

ART GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

C/- Auckland Institute and Museum,
Private Bag,
Auckland,
NEW ZEALAND.

A.G.M.A.N.Z. NEWSLETTER NO. 39

19th March, 1968.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in the Dominion Museum, Wellington, at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, 9th April 1968, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Council for the past year, and electing a President, two Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, eleven members of Council and an Auditor.

Robert Cooper,
Hon. Secretary.

AGENDA

1. Apologies.
2. Delegates of Institution Members.
3. Appointment of Scrutineers.
4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting, held on the 28th February, 1967, as circulated in Newsletter No. 33, pages 12-16.
5. Business arising from the Minutes.
6. Annual Report attached.
7. Statement of Accounts.
8. Election of Officers and Council.
9. Appointment of Hon. Auditor.
10. Election of an Honorary Member. Pursuant to a Resolution of the Council dated the 13th November, 1967, Mr. V.F. Fisher F.M.A.N.Z. is nominated for election to Honorary Membership. (Mr. V.F. Fisher M.A. joined the staff of the Auckland Institute and Museum in 1930 and retired as Ethnologist in January 1968. He was a Rockefeller interne at the Buffalo Museum of Science in 1938-9, and a member of the 2nd NZEF in the Pacific in 1942-4. He was Hon. Secretary of the interim committee of ICOM which led to the formation of AGMANZ in 1947, and has served the Association continuously in various capacities. He was Hon. Secretary from 1949 to 1952, Council Member from 1952 to 1955, Vice-President (Museums) in 1955, President from 1956 to 1958, Vice-President (Museums) in 1958, and a Council Member from 1959 to 1967. He also served as Hon. Editor of the Newsletter from 1953 to 1956, Acting Hon. Secretary and Treasurer as required, and as the representative of the Association on the New Zealand Historic Places Trust from 1955 to 1963. He was elected to a Fellowship of the Association in 1956.)
In accordance with Rule 7C, no seconder of the nomination from

the Council is required.

11. Election of an Honorary Member. Pursuant to a Resolution of the Council dated 13th November, 1967, Mr. H. C. McQueen is nominated for election to Honorary Membership.
(Mr. H. C. McQueen M. A., Dip. Ed., Dip. Soc. Sci. was Research Officer of the New Zealand Council for Educational Research from 1937 to 1947, and helped to administer the fund of 50,000 dollars provided by the Carnegie Corporation of New York in 1936 to further the educational work of museums and art galleries in New Zealand. An account of the experiments, written by Mr. McQueen, was published in 1942. On the nomination of the Royal Society of New Zealand, he became a member of the Management Committee of Dominion Museum in 1945, being appointed Chairman in 1957. He was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the National Art Gallery and Dominion Museum in 1952. He served the Association as a Council Member from 1959 to 1961 and again in 1966-7; he was elected President for 1962-4 and Vice-President (Museums) 1964-5. He was a member of the Salaries Committee 1959-60, reported on the need for technological museums 1959, represented AGMANZ in discussions with the Minister of Science on the National Research Advisory Council Bill 1963, reported on the Association's Fellowship scheme 1964, was convenor of a committee to initiate the Small Museums Fund in 1965, represented the Council at meetings called by Unesco 1964-7, and presented our case for exemption from rates to the Parliamentary Local Bills Committee 1967.)
In accordance with Rule 7C, no seconder of the nomination from the Council is required.

12. General.

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31st January, 1968.

MEMBERSHIP:

Honorary members 6, institutional members 55, and ordinary members 103, make up the roll of 164. Last year the roll was 149. We welcome the following new institutional members: The Black's Point Museum, Reefton; the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth; Invercargill Public Art Gallery (Inc.); the Maniototo Early Settlers Association Museum, Naseby; The Vincent County and Dunstan Goldfields Museum, Clyde; The Waimate Historical Society (Inc.); The Waiuku Museum Society (Inc.).

NEWSLETTERS:

We are most grateful to the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council of New Zealand for continuing the annual grant which enables us to circulate extra issues and to employ Miss Jeanne Goulding as a part-time assistant to prepare them.

