

News

UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

Ms Judith Binney has been promoted to Associate-Professor and has returned from leave spent in England, Spain and Mexico. Associate-Professor James Holt is on leave until June and is teaching at Santa Barbara University. Dr Roderick Phillips is on short leave in Oxford; Dr Philip Rousseau takes short leave from August during which he will hold a senior fellowship at the Dumbarton Oaks Centre, Washington. Dr Michael Graves is on an exchange lectureship with Ms Sybil Jack of Sydney University. Dr Michael King has had his post-doctoral fellowship extended to May. Mr James Belich of Nuffield College, Oxford, has been appointed to a post-doctoral fellowship for 1982.

Professor M.P.K. Sorrenson has completed his three-year term as Head of Department and has been succeeded by Professor P.N. Tarling.

The University will celebrate its centenary in 1983, the main focus being on the weekend of 6-9 May. Professor Tarling is chairman of the organizing committee. Professor Keith Sinclair is writing the history of the University.

MASSEY UNIVERSITY

Dr P.J. Lineham and Ms Margaret A. Tennant have been appointed lecturers in history. Mr Brij Lal has been appointed Post-doctoral Fellow for 1981.

Ms E.W. Plumridge has left to take post-graduate studies at A.N.U.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

Mr Miles Fairburn has been promoted to senior lecturer. Mr David Thomson has been appointed to a post-doctoral fellowship for 1981 to work on attitudes to, and care of the elderly in New Zealand. Mrs Boyd and Mr Davis will be on leave from July 1981 until February 1982. Dr Mackay will be on leave from November 1981 until July 1982.

UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

Dr Craig Harlan has been promoted to senior lecturer. Dr Len Richardson has been invited as a New Zealand representative to attend the Commonwealth Labour History Conference at the University of Warwick, 3-6 September 1981. Dr Ian Catanach and Dr Marie Peters return from leave in June and Dr Vincent Orange in August. Mr Graeme Dunstall goes on leave in June and Dr Neville Bennett in August.

OTAGO UNIVERSITY

Associate-Professor G.S. Parsonson is on leave in England. Associate-Professor E.N. Olssen expects to be on leave from May 1981 to May 1982. Mrs M. Maslen and Dr A. Trotter returned from leave at the beginning of the academic year. Dr M. Cullen will be a candidate for the Labour Party for the St Kilda electorate in the next Parliamentary elections.

Mr Bruce Cathro is in the department as a schoolmaster fellow for 1981. Dr J. Vowles who was a Teaching Fellow in the department in 1980 has been appointed to Massey University and Dr. I. Campbell, the other Teaching Fellow in 1980, has gone to Hawaii.

THE J.M. SHERRARD AWARDS

These awards, under the sponsorship of the Historical Association (Canterbury), commemorate the work of the late John McAra Sherrard and are offered to encourage the authors of studies in New Zealand regional history. The principal awards for 1978-79 are: —

MAJOR AWARD

Evelyn M. Stokes: *A History of Tauranga County*, Dunmore Press, Palmerston North, 1979.

OTHER AWARDS

James B. McAra: *Gold Mining at Waihi, 1878-1952*, Waihi Historical Society, Waihi, 1978.

Gordon B. Ogilvie: *The Port Hills of Christchurch*, Reed, Wellington, 1978.

John O'C. Ross: *Pride in their Ports. The Story of the Minor Ports*, Dunmore Press, Palmerston North, 1978.

Works published in 1980 and 1981 will be considered in 1982. Financial contributions to the fund may be made through the Association, University of Canterbury, Christchurch 1.

The New Zealand Historical Association

The founding of the New Zealand Historical Association in Christchurch in August 1979 was reported in this journal (NZJH, XIII, 2, pp.212-3). The most important element in its foundation was the common concern at the decline of history student numbers in schools. The prospect of New Zealand society declining into historical illiteracy was an urgent spur to action. The NZHA interim committee has therefore given priority to putting the claims and advantages of history before teachers, pupils and parents.

