Conference in Victoria at page 57 and the 1980 Conference Report.

* * *

ANA AVENUE OF AUSTRALIAN TREES — CANBERRA, ACT

Canberra, our Australian national capital city, is now a thriving place of over 220,000 people. In 1927 the population was only 7,000 and, early in that year the Canberra Branch of the Australian Natives' Association was formed. Mr Harry Shannon, newly appointed as the Branch Secretary and a recent arrival to Canberra, was struck by the absence of native Australian trees in the beautfication programmes being undertaken by the parks and gardens authorities there. Their preference seemed to be for pines and deciduous flowering trees.

The Canberra Branch pressed the authorities strongly over this issue and, to their credit, they were responsive to the case being put to them. The result was that, in 1927, the Australian Natives' Association was able to ar-

range to have an avenue of Australian trees planted along what was, at that time, the northern entrance to Canberra, on the road to Yass. In all, 377 trees were planted — 179 kurrajongs, 82 eucalypts and 116 wattles. Ornamental seats were conveniently placed and a marble plaque was inserted in the back of each seat to signify that it had been erected by the ANA. Mr C. E. Francis, first President of the Canberra Branch, planted the first of the trees.

The "Bush Capital"

In those days, and indeed for many years after 1927, numerous State politicians and "State righter" press publications were ever ready to criticise Canberra as the "bush capital" and so on. Nowadays, and fortunately for Australia, maturity and balance prevail over the old parish pump mentality. The move by the Canberra Branch to plant the avenue of Australian trees was supported wholeheartedly by each and all of the State organisations of the ANA throughout Australia and they provided financial assistance for the project. Because of the rapid growth of Canberra in the 1960s and 1970s and the road reconstruction and replanning which was taking place in many parts of the national capital, the Federal Secretary

of the ANA wrote, on February 24, 1978, to the Director of the City Parks Administration of the Department of Capital Territory requesting information as to the condition of the trees. The reply (CPA 70/119 of May 16, 1978) indicated that, although some major tree surgery had been carried out on a number of trees, "all are at present in a reasonably healthy condition". When the ANA Federal Executive met in Bendigo, Victoria in March, 1980 it decided to make a further enquiry as to the condition of the trees etc., as part of a routine follow up and check.

Location

The location of the ANA Avenue of Australian Trees is along Limestone Avenue between Girrahween Street and Batman Street, Ainslie. A sketch of this area is given in an article in "Anapress" of September, 1978 at page 7. Readers who desire further background on this matter could refer to "Anapress" of June, 1978 page 5, September, 1978 page 7, the Victorian ANA Report of Conference Proceedings 1979 at page 30, the 1980 Report, the ANA Federal Council Report of Proceedings in 1978 in Sydney at pages, 4 and 19 and J. E. Menadue's book "A Centenary History of the ANA, 1871-1971" at page 159. A photograph of the avenue was also reproduced in "Anapress" of March, 1980, page 13.

The ANA Avenue of Australian Trees is in Limestone Avenue, Ainslie, Canberra, ACT, between Girrahween Street and Batman Street.

THE ANA HANDICAP — AUSTRALIA DAY RACING CARNIVAL

"Going good" was the description of the track at the Williamstown Racecourse in Victoria on Monday, January 26, 1891. The racing programme on the 1891 Foundation Day Holiday (as it was then called) included, for the first time, an event called the ANA Handicap which carried a first prize of 150 sovereigns. In that first year the ANA Handicap was won by Little Shamrock ridden by J. Flood. The race remained on the Williamstown Racing Club's programme until 1949. In 1930 the Victorian Board of Directors of the ANA wrote asking that the Foundation Day meeting be renamed the Australia Day meeting. Correspondence tabled at the ANA Board meeting on November 26, 1930, indicated that the Committee of the Williamstown Racing Club "has pleasure, in making the change desired."

Moonee Valley

In 1949 the Moonee Valley Racing Club took over the Williamstown Racing Club's Australia Day programme, and since that year the ANA Handicap has been run at Moonee Valley. There are nine events in its Australia Day Racing Carnival — the Matthew Flinders Handicap (1st and 2nd Divisions), the Australia Day Handicap, the Governor Phillip Handicap, the Pioneer Handicap, the ANA Handicap, the William Reid Stakes, and the Foundation Handicap (1st and 2nd Divisions). The Report of Proceedings of the Victorian ANA's 1953 Annual Conference at Queenscliff, at page 27, includes a report from the Board on the Australia Day celebrations of that year and states: "Possibly the most spectacular ceremony was conducted at Moonee Valley Racing Club when Lieutenant-General Rowell, Chief of the General Staff, with military escort, raised the Australian Flag and delivered an appropriate address."

Nowadays the ANA Handicap is run over a distance of 1,200 metres for a purse of $9,000 — First $5,850, Second $1,800, Third $900 and Fourth $450. The course record is 1 min. 9.8 seconds set in 1977 by Karragan ridden by J. Stocker and carrying 50 kg. There were 12 starters in the 1980 ANA Handicap won by King of the Stars ridden by Pat Hyland and carrying 57.5 kg. Time for the race was 1 min. 11.7 seconds. The official attendance on the day was 22,328.