MUSEUMS GRANT:

Although the Lottery Profits Board of Control cut the Arts Council's income by \$100,000, the Arts Council generously granted the Association \$4,500 for 1967. The Visual Arts Committee also approved the request of the Association that the grant be used as a general fund for all public art galleries and museums.

In March 1967 all art galleries and museums were invited to

suggest projects which might be subsidized from the fund. The purpose of seeking this information was to assist AGMANZ Council to review the principles laid down previously for the approval of subsidies. The Council held two long meetings to consider the proposals received, but none of them seemed national in scope. In approving subsidies the Council cannot avoid the difficult task of selecting some local activities as likely to be of greater general benefit than others. Accounts of the discussions and lists of grants approved were circulated in Newsletters 34 and 37.

PURCHASE SUBSIDY FUND:

In May 1967 Mr. David Peters, Director, Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council of New Zealand, advised that subsidies for the purchase of works of art were suspended and the Arts Council could not replenish AGMANZ's Purchase Subsidy Fund of \$500 for small art galleries and museums. He suggested, and AGMANZ Council agreed, that part of the Museums Fund be used to continue the payment of subsidies to the smaller galleries for the purchase of works of art. The following grants were approved during the year:

31. 3. 67	Palmerston North Art Gallery, for a Rita Angas painting, "Elizabeth and Laura", costing 50 guineas, a subsidy of	\$70.00
6. 6. 67	Aigantighe Art Gallery, Timaru, for a Russell Clark sculpture, "Mother and Child", costing 90 guineas... Wanganui Public Museum, for a Maori bowl costing \$110,	126.00 73.33
17. 8. 67	Palmerston North Art Gallery, for a "Two Figure Composition" by John Weeks, costing \$178.50...	119.00
12. 9. 67	Hamilton Art Gallery, for Kinder's "Pirongia", costing \$140, a subsidy of	93.00
25. 10. 67	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, for a North Otago landscape, No. 1, by Colin McCahon costing \$500	333.33

CAPITAL SUBSIDIES:

At the last Annual Meeting, it was resolved that the Council should pursue approaches to Government, to find out where art galleries and museums should apply for capital grants. Please see Newsletter 33, pages 2 and 13. The Council met on 18.5.67, and considered letters from the Prime Minister and the Minister of Internal Affairs. Both referred AGMANZ to the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council of New Zealand. Please see Newsletter 34, pages 1-3.

A deputation, consisting of Dr. R.R. Forster (President), Dr. R.S. Duff (Vice-President, Museums), Dr. R.K. Dell, Messrs. J.W. Brodie and J.S.B. Munro (Council Members), and Dr. R. Cooper (Hon. Secretary), met the Visual Arts Committee of the Arts Council on 13.11.67. Mr. J.H.E. Schroder (Chairman) advised the deputation that the Arts Council is unable to make any capital grants owing to lack of funds. This fact had been reported to the Minister of Internal Affairs, and to Parliament, in successive Annual Reports since 1964. It was agreed that AGMANZ should advise the Minister of the discussion.

The Minister of Internal Affairs, in a letter dated 26.2.68, has acknowledged that the Arts Council is unable to make capital grants. It is impossible to feel elation at this advance however, as the Minister also advised that the financial position of the Lottery Profits Board of

Control probably precludes it from increasing the allocation to the Arts Council to enable capital grants to be made, and the state of the economy is such that there is no possibility of the Government increasing the basic grant from the Consolidated Fund. Copies of the letters are circulated as an appendix to this Annual Report.

TRAVEL GRANTS:

During the year the Council approved travel grants:-

- 26.2.67 \$400 to Mr. D.R. Gregg, Keeper of Geology,
 Canterbury Museum, Christchurch, to visit
 USA and Europe in 1967.
- 13.11.67 \$1,000 to Mr. J.S.B. Munro, Director,
 Hawke's Bay Art Gallery and Museum, Napier,
 to visit USA and Europe in 1968.

These grants were made from the fund set up in 1964 when Dr. Esmond de Beer and his sisters made the gift of \$600 a year for 10 years to provide auxiliary travel grants for members of the staffs of N. Z. art galleries and museums.

SCHOOLS FOR CURATORS:

Seven curators attended the third school which was held at Otago Museum, Dunedin, from 2nd to 4th May, 1967. A total of 40 curators attended the three schools held in 1965-7, and we are indebted to the J.R. McKenzie Trust and Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council of New Zealand for providing the necessary funds. It has been suggested that the next school, when held, should be devoted to the collection, preservation and display of local history material.

GUIDE TO ART GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS:

Entries were returned to contributors in February 1967 for revision. Most were amended and a few were rewritten. New museums were reported from many towns and entries were prepared for them. The completed manuscript described more than 100 art galleries, museums and allied collections. A firm of publishers has advised that the work is too large and expensive to print and enquiries are being made regarding cheaper forms of copying. It seems probable however that the Guide will have to be abandoned.

IMPORT LICENCE:

In Newsletter 34, members were advised that the Minister of Customs, Mr. Norman Shelton, had approved a pool licence of \$24,300 for 1967/8, and the issue of special licences to the Arts Council for travelling exhibitions sponsored by that body. He also approved, through the Minister of Overseas Trade, the importation of works of art, offered as gifts to New Zealand, on special no-remittance licences. The provision of no-remittance licences for gifts and travelling exhibitions has stopped unexpected debits to the pool licence and made the task of administering it much easier. Since May 1967 all extracts have been approved by Council, and difficulties have arisen only when members forgot to ask Council for an extract.

EDUCATION SERVICES:

We note with pleasure the appointment of part-time Education Officers to Southland and Wanganui Public Museums, but regret that the Education Department has not arranged a meeting of the officers

to discuss their work. The refusal of the Department to permit the officers to attend AGMANZ meetings was reported in Newsletters 32 and 34. This attitude may be necessary under present economic conditions, but the officers are working in some isolation and seem to have many problems in common.

NEW BUILDINGS:

The decisions of the Local Authorities Loans Board, treating new buildings and extensions as "non-essential", were reported in Newsletter 37. The decisions of the Minister of Internal Affairs and Arts Council regarding capital subsidies are mentioned above. These policies seem short-sighted as, while the growth of art galleries and museums is restricted, they cannot play an increasing part in the arts, science, education and tourism.

R.R. Forster
President.

R.C. Cooper
Hon. Secretary.

ARMY EQUIPMENT

Army Headquarters, Wellington, has advised that the following obsolete equipment may be available:-

Radio sets, obsolete and unserviceable.

Web equipment, 2nd World War pattern.

BESA Machine Guns)	
BREN " ")	Rendered unfireable.
STEN " ")	

3.7 AA Guns

Searchlights.

Will member institutions requiring these items, please advise the Hon. Secretary.

ART GALLERIES AND MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND (INC.)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - PROGRAMME

DOMINION MUSEUM

9th - 10th April, 1968.

MONDAY, 8th APRIL

2 p.m. Council Meeting.

TUESDAY, 9th APRIL

9.30 a.m. Registration.

10.15 Morning Tea. Welcome to delegates and members by Dr. R.K. Dell, Director, Dominion Museum.

11-12.30 Annual Meeting and Presidential Address.

2 p.m. Talk by Mr. N.S. Brommelle, Keeper of Conservation, Victoria and Albert Museum, London.
Mr. Brommelle is willing to answer questions.

3.15 Afternoon Tea break.

3.45 Continue discussion of conservation.

Business not completed at the Annual Meeting.

5 p.m. President's sherry party.

WEDNESDAY, 10th APRIL

9.30 a.m. Capital Grants.
Mr. D.R. Simmons' article in Newsletter 35.
Mr. D.R. Gregg's report in Newsletter 38.
General.

10.30 Morning Tea break.

11 a.m. Final session.

A fee of \$1 is payable on registration for meeting expenses. Meetings are held in the Library and Lecture Room of the Royal Society of New Zealand, Ground Floor, Eastern side, Dominion Museum, Wellington.