Contact has been made with a large number of historical organizations in all the regions of New Zealand, and with post-primary teachers, through *Historical News*. Even more valuable as a means of recruiting members has been the long-standing contact between university and post-primary teachers.

At March 1981 the membership comprised the following groups:

University and tertiary	53
Post-primary teachers	75
Librarians/archivists	16
Students	15
Institutional	20
Other (individual)	29

giving a total of 208. This analysis shows that NZHA membership is mainly among those with a professional commitment to the subject. Subscriptions have been set at \$8 for ordinary members and institutions and at \$6 for tertiary students. Included in these figures is a half-price subscription to the *New Zealand Journal of History*. A membership income of over \$1,600 has been supplemented with a setting-up grant of \$500 from the Department of Internal Affairs.

After long discussion on the best ways to promote history, the committee decided that a professional assessment of current popular attitudes to history was necessary as a preliminary. What images have employers, pupils and parents of history? How can they be persuaded that history is vocationally useful? A Christchurch business consultant was called in to make a critical analysis and to offer practical advice. The committee modified these suggestions in the light of its own experience, and fixed on a series of pilot projects for Christchurch. Working with the business consultant, Geoffrey Rice has designed a brochure chiefly directed at fourth-formers deciding on their senior courses. The brochure, entitled 'Looking back—to look ahead', emphasizes the benefits of taking history, particularly as a preparation for a range of careers. A questionnaire for employers has been similarly devised. The business consultant is supervising its initial distribution to selected firms which are most likely to employ history graduates.

When NZHA was founded, it was well understood that a national organization in New Zealand cannot survive without putting down firm regional roots. In this spirit, the Committee organized a two-day seminar on Canterbury history in August 1980. There were over seventy enrolments from a wide range of occupations and places. Dr T.W.H. Brooking is organizing a similar seminar on Otago history, to be held in August this year.

After putting out two single-sheet newsletters, the committee plans to issue a more extensive bulletin which it is hoped will become a 'History Noticeboard' for New Zealand, giving advance news of conferences, distinguished visitors, special courses and the like. This venture will require the full cooperation of university departments, teachers' colleges, government agencies, historical societies and other interested bodies.

INAUGURAL CONFERENCE

The Association will hold its inaugural conference in Wellington from 28 to 31 August 1981. The draft constitution prepared by the interim committee will be presented to the conference and after its ratification the Association will come into formal existence. A feature of the programme, which is being arranged by the history department at Victoria University, will be the participation of two noted historians from overseas—Carl Degler, Pulitzer Prize winner and author of *Out of Our Past* and *At Odds*, and Graeme Davison, author of *The Rise and Fall of Marvellous Melbourne*. The Beaglehole lecture will be given by Professor M.P.K. Sorrenson on the Buck-Ngata correspondence; Graeme Dunstall will be

reporting on his researches into the history of the New Zealand police; there will be a symposium on the new Oxford History of New Zealand; and several speakers will deal with the revision of interpretations of major themes in New Zealand history (regionalism; town and country; the I.C. and A. Act; New Zealand before 1840). Two recent appointees to history departments, Peter McPhee (Victoria) and Bernard Moss (Auckland), will be presenting a joint session on nineteenth-century France; Sam Adshead will be lecturing on Mao; Hugh Laracy will report on the problems involved in the current project for writing the history of Tuvalu; and Margaret Lamb will present a paper on 'Britain and the Origins of the Great Game for Asia'. On a broader front, Dalton West will discuss 'Future Shock as an Historical Concept'. Other papers will concern church-going in New Zealand, 1874-1926 (Hugh Jackson), British society and the French wars, 1793-1815 (John Cookson), and the 'Austria-New Zealand connection' (Michael King).

COMPLETE ENGLISH-MAORI DICTIONARY

Bruce Biggs

Major dictionaries of the Maori language until now have been Maori-into-English. This new English-into-Maori counterpart has over 15,000 headwords. All Maori words contained in previous dictionaries are given; Maori borrowings from English are added. There are no examples of the use of words; it is essentially a comprehensive finder list to be used in conjunction with a Maori-English dictionary such as Williams's.

\$16.50

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