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CHINESE NEW YEAR

In 1982 the Chinese Lunar New Year falls on Monday, 25th January. The lunar calendar was abandoned after the establishment of the Republic in 1911. Nevertheless, the holidays held under the old calendar have continued to be observed.

The New Year celebrations begin on the 23rd of the lunar month when the God of the Kitchen is sent to Heaven to make his annual report on the behaviour of the family members. For obvious reasons his lips are first smeared with something sweet! After visiting friends and relatives on New Year's Day, the celebrations continue until their conclusion with the Lantern Festival on the 17th of the first month of the lunar year.

The Chairman and staff of the New South Wales Ethnic Affairs Commission would like to extend their best wishes for the Chinese New Year.

新南威尔士州民族事务委员会
的主席和职员祝大家新年快乐。

NON-DEGREE PROGRAMME FOR MIGRANT AND REFUGEE MEDICAL GRADUATES

The Faculty of Medicine at Newcastle University has introduced a non-degree programme for migrant and refugee medical graduates.

The programme will allow graduates of recognised foreign medical schools the opportunity to prepare for the Australian Medical Examining Council examination.

Applicants must be Australian residents but currently not eligible to be registered in Australia.

About 2 years ago, the Ethnic Affairs Commission alerted all Universities to the difficulties overseas trained doctors were experiencing in gaining registration in Australia.

At that stage, the Medicine Faculty at Newcastle had just opened and was unable to provide any assistance.

However, Sydney and N.S.W. Universities introduced a programme which admitted a limited number of overseas-trained refugee doctors. That programme is now in its second year and continues successfully.

The Newcastle University programme will commence in the 1982 academic year and may involve up to two years full-time enrolment. Applicants will be required to undergo a preliminary selection procedure to evaluate their medical knowledge and spoken and written English language skills.

For further information, contact Ms. Joyce Di Mascio, 231 7386.

POLISH IMMIGRANTS GAIN QUICK RECOGNITION OF OVERSEAS QUALIFICATIONS

The Overseas Qualifications Unit at the Ethnic Affairs Commission has seen a vast increase in the number of newly arrived Polish immigrants seeking local recognition for their overseas qualifications.

Officer-in-Charge of the Unit, Nabil Kazemi, said 30% of the Commission's clients are now immigrants from Poland. In fact, last financial year, of the 799 people who went through the Unit, 232 were Polish.

Mr. Kazemi said most have high technical qualifications in areas such as engineering, computer sciences and chemical technology.

Because the Polish standard of education ranks highly in Australia, these new immigrants are often able to obtain immediate recognition for their qualifications, thus ensuring rapid access to jobs.

"A considerable number of Poles don't have their original documents. The Commission's Unit can help by preparing statutory declarations and presenting cases to the appropriate authorities," Mr. Kazemi said.

Most of the people assisted by the Unit have been between the age of 25 and 35.

They learn of the service provided by the Commission either by word-of-mouth or through the hostel where they are initially sent.

On the basis of information received so far, it is believed the influx of qualified Poles will continue.

STATE BANK - HOME FINANCE

In order to provide easy access to information about home finance, the Ethnic Affairs Commission is collaborating with the State Bank to provide multilingual brochures on the State Supplementary Home Loan Scheme.

The Scheme, recently set up by the Wran Government, provides lower interest, second mortgage finance for people wishing to purchase a home.

Details about eligibility and conditions of the Scheme are outlined in the brochure which will be available through the Commission's Regional Offices.

The brochure has been produced in the major community languages and will be distributed soon.

For further information, contact Mr. Bob Western, State Bank - 266 3182; or Ms. Joyce Di Mascio - 231 7386.

THE N.S.W. PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD'S
CLERICAL ENTRANCE TEST

In the Participation Report submitted to the Premier in June 1978, the Ethnic Affairs Commission reviewed the various procedures which regulate entry into the New South Wales Public Service.

Since then, the Commission has consulted extensively with the Personnel Division of the Public Service Board on various aspects of entry procedures, in particular the Clerical Entrance Test.

As this test is the main gateway through which people may enter that section of the Public Service which produces administrators, decision makers and advisers to the Government, the Commission feels it is essential to ensure that the test does not discriminate against people of non-English speaking background.

Various aspects of the current Test have caused concern to the Commission. These have been discussed with the Public Service Board. Partly as a result of these discussions the Board has arranged to have the Clerical Entrance Test examined and changed, as necessary, by a group of independent experts in test construction. Unfortunately, developing a new test is a slow job.

As late as December, 1981 a meeting was held at which progress on this work was examined by representatives of the Commission, the Board and the independent experts.

Although concerned that until a new test is constructed what may be an invalid test will go on being used, the Commission will continue working with the Public Service Board to ensure that, in due course, all recruitment procedures into the Public Service will be free of discrimination.

ENGLISH IN INDUSTRY

Overcoming language barriers on-the-job is the aim behind the "Industrial Language Training Courses", to be run in 1982 by the Adult Migrant Education Service.

Courses commence on February 8th.

The classes will be held in factories and other work-places and are geared toward improving communication between employers and employees, and between employees themselves.

Classes are free and are held mainly during office hours. Courses are designed specifically for the needs of each particular work-place.

For further information, contact the Adult Migrant Education Service, 27 6684, and ask for the Industrial Co-ordinator.

.... Also run by the Adult Migrant Education Service are classes where immigrants with a reasonable fluency in spoken English can learn to read and write the language.

The classes are run in two centres: Caltex House, Kent Street, Sydney and in Fairfield. Each session lasts 90 minutes, twice a week.

People may attend either group sessions or have an individual study plan worked out.

For further information, contact the Adult Migrant Education Service- 27 6684, and ask for 'Reading and Writing'.

N.U.G.A.S. CONFERENCE 1982

The Ethnic Affairs Commission had the honour of being invited to open the 1982 Conference of N.U.G.A.S. (National Union of Greek-Australian Students).

The Chairman, Paolo Totaro, officiated on Monday, January 18. Main speaker was the Hon. E.G. Whitlam.

Ethnic Affairs Commissioner, Vivi Koutsounadis also gave a paper at the Conference.

During his speech, Paolo Totaro highlighted the fact that students with bilingual skills should have clear in mind the need in Australia, for professionals with two languages in a great variety of fields.

He mentioned a newly released book by the Division of Vocational Guidance Services of the N.S.W. Department of Industrial Relations.

The book, called 'Background to Careers', provides information about hundreds of possible careers a young person may choose from, details the prerequisites and where the appropriate courses may be done. Copies are available, free of charge, from the Vocational Guidance Bureau, Francis Street Sydney.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT PROGRAMME

The Ethnic Affairs Commission has been approached by the producers of the weekly television current affairs programme "Four Corners" for assistance in the production of a programme on Sexual Harassment.

The aim of the programme is to heighten community awareness about the extent to which it occurs in the Australian workplace.

Producer of the programme, Mr. Peter Ross, says it's important that women come forward and cite cases where they have been sexually harassed.

In a recent survey conducted by the Ethnic Communities' Council, and the Ethnic Affairs Commission, it was revealed that immigrant women with little or not English, were often too isolated and frightened to complain about sexual harassment.

The programme is scheduled to be screened in late February. Mr. Ross would like immigrant women to come forward and talk to him about incidents of sexual harassment.

He recognises that the issue is an extremely sensitive one, but believes the only way something can be done is if women come forward and begin to speak more freely.

No names or places of work will be revealed in the programme. The incident does not have to be a recent one.

Mr. Ross is particularly interested in how the incidents affected the woman; if there was any repercussions for her family; whether or not an official complaint was lodged and if any action was taken to protect the woman in question.

Mr. Ross would like to talk to counsellors who have participated in the survey for a background on the type of incidents reported to them.

Anyone wishing to offer information should contact Mr. Peter Ross, '4 Corners' on 438 9603 or Ms. Nazli Munir, Liaison Officer, Ethnic Affairs Commission, 231 7286.

INTERPRETER AND TRANSLATION SERVICES IN N.S.W.

The Ethnic Affairs Commission, the Health Commission and the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs are collaborating to produce an article on interpreter and translation services available in New South Wales.

The Commission is concerned that the public is not fully aware of the services available to them through official government interpreters and translators and of the advantages in using at all times, qualified interpreters and translators, both from the private and public sector.

Co-ordinator of the Community Interpreter and Information Service, Lawrence Goodstone, says there are inherent dangers in using unqualified interpreters.

People may be getting 'ripped-off' on services that they are entitled to, free of charge or getting shoddy work which, in certain cases may have dangerous consequences to the client.

For instance, the Commission has been alerted to the activities of 'bogus' interpreters acting as intermediaries in workers compensation claims. These interpreters take a percentage of the compensation award as remuneration for their services. This is grossly unethical. Nowadays, most workers involved in workers compensation procedures are entitled to free interpreters from the Ethnic Affairs Commission.

The article is at present being prepared and will be made available as soon as possible.

TENOSYNOVITIS ASSOCIATION

Advice and assistance is now available to tenosynovitis sufferers from the recently formed Tenosynovitis Association.

The association is made up of people who suffer or have suffered from the condition in the past and other concerned members of the community.

The association is particularly interested in helping sufferers from ethnic groups. Assistance is now available from people who speak English, Arabic, Turkish and Greek.

Tenosynovitis is an inflammation of the tendons which results from rapid, repetitive movements requiring either sustained pressure or rapidly repeated pressure movements. Process workers, component workers, typists and printers are at most risk.

Because of the nature of work done by many migrant women they tend to be highly represented amongst those afflicted by the condition. In many cases they are not sure as to their workers compensation rights and do not know where to get effective medical treatment.

If the disease is not treated properly, crippling of the hands and arms could result.

Anyone seeking further information should contact:

<i>Mina</i>	<i>560 5414</i>	<i>(Greek)</i>	<i>Barbara</i>	<i>759 3837</i>	<i>(English)</i>
<i>Ekram</i>	<i>560 8474</i>	<i>(Arabic)</i>	<i>Semma</i>	<i>646 3233</i>	<i>(Turkish)</i>

ETHNIC ARCHIVES

Officially opened in October by the Chairman of the Ethnic Affairs Commission, the Ethnic Archives at N.S.W. University now house over 60 deposits of historical material from ethnic communities.

The matter in the form of letters, minutes from community meetings and photographs is available for perusal and use of the public. The United Nations High Commission has deposited files on all refugees who have come to Australia, indicating its interest in preserving valuable records on people coming to Australia.

Dr. Peter Shergold, project leader from the University expects large use will be made of the material once the academic year resumes.

The archives were established following the lead of the Ethnic Affairs Commission with its 'Oral Histories' Project.

Dr. Shergold pointed out two 'rather interesting' deposits.

Firstly, the correspondence of Basil Galettis, of the Casellorizian community, who arrived in Australia in 1930. This material is confidential and can only be used with Mr. Galettis' permission. It comprises of letters to his wife-by-proxy in Egypt during the 1930's and 40's.

Secondly, the United Nations High Commission file on refugees. This deposit is closed to the public for another 25 years.

"When this material is eventually released names will not be disclosed, thus ensuring the utmost in privacy is maintained, but at least the information will be preserved for future generations of Australians," said Dr. Shergold.

For further information, contact Dr. Peter Shergold - 662 2933.

ANDREW HILLER'S SUBMISSION TO THE COMMISSION

A submission made to the Ethnic Affairs Commission warns that Australia should learn a lesson from last year's Brixton riots 'in order to avoid similar disturbances occurring here'.

Mr. Andrew Hiller, senior law lecturer at Queensland University presented his findings to the Commission following a study of two U.K. Government reports.

The reports were presented by Lord Scarman and the Home Office and deal with 'the problems of policing a complex modern society which includes areas of significant ethnic diversity with grave social problems'.

Both reports are of significant importance to the Commission in the light of current unemployment levels in Australia and the close relationship between endemic pockets of unemployment and social tensions in given communities.

A member of the Commission's legal committee, Mr. Hiller has been involved in Police Training Courses in Australia and said 'initiatives taken by the N.S.W. Police Department in developing harmonious relations with ethnic organisations should be commended.

"The (Scarman) report emphasises the importance of prompt reporting of racial attacks to police and of close liaison between immigrant communities, the police and local authorities."

Mr. Hiller concludes "that the conditions of people living in deprived urban areas, emphasised by Lord Scarman as well as special problems faced by immigrants in areas of unemployment, education and housing are not confined to the U.K."

T.V. DOCