



THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	Professor Sir George Whitecross Paton
ACCESSION NO	1969.0002
CATEGORY	University, individuals
ACTIVITY	Academics - Law Vice-chancellors Art galleries
DATE RANGE	1941-1957
SIZE OF COLLECTION	12 cm (1 box)
HISTORICAL NOTE	<p>G.W. Paton was a graduate of Scotch College, the University of Melbourne and Magdalen College, Oxford from 1926 to 1929. In the following year he became Barrister-at-Law and lectured in Law at the London School of Economics. He was Professor of Jurisprudence at the University of Melbourne from 1931, Dean of Law from 1943 and was appointed Vice- Chancellor in 1951. Sir George chaired the Olympic Games Fine Arts Committee 1953 to 1957, and the National Library Enquiry Committee in 1956 (see below). The Federal Government's Royal Commission on Television, to which Sir George was appointed chairman in February 1953, consisted of C.B. Bednall, Mrs. Maud Foxton, R.G. Osborne, R.C. Wilson and N.S. Young. Its object was to enable Australia to profit from the experience of other countries in introducing and controlling television. The enquiry considered the numbers of national and commercial channels to be established, the economics involved and standards to be observed. In 1956 the Federal Government established a committee, chaired by Paton, "to examine the whole question of control of the National Library and its functions" and advise on possible changes, the central problem being that the National Library was controlled by a Parliamentary committee but performed many services unconnected with Parliament, while financial responsibility for it lay with the Prime Minister's Department. The chief result following the presentation of the Committee's Report was the separation of the National Library from the Parliamentary Library and the establishment of a separate Archival Authority (this authority having been vested in the Library from 1952) over the Commonwealth's Archives. Paton retired as Vice-Chancellor in 1968 and died in 1985.</p>
DATE OF TRANSFER	July, 1969
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Access: Open
LISTED BY	Cecily Close
DATE	19 th February, 1970

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UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE - ARCHIVES.

RECORDS RECEIVED INTO CUSTODY.

NAME: Sir George Paton.

MAIN ACTIVITY: Vice-Chancellor, University of Melbourne, July 1951-Feb.1968.

TRANSFEROR: Miss N. Rennie, Vice-Chancellor's Office.

DATE TRANSFERRED: July 1969.

TYPE OF RECORD: Papers relating to Sir George's Chairmanship of the National Library Inquiry Committee, 1956.

QUANTITY: 1 box.

GENERAL NOTE: In 1953 the Government decided to establish a committee "to examine the whole question of control of the National Library and its functions and advise whether any change in the present form of control is desirable and, if so, the changes which should be made," the central problem being that the National Library was under the control of a Parliamentary committee, but performed many services not connected with Parliament; while financial responsibility for it lay with Prime Minister's Department. The chief result following the presentation of the Committee's Report was the separation of the National Library from the Parliamentary Library.

Folder 1:- National Library, First Session July 5.
Appointment of Sir George as Chairman succeeding Sir John Latham, Correspondence with A.L. Moore, Secretary of National Library Committee planning timetable. National Librarian's submission on historical development, functions, administration, location of activities and collections, organisation chart, management of public records of Commonwealth Government.

Bibliography. Report by Commonwealth Archives Committee on Future Control of the Commonwealth Archives System. Statement by Acting Prime Minister (Fadden). Points to consider raised by Dr. Grenfell Price. Letter (a submission) to Acting P.M. from Archie G. Cameron, Speaker of the House of Representatives. Draft Record of Committee's first meeting, 3 July 1956. Pencil Memoranda. June-July 1956.

Folder 2:- Minutes and Correspondence since July 5. Chapter III, "Library Relationships" from Schellenberg's "Modern Archives", Melb. 1956, (Photocopy). Colin Mc. recommending articles on Canadian Library Correspondence with Moore re notes of 4th session. Draft notes of 2nd, 3rd and 4th sessions. Submission from Librarian on "Legislation affecting the Department of the Parliamentary Library as such". Summary record of first meeting. July.

Folder 3:-

Agenda 2nd Session. Melbourne. Contains correspondence between A.L. Moore, Secretary, National Library Enquiry Committee concerning arrangements. Photocopies of comments on subject of enquiry from Attorney-General's Dept., Treasury, Public Service Board, Dept. of Interior & Dept. of Trade (i.e. their satisfaction or otherwise with the present service, likely results if National Library are separated, and whether departmental libraries should be staffed and serviced by the National Library. Aug. 1956. Submissions by the Librarian of the National Library, on its activities in films and sound recordings, and legal deposit of books. Comments of National Librarian on Submission of the Parliamentary Library Committee. Comments from Dept. of External Affairs, C.S.I.R.O., Dept. of Health, A.N.U. Research School of Social Sciences. National Library Act 1952, Canada. "Some Suggestions for Consideration", evidently by G.W.P. 3 pp. pencil memoranda. Memorandum from E.L. Frazer, Librarian of the Parliament of Victoria. Summary of Comments by Govt. Departments and others. July/Aug. 1956.

Folder 4:-

National Library Committee. Brief outline of history, govt. and administration, functions and resources prepared as background to Agenda Item No. 1 for members of Library Committee, meeting Canberra 28, 29 Aug. 1951. "The Commonwealth National Library" by H.L. White, reprinted from "Education News", Feb. 1953. Memo from John Metcalfe, Pub. Library of N.S.W. re dispute with White over spheres of collecting, 18 June, 1953. Notes for discussion with Sir J. Latham, 12 Mar. 1954. Draft minutes of meeting of the General Council at P.L.V. 10-11 June 1954. General Annual Meeting 10-11 June, Library and bibliographical services. Report of a Fulbright scholar on library situation in Canberra, 1955. "Co-operation between State Public Libraries and Govt. Departments", Paper for Australian Institute of Librarians June 1941 by J. Metcalfe, Canberra 1944. "The Library of the Parliament", brief history by E.L. Frazer, Librarian, 1954. "Library of Congress", extract from United States Government Organization Manual 1955/6. Photocopy of memorandum on administration etc. of the P.L.V. History of Public Library of N.S.W. June 1956, and related Organization Charts. Nomination of Lawrence Quincy Mumford to be Librarian of Congress: hearing before Rules Committee of U.S. Senate 26 July 1954. Draft Summary Records of 2nd meeting, 26 Aug. 1956. Librarian's submission re relations between National Library and Library Services of Commonwealth Government Departments and Agencies. Summary Record of 2nd Meeting. Librarian's submission on provision of free library services in territories under control of U.S. Government and its bearing on such provision in Commonwealth territories. J. Metcalfe's submission. Points for discussion on draft recommendations to 3rd meeting, 17 Sept. (2 versions) Suggested outline of report. Draft summary record of 3rd meeting. Rough draft of Report. Letter C.E.W. Bean, Lindfield,

Folder 4. (continued).

N.S.W. to Paton clarifying what he has said on principle of classification followed in Archives systems 18 Sept. 1956. Draft summary record of 4th meeting. Submission of Librarian on development of the Commonwealth Archives programme. Proposed amendments to draft Report. Draft Report. Correspondence re name of Library. R.G. Menzies' letter of thanks to G.W.P. 6 March 1957.

Folder 5: Committee's Report, with letter from A.L. Moore covering Sir George's copy.

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C. COSE:

SEN. ASST. ARCHIVIST