Annual Trophy

When the ANA Board of Directors in Victoria met on November 29, 1978, it had before it a paper, prepared by one of the directors, suggesting that an ANA representative, preferably the Chief President, attend at the presentation of prizes for the ANA Handicap and make any other related arrangements considered necessary after discussions with the Moonee Valley Racing Club. The matter was examined in more detail at the 1979 Annual Conference of the ANA in Victoria, vide Report of Proceedings at pages, 30-31, on the motion of the Chadstone Branch. Thus the Board, in its report to the 1980 Annual Conference, was able to advise that the Moonee Valley Racing Club had accepted the ANA's proposal to donate annually a trophy to the winning jockey in the ANA Handicap. The trophy consists of a whip with gold ferrule, a gold-plated horseshoe and an inscription plate, mounted on a timber wall-plaque. The trophy was made by Mr Peter Bakos. The 1980 presentation was made, immediately following the race, to the winning jockey, Pat Hyland, by the Victorian ANA's Chief President Mr Bill Cuddihy. For further background details and photographs see "Anapress" of December, 1978, pages 16-17, March, 1979 page 11 and March, 1980 page 7.

Some relevant information on the ANA Handicap since its inception is given:

THE ANA HANDICAP

Year	First Prize	Distance	Winner	Jockey	Weight	Time
1891	150 Sov.	7 Furlongs	Little Shamrock	J. Flood	8.1	1.35
1892	100 Sov.	5½ Furlongs	Avondale	J. Hayes	7.3	1.12
1893	75 Sov.	7 Furlongs	Villiers	J. Cunningham	7.4	1.32¼
1894	40 Sov.	6 Furlongs	Diogenes	E. Power	7.7	1.17½
1895	50 Sov.	6 Furlongs	Allurement	J. O'Connor	8.2	1.18
1896	50 Sov.	6 Furlongs	Disparity	T. Sanders	8.12	1.19
1897	50 Sov.	6 Furlongs	Lottie	R. Lewis	7.11	1.17¼
1898	£50	5½ Furlongs	Shannon	T. Pegrum	7.6	1.12
1899	£50	5½ Furlongs	Forest	S. Thomas	8.10	1.11
1900	£50	5½ Furlongs	Bold Boy	R. McNamara	6.12	1.9¼
1901	£50	5½ Furlongs	Songbird	W. Minter	7.13	1.10¾
1902	£50	6 Furlongs	Heiress	R. Manning	7.6	1.17

Year	First Prize	Distance	Winner	Jockey	Weight	Time
1903	£50	6 Furlongs	Witchelm	W. Daniels	8.12	1.17
1904	£50	6 Furlongs	Soprano	E. Turner	8.6	1.18½
1905	£60	6 Furlongs	Merriang	R. Lewis	8.11	1.16¾
1906		(DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE)				
1907)*	£75	6 Furlongs	Rangatira	R. Lewis	9.2	1.16
1907)†	£75	6 Furlongs	Rosebloom	A. Cropp	7.13	1.15
1908 †	£60	6 Furlongs	Albolith	G. Ross	7.10	1.16
1909)†	£60	6 Furlongs	Fairy Bell	C. Cooper	7.7	1.15½
1909)*	£60	6 Furlongs	Hautville	P. Kelly	8.7	1.17
1910)†	£85	6 Furlongs	Monodist	C. Bolton	8.2	1.15
1910)*	£85	6 Furlongs	My Pan	C. Bolton	8.10	1.16¾
1911		(DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE)				
1912	£75	6 Furlongs	Chestermiss	E. Barker	7.3	1.15½
1913	£75	6 Furlongs	Virginie	P. Kelly	8.11	1.15¾
1914	£80	6 Furlongs	Rosny	F. Clarke	8.3	1.16
1915)†	£80	6 Furlongs	Honorine	J. Killorn	8.1	1.15
1915)*	£80	6 Furlongs	Seofon	P. Kelly	9.5	1.16¾
1916	£85	7 Furlongs	Avonwort	W. Foulsham	8.7	1.30
1917	£80	7 Furlongs	Colonel Light	W. O'Brien	8.12	1.29¾
1918		(DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE)				
1919		(DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE)				
1920	£183	6 Furlongs	Lystrim	F. Dempsey	7.10	1.13¾
1921		(DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE)				
1922	£177	6 Furlongs	Girralong	P. Kelly	9.5	1.14¼
1923	£267	6 Furlongs	Sabot	D. Brown	7.1	1.14
1924	£263	6 Furlongs	Kibano	A. Wilson	7.6	1.14¼
1925	£259	6 Furlongs	Vinstra	J. Daniels	7.8	1.14¼
1926	£260	6 Furlongs	Lydia Nance	J. Daniels	8.7	1.13¼
1927	£292	6 Furlongs	David Garrick	F. Dempsey	8.7	1.13¾
1928	£302	6 Furlongs	The Flag	W. Duncan	7.9	1.13¼
1929	£319	6 Furlongs	Byron	H. Badger	7.11	1.13½
1930	£284	6 Furlongs	St. Lucia	P. Tehan	8.5	1.13½
1931	£250	6 Furlongs	Zanzibar	P. Egan	8.3	1.12½
1932	£275	6 Furlongs	Merab	R. Fuller	9.11	1.14
1933	£275	6 Furlongs	Valmist	H. Skidmore	7.12	1.13
1934	£275	6 Furlongs	Mananna	H. Moran	7.7	1.12¾
1935	£240	6 Furlongs	Count Ito	D. Bourke	7.9	1.13
1936	£240	6 Furlongs	Phenomenon	H. Skidmore	8.11	1.13¼
1937	£240	6 Furlongs	Cry Havoc	E. Cox	6.7	1.13
1938	£240	6 Furlongs	El Golea	G. West	7.9	1.11¾
1939	£280	6 Furlongs	Plymouth Hoe	H. Morris	7.3	1.12½
1940	£280	6 Furlongs	Graceful Mover	A. B. Sinclair	8.3	1.11½
1941	£280	6 Furlongs	Celeris	A. Breasley	7.10	1.14¾
1942	£280	6 Furlongs	Reception	J. Crilley	8.7	1.13½
1943		(DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE)				
1944		(DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE)				
1945		(DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE)				
1946	£663	6 Furlongs	St. Fairy	R. Heather	9.9	1.12½
1947	£602	6 Furlongs	Chisel Beach	J. Gilmore	7.13	1.13½
1948	£700	6 Furlongs	Flemish	H. Badger	8.4	1.10¾
1949	£700	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Gay Saint	A. Breasley	8.7	1.12¼
1950	£700	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Winlake	R. Hutchinson	7.5	1.11
1951	£700	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Our Title	L. Lott	8.4	1.10¾
1952	£700	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Gay Archer	W. Twibell	8.10	1.12
1953	£700	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	St. Joel	E. Sellers	8.0	1.11¾
1954	£700	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Anglo-Saxon	B. Wilson	7.9	1.18
1955	£700	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Bright Beam	E. Clarke	8.1	1.11 9/10
1956)‡	£525 (1st Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Palestrina	P. Jenkins	8.12	1.12½
1956)‡	£525 (2nd Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Mihita	I. Saunders	8.4	1.12 3/10
1957)‡	£525 (1st Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Kinder Blue	G. Hill	8.2	1.12 3/5
1957)‡	£525 (2nd Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Great Bronze	R. Heather	8.7	1.11 4/5
1958)‡	£700 (1st Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Calenzo	G. Lane	8.11	1.12 9/10
1958)‡	£700 (2nd Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Purple Boy	E. Preston	9.3	1.14
1959)‡	£700 (1st Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	St. Joel	A. Burton	9.13	1.16 3/10
1959)‡	£700 (2nd Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Djaffic	R. Higgins	8.13	1.16 7/10
1960)‡	£700 (1st Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	The Lampert	F. Treen	9.2	1.14 3/10

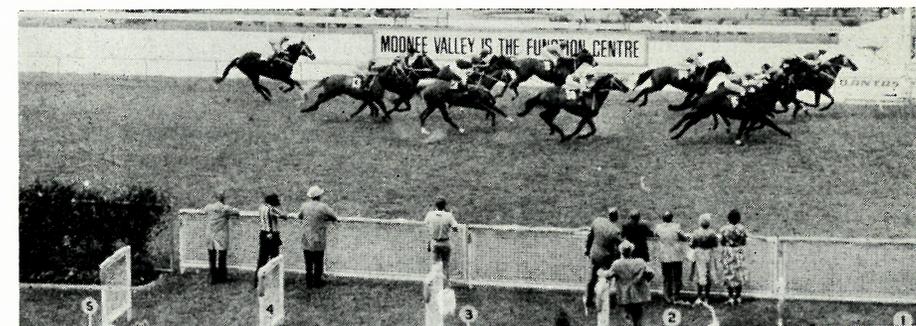| Year	First Prize	Distance	Winner	Jockey	Weight	Time
1960)‡	£700 (2nd Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Music Case	G. Lane	8.10	1.13 4/5
1961)‡	£700 (1st Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Gay Summer	M. Moore	8.9	1.12 7/10
1961)‡	£700 (1st Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Bob Right	R. Mallyon	8.4	1.12 1/10
1962)‡	£700 (1st Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	My Peak	G. Lane	10.6	1.11 1/5
1962)‡	£700 (2nd Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Small Time	G. Lane	10.4	1.11½
1963 **	£875	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Announcer	T. Buswell	8.4	1.17 1/10
1964)**	£1050 (1st Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Gay Summer	J. Courtney	8.7	1.11 2/5
1964)**	£1050 (2nd Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Sunny Coronation	W. Pyers	9.4	1.10 3/5
1965 **	£1050	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	San Marino	P. Jarman	7.11	1.11 4/5
1966)**	£1050 (1st Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Tone	P. Wallen	8.1	1.13 1/5
1966)**	£1050 (2nd Div.)	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Betamyl	L. Marshall	7.11	1.12 1/5
1967	$2100	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Siwai	J. Johnson	8.13	1.10 9/10
1968	$2100	6 Flgs. less 20 Yds.	Prince Romantic	R. Burgess	8.2	1.11 1/10
1969	$2450	6 Furlongs	Picca	R. Setches	7.11	1.12 1/10
1970	$2450	6 Furlongs	Rickshaw Lad	P. Simmonds	8.3	1.12
1971 ††	$1950	12 Furlongs	Bin Bah	H. White	8.5	2.41 4/5
1972	$2800	6 Furlongs	Yew	G. McLeish	7.7	1.12 1/5
1973	$3150	1200 Metres	Cattaville	A. Cooper	48kg.	1.13 2/5
1974	$3500	1200 Metres	Tangent	S. Aitken	52½kg.	1.10 9/10
1975	$3500	1200 Metres	Transformer	A. Wilson	51½kg.	1.11 2/5
1976	$4200	1200 Metres	King's Helmet	J. Letts	59kg.	1.12 1/5
1977	$4200	1200 Metres	Karragan	J. Stocker	50kg.	1-9.8
1978)	$4225 (1st Div.)	1200 Metres	Private Talk	A. Williams	54kg.	1-14.7
1978)	$4225 (2nd Div.)	1200 Metres	Rant	A. Trevena	50kg.	1-14.4
1979	$5850	1200 Metres	Comaida Boy	M. Riley	54kg.	1-10.8
1980	$5850	1200 Metres	King of the Stars	P. Hyland	57½kg.	1-11.7

NOTES:

* Called the ANA Welter Purse.
† Called the ANA Welter Plate.
‡ Called the ANA Highweight.
** Called the ANA Welter Handicap.
†† Called the ANA Purse Handicap.

From 1891 to 1946 the ANA Handicap was on the Williamstown Racing Club's Australia Day programme. The absence of details for the years 1918-1919 and 1943-1945 was probably due to cancellations because of wartime conditions. In 1946 the ANA Handicap was run at Caulfield Racecourse and in 1947 and 1948 at Flemington Racecourse. From 1949 onwards it has been on the Moonee Valley Racing Club's Australia Day programme.

The field as it was 0.2 seconds before reaching the finishing line in the 1980 ANA Handicap at Moonee Valley. King of the Stars won by a long neck from Gay Comment with King's Image a short head away in third place. The camera has also picked up the ANA's representatives with the Secretary of the Moonee Valley Racing Club (the group of five people) watching from the rails nearest the winning post outside Bay No. 2.

THE ANA HANDICAP — WINDERMERE BRANCH ANA

The Windermere Branch of the ANA (near Ballarat, Victoria) was formed in 1886 and in 1908 built and furnished its own meeting hall. This hall was destroyed by fire in 1927, rebuilt in 1928, but again burnt to the ground in September 1932. The present hall, built in brick, was erected in 1933. The costs of building and re-building were met in various ways by the Windermere Branch and its members — one of the ways being the running of a race called the ANA Handicap. Such details as I have been able to ascertain are given here.

Year	First Prize	Distance	Winner	Jockey	Weight	Time
1907	£20	1 mile	Glen Gowan	T. Shaw	7.9	—
1911	£20	1 mile	Late Thought	—	7.4	1.44¼
1918	£20	1 mile, 110 yards	Matchlight	—	7.11	1.50
1919	£20	1 mile, 110 yards	Didsbury	—	7.5	1.50
1932*	—	—	Emery's Maid	—	9.8	1.49
1938*	—	1 mile	Brave Sister	—	—	1.55 2/5
1940	—	1 mile, 110 yards	Silly Boy	—	9.4	1.51

Note: * Race was run at Burrumbeet Racecourse.

THE ANA STAKES — SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Since 1936 the Australian Natives' Association in South Australia has made a presentation cup available to the winner of the ANA Stakes, an event conducted by the South Australian Trotting Club. In 1973 the Club constructed a new 845 metre track at Globe Derby Park some 30 kilometres out of Adelaide. All the metropolitan meetings are now held there and the ANA Stakes is part of the Club's Australia Day programme.

GREAT WESTERN ANA RACES

It is also of interest to note that other branches of the Australian Natives' Association have involved themselves in turf events. The Great Western branch of the ANA in Victoria organised a programme on Wednesday, May 10, 1899 titled the Great Western ANA Races. This was registered under the Victoria Racing Club's rules. The programme comprised a Trial Handicap, a Flying Handicap, the Vigneron's Handicap, a Pony Trot Handicap and a Hack Race.

The proceeds of the meeting were "to go towards liquidation of the debt on the local Mechanics Institute." It was said that "the Hon. A. J. Peacock, Chief Secretary of the Victorian Government and R. F. Toutcher Esq., member for the district" would attend and that W. A. Murton Esq., JP would be the judge.

I mention this as, quite by chance, I happened to see a copy of the race programme when visiting Best's Great Western Winery, near Stawell, Victoria, in April, 1980.

* * *

THE ANA ART AWARD

THE ANA LITERATURE AWARD

THE ANA SCIENCE AWARD

One of the basic principles upon which the Australian Natives' Association is founded is the stimulation of Australian Art, Literature and Science. Its activities in these fields began over 100 years ago and take in the award of scholarships, prizes for the most improved school gardens, and essay competitions. A significant expansion of the ANA's activities in these spheres occurred in 1978 when the ANA Art Award, the ANA Literature Award and the ANA Science Award were established. In each case the Award is made yearly and each, at present, has a value of $300. Much careful groundwork has already been put into these Awards but the ANA intends to "make haste slowly". However, the experience to date has been encouraging and the indications are that some increased ANA activity in these fields will occur in the not too distant future.

The ANA's interests in these areas are too extensive to be listed here point by point. They have been outlined in the booklet "Australian Art, Literature and Science — The ANA's Interest" published by the ANA in September, 1979 and also included in "Anapress" of September, 1979 at pages, 1-5.

The ANA Literature Award is for a work of sustained quality and distinction with an Australian theme and the winners have been:

1978 Shared by Jessica Anderson of Sydney for "Tirra Lirra By The River" published by the Macmillan Company of Australia and Ronald Conway of Melbourne for "Land of the Long Weekend" published by Sun Books Pty. Ltd.

1979 David Denholm of Queensland for "The Colonial Australians", published by Penguin Books Ltd.

Jessica Anderson's book also later won the 1978 Miles Franklin Award.

Details of the ANA Science Award winners, and their entries, are to be found in "Anapress" as follows:—

1978 "Anapress" of December, 1978 pages, 7-9.

1979 "Anapress" of December, 1979 pages, 1-2.

Details of the ANA Art Award are:

1978 No Award made.

1979 Mr Neil House of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology — for Sculpture.

* * *

ANA (Walter G. Smallman) POETRY PRIZES

These Awards, established in 1979, are for poetry presented either in written form or delivered by way of elocution. In March, 1979 the ANA concluded negotiations with the Royal South Street Society in Ballarat for the inclusion of the Awards in the 1979 Eisteddfod. That in the speech and drama section was for a "prepared reading from the work of an Australian author." A maximum time of four minutes was set. In addition a new section was introduced "for an original composition with an Australian theme". There were no restrictions on the length of the composition or on the age of the entrants. The 1979 winners were: Elocution, Mr Eddy Doran of Moonee Ponds, Victoria; Written Composition, Mary-Rose Morgan of Ballarat, Victoria.

Further details of the placegetters, their poems etc. may be found in "Anapress" of December, 1979 page 8 and March, 1980 pages, 8-9.

In addition the Australian Natives' Association and the Australian Council of Trade Unions are presently exploring the possibility of co-operating in the award of a poetry prize "for a written item with an Australian theme" as part of the ACTU's biennial competitions, the results of which are announced at the ACTU's Biennial Congress.

ANA ART GALLERY?

The establishment of an ANA Art Gallery could conceivably be of assistence in furthering the ANA's objectives related to the stimulation of Australian Art. At the same time it could assist ANA members to have a permanent place of their own for the display and sale of their works.

The basic idea was canvassed in an item in "Anapress" of September, 1979 at page 9, but took on some more solid form when the 1980 Conference at Bendigo requested the Board to examine the feasibility of establishing an ANA Art Gallery on the basis of at least covering its own operating costs. Some hard economic facts will obviously enter into the reckoning here; but the ANA is receptive to ideas from its members, and intending members for that matter, which may contribute to a proper consideration of the proposal.

* * *

ANA AFFORESTATION PLAN

For many years now the ANA has taken a close interest in the need for Australia to take more positive action on afforestation. The March 1979 Conference in Bairnsdale, Victoria decided that the ANA Federal Council should again organise representations to the Australian and all State Governments for the institution of "a co-ordinated Australia-wide programme of re-afforestation and the prevention of sand and dune drift in rural areas and for tree establishment schemes in cities and towns." It held the view that the programme should "be of such dimension as will capture the national interest and imagination of the Australian people."

The ANA's views were set out in a booklet published in December, 1978 titled "Afforestation — Australia-Wide Plan Needed" and also in "Anapress" of December, 1978, pages, 10-13 and September, 1979, page 13. On May 15, 1979 ANA representatives appeared before the Australian Senate Committee on Trade and Commerce enquiring into "all aspects of Australian forestry and forest products industries" and put forward the ANA's submissions. These are recorded in the official Hansard report of proceedings of the Committee at pages, 691 to 728. The ANA's views were also presented in detail in the "Australian Worker" of August 31, 1978, published by the Australian Workers' Union in Sydney.

* * *

THE ANA AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

The interest of the Australian Natives' Association in the federation

of the Australian colonies arose very soon after the ANA was founded in 1871. The depth of this interest was such that historian Brian Fitzpatrick in his "90th Anniversary History of ANA", page 33 remarked "It could fairly be said that federation would not have been achieved when it was if it had not been for the devoted work, over many years preceding, of the Australian Natives' Association."

The scope of ANA's activities on constitutional reform is too wide to be set out in detail here; but in more recent years it has put submissions to the Constitution Review Committee in 1957, vide "Anapress" of March, 1957 pages, 3, 8 and 9, August, 1960 page 1 and June, 1967 pages, 8-9. In November, 1972 submissions were made to the Constitution Convention which were set out in "Anapress" of January, 1973 at pages, 3, 4, 6 and 15 and included as No. 76 in the Summary of Submissions published by the Australian Constitutional Convention in November, 1974 at pages, 10 and 11. Broadly the terms of the ANA's submissions are that it adheres to the concept of federalism based on an eventual arrangement under which the States rather than the Commonwealth have their sovereign powers defined. The Australian Government should have the power to make laws for the peace, order and good government of Australia with respect to all matters and delegate legislative and administrative powers with respect to matters of purely local importance.

The ANA Federal Council, meeting in Sydney in December, 1978, expressed its concern at the delays and frustrations which have affected the smooth running of the Constitutional Convention on several occasions since 1973, vide Federal Council Report of Proceedings, 1978 pages, 4, 9 and 19. Progress reports on the Constitutional Convention's activities were given in "Anapress" of September, 1976 page 6 and September 1978 pages, 5-6. The ANA has long realised that patience is the handmaiden of constitutional reform; but even making due allowance on that score, and realising the wide range of topics which Standing Committees of the Constitutional Convention are called upon to consider, the fact is that the exercise is now in its eighth year. One may fairly ask what is the next move, if any, in the minds of our statesmen?

* * *

ANA LIBRARY AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Australian Natives' Association's Library on the 14th Floor, ANA House, 114 Albert Road, South Melbourne contains a wide range of publications which, in one way or another, have relevance to the activities of the ANA. A list from which some basic source material dealing with the ANA may be found is contained in the ANA Federal Council's 1978 Report of Proceedings at pages, 29-30, in the Victorian ANA's 1979 Annual Conference Report at Page 114, and "Anapress" of December, 1978, page 6.

* * *

THE ANA MOTEL BENDIGO

Bendigo Branch of the Australian Natives' Association was formed in August of 1874. In 1895 it built a fine meeting hall in centrally located View Street. The cost of £4,600 ($9,200) was repaid in full by 1911.

By 1970 the increasing costs of maintaining the stately old building were presenting a substantial problem so far as the Bendigo Branch was concerned. It was becoming evident that the building was, in economic terms, much less viable as an investment. Faced with these facts the branch decided to enter into a contract with a Bendigo company under which the hall would be demolished and a modern motel erected on the site. The contract also provided that the Branch would occupy, and have its own title to, modern offices and a large meeting room in the main building. However, the Australian Natives' Association had no financial interest in the motel itself.

There was opposition from some Bendigo citizens to the idea of pulling down the historic building; but the economics of the whole exercise were all too compelling so far as the Bendigo Branch was concerned.

On March 15, 1973, the branch's new offices and meeting room were declared open. The entrance door to the offices incorporates a glass panel on which is engraved the ANA's original Coat of Arms taken from the old building.

The company constructing the motel decided to call it the ANA Motor Inn, which further preserved the ANA's links with this historic site. The ANA Motor Inn has a fine upstairs dining room — one which I believe could be enhanced somewhat were it to have in evidence a clearly discernible link with the ANA, say, perhaps, a tastefully framed list of past Chief Presidents of the Australian Natives' Association.

More detail on the old Bendigo Hall and the new offices and meeting hall may be found in "Anapress" of June, 1973 page 12, December, 1974 pages, 4-5, and March, 1980 page 17. A photograph may be seen in J. E. Menadue's book "A Centenary History of the ANA 1871-1971" at page 330.

ANA CHALLENGE SHIELD (RIFLE SHOOTING)

Rifle shooting as a sport has attracted thousands of participants since the rifle clubs movement was originated in Australia in the 1840s. In 1910 plans were made to have a nation-wide rifle shooting competition among the various senior cadet units attached to schools throughout Australia. As a result of an approach by the then Minister for Defence the ANA donated a distinctive shield, known as the ANA Challenge Shield, for use in the competition. Gold medals were also given to the cadets obtaining the highest individual score in each State of the Commonwealth, though from 1949 onwards the gold medals were replaced by plaques.

Apart from the interest which this competition provided within the School Cadet Corps itself, the ANA saw this type of activity as assisting the rifle club movement throughout Australia generally and as a means of promoting inter-branch rifle shooting competitions within the ANA membership.

The ANA Challenge Shield, first won in 1912 by the Melbourne Boys' High School, retained its popularity until 1974 throughout Australia. In that year the Shield was won by St. Peter's Collegiate School in South Australia with an average score of 65.18 out of a possible 100. No competitions have been held since 1974 because of an Australian Government decision to disband the Australian Cadet Corps as from December 31, 1975. Colonel C. E. Newton, Director of the Australian Cadet Corps, thanked the ANA for its support of the Cadet Movement over the years and expressed the wish that, should the Corps be re-introduced, the ANA would lend its support as it had in the past.

A list of the winning schools between 1912 and 1969 may be found at pages 270-271 of J. E. Menadue's book "A Centenary History of the ANA — 1871-1971", and, since 1969, in the Victorian ANA Board of Directors Reports to Annual Conference.

* * *

ANA GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ COMPETITIONS

The ANA General Knowledge Quiz competitions ran for over 25 years and were especially popular in the 1950s. A carefully detailed organisational backup was necessary to ensure that this type of competition was successfully managed; but, this notwithstanding, the Metropolitan Committee of the ANA in Melbourne expanded the competitions to the point where they took in a teams section in which many ANA branch teams competed (for the Kevin Hume-Cook Shield), an individual championship and finally a junior general knowledge section in which students of Intermediate or Fourth Form standard competed. The numbers involved ran into thousands over the years.

All sections of the competition encouraged the spirit of friendly competition between individuals and teams and were able to achieve the rare combination of being both enjoyable and educative. In 1957 some 35 schools and 300 students competed in the junior section and by 1970 this had grown to 85 schools and over 800 students. Preliminary heats were held in local branches. This decentralised method was necessary to cope with the numbers involved as competitors and as members of the audience. The finals were held in either the ANA Board Room or the Athenaeum Art Gallery in Melbourne. Quite unexpectedly in 1973 the response from the schools tapered down very sharply and to the point where the ANA decided not to run the junior competition that year. It has not yet been resumed.

Further information on the ANA General Knowledge Quiz competitions may be found in "Anapress" of December, 1957, page 4, December, 1971 pages, 14 and 31 and March, 1973 pages, 4, 8.

* * *

ANA AQUATIC CLUB — WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Aquatic sports have played a significant part in Australian life. No doubt the climate has much to do with this but contributing factors could be that all State capital cities were established on rivers or landlocked harbours and that Australia itself is an island-continent. Regattas, featuring eights, fours and sculls are held in all States. The earliest regatta was that held on January 5, 1827 on the Derwent River in Tasmania, and nowadays a public holiday is declared in Southern Tasmania on the second Tuesday in February each year for the Hobart Regatta. The first Australia Day Regatta took place on Sydney Harbour on January 26, 1837.

In 1920 the Australian Natives' Association in Western Australia decided to establish an Aquatic Club with sections devoted to rowing, yachting and swimming. This was seen as a means of providing healthy recreation for ANA members. Moreover, it was a field where the skills involved required a team effort and encouraged a high standard of sportsmanship and

co-operation. The ANA realised that obtaining a suitable site on the Swan River foreshore and the building of club premises could present some difficult problems.

At 8 p.m. on September 30, 1920 a meeting was held in the Savoy Hotel, Perth to form the Rowing Section. This move had come about at the request of a number of oarsmen who were about to establish another rowing club. A provisional committee was formed and preliminary moves made regarding the preparation of rules and the purchase of equipment.

By 1921, after detailed consultation with officers of existing rowing and yachting clubs, a site was obtained on Riverside Drive some 200 yards south of the Barrack Street jetty. This was leased from the State Government. Plans were drawn up by an architect, Mr J. Smith, for a club building with furniture, estimated to cost £5,000 ($10,000). This building would also become the headquarters of the Australian Natives' Association in Western Australia, incorporating the Board's office, a large social and meeting room, billiard room and gymnasium, an area for light refreshments and cold luncheons, caretaker quarters for a married couple and a large balcony overlooking the Swan River. Provision was also made for a Rowing Room, a Sailing Room and a Swimming Room and for boat accommodation. The ANA Board looked very carefully at all this and was satisfied that the enterprise would be self-supporting "providing a bar was maintained", though there would be no access to this for younger members of the ANA.

Meantime the rowing section of the ANA Aquatic Club was in temporary accommodation on the south side of the Swan River, had two four-oared practice boats built for the club and secured the services of Mr James Chute as coach. He and the senior oarsmen devoted a good deal of their time to training novices who joined the ANA Aquatic Club and were, even then, looking forward to making a strong bid for the Rowing Association pennant. It was not until November 11, 1921 that the inaugural meeting of the ANA Aquatic Club was held, rules formally adopted and the Committee elected officially. The Club was registered as a specially authorised society under the provisions of the Friendly Societies' Act and was made a subsidiary organisation of the Australian Natives' Association in Western Australia. An application heard by the December, 1921 sittings of the Licen-

sing Court for registration of the Club and the bar arrangements was also approved.

The Board was able to report to the 1922 Conference of the ANA in Western Australia that the total cost of the work completed to that time was a little over £7,000 ($14,000) "which is considerably more than the estimated cost when the project was undertaken." Some problems had arisen over construction costs of jetties and other alterations.

Some Successes

On February 7, 1922 the ANA Board in Western Australia moved its offices into the new building. On March 4, 1922 the building itself was formally handed over to the ANA Aquatic Club at a smoke social attended by the State Governor, members of Parliament and representatives from various river clubs. The ANA Aquatic Club then had 130 members but, to ensure its economic viability, was hoping for a great membership increase. Even at that early stage the Club was proving to be a good avenue for attracting young Australians into the ANA. The Rowing Section, launched in a provisional way some eighteen months beforehand at the Savoy Hotel meeting, had won the first two races in which its racing pair and racing four were used. The members gave a good account of themselves in the 1921 Rowing Association Regatta by winning the Maiden Pair, Junior Pair, Maiden Four and Junior Four. The ANA's initial fleet was being built up further with the purchase of a racing eight, a practice eight and two practice pairs.

By 1923 the ANA Board was able to advise Conference that the final capital expenditure on the building had been made by way of extensions to the jetty to make a swimming pool, the construction of a boat-slip with cradle, the erection of fenders around the jetty, etc. The total investment stood at £7,882 ($15,764). As things turned out the first ten months operations showed a loss of £242 ($484), but this was not unexpected as the ANA Aquatic Club was still in its initial establishment stage. The membership had risen to 250. The rowing, sailing and swimming sections were all now in operation and holding their own in competition with the older established clubs. The first official pocket of the rowing club was worn by members in 1923 — a map of Australia with crossed oars underneath and the letters ANARC across the pocket. In that year also an Australia

Day Regatta was inaugurated and has now become the major non-pennant regatta in the rowing calendar of Western Australia.

Improvements

The ANA Aquatic Club's ability to pay its way improved and the nett annual profit rose from £69 ($138) in 1924 to £480 ($960) by 1929 and the membership had risen to over 300. In 1937 alterations, improved accommodation and more furniture were provided at a cost of some £900 ($1,800) and the Board decided to raise the rental up to £33 ($66) per month to cover the additional expenditure involved. The ANA Aquatic Club was competing in all major aquatic sports—rowing, sailing, power boats and swimming. Mention was then also made of the "footrailers", being those members of the bar who assisted with a significant proportion of the club's finance.

By 1942 the effects of World War II were becoming evident. Fifty-six members had enlisted in the Armed Services. Rowing was on the decline and sailing was just managing to hold its own. Although the financial situation was satisfactory, and some new members were coming forward, problems were being faced because, by 1944, some 50% of the active members of the ANA Aquatic Club were in the Armed Services.

Post-War Period

In the immediate post-war years things improved quickly. Some reorganisation was considered necessary and took place. The ANA Rowing Club, the Sailing section and the ANA Sharpie Club membership and finances were in good order and all looked forward confidently to the future. Maintenance of the jetties and grids was carried out, plus some renovations on account of floodwater damage. On July 3, 1949 the ANA Sharpie Sailing Club held its annual dinner and presentation of prizes. Details of trophy winners, boats and skippers are recorded in the "ANA Advocate" of August, 1949 at page 14 — these include R. Tasker in Falcon who held the State Title and was the Club Champion.

The "ANA Advocate" has been published since 1937 by the Australian Natives' Association in Western Australia and is the longest-running of all the ANA journals. Readers seeking greater detail about the ANA Rowing Club's activities could refer to that

publication, e.g. the issues of Sept.-Oct. 1962 page 7, Jan.-Feb. 1966 page 2, March-April 1970 pages, 8-9, etc.

The ANA Rowing Club won the Championship Pennant in 1949, 1950, 1951, 1958 and 1960. The Sailing Club provided an Australian and world representatives and the Swimming Club an Australian woman swimming champion.

From January, 1962

Disaster struck when the ANA Aquatic Club premises and equipment were completely destroyed by fire in January, 1962. Many members suffered personal losses, but they showed fortitude and the traditional ANA spirit by soon setting about restoration of their activities. By 1966 the ANA Rowing Club had again become a formidable power in the rowing world and gained second position in the pennant table that year. Its club headquarters were then at the Esplanade, Canning Bridge. The ANA Rowing Club continues to function successfully; and nowadays it is under no financial obligation to the Australian Natives' Association in Western Australia. It continues to conduct the Australia Day Regatta and associates with the ANA Board at various events and functions throughout the year. It has the largest membership of any rowing club in Western Australia, and its representatives participate in rowing events throughout Australia. Most recently the ANA Rowing Club was represented in the National Rowing Championships held in mid-March, 1980, on Lake Wendouree at Ballarat, Victoria.

As to the Australian Natives' Association in Western Australia, the Board, in 1935, acquired a property in St. George's Terrace, Perth. This was named ANA House. In 1939 it was modernised and two storeys added. During World War II the building was leased to the Royal Australian Air Force. In 1969 negotiations began which eventuated in a lease of the land, along with some adjacent properties, in a major redevelopment project. As from March 14, 1977 the Western Australian ANA officially occupied its new offices and Board Room in the City Centre Tower Building, 44 St. George's Terrace, Perth.

Apart from the ANA's activities as a friendly society and as a national organisation there has been this accent on promoting games and sporting activities. This has included the ANA City Lawn Tennis Club, the ANA Women's Hockey Club and the ANA Badminton Club. The ANA Metropolitan Committee in Perth presently organises competitions in table tennis,

mixed bowls, ladies' bowls, gents' bowls, bias bowls, darts, bridge and cribbage.

The following information regarding the General Secretaries of the Australian Natives' Association may be of assistance to intending members:

Victoria: Mr J. A. MUNRO, ANA House, 114-124 Albert Road, South Melbourne, Vic., 3205. Telephone: (03) 697-0100.
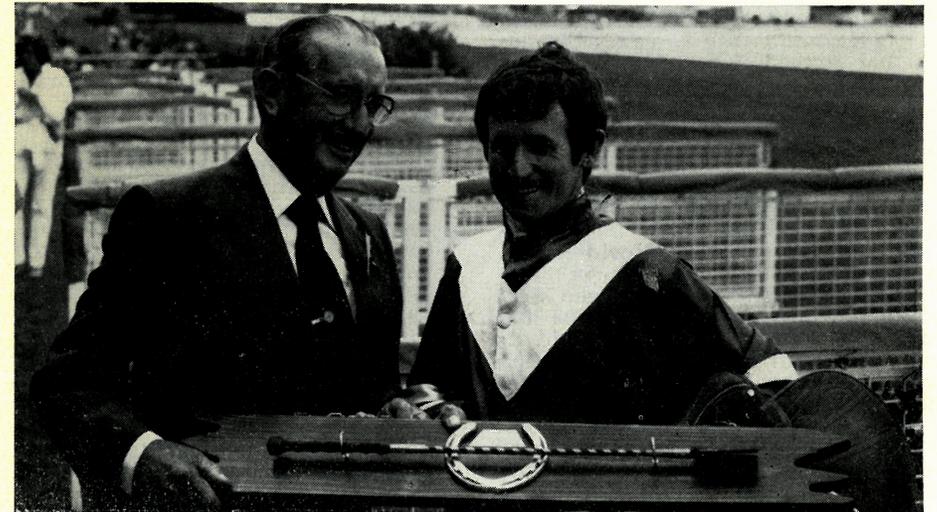
New South Wales: Mr F. E. PUSHEE, 306 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. Telephone: (02) 61-6961.

Queensland: Mr A. J. BURKE, MBE, ANA House, 93-95 Albert Street, Brisbane, Queensland, 4000. Telephone: (07) 221-2217.

South Australia: Mr N. R. CAUST, ANA Building, 45 Flinders Street, Adelaide, South Australia, 5000. Telephone: (08) 223-4533.

Western Australia: Mr B. V. TUCKER, ANA House, Plaza Level and 1st Floor, City Centre Tower, 44 St. George's Terrace, Perth, Western Australia, 6000. Telephone: (09) 325-3444.

Tasmania: Mr J. B. HURD, 53 Davey Street, Hobart, Tasmania, 7000. Telephone: (002) 34-7533.

Mr. Bill Cuddihy, Chief President of the ANA in Victoria, presenting the ANA trophy to Pat Hyland, winning jockey in the 1980 ANA Handicap.

Industrial Printing and Publicity Co. Ltd.—Richmond, 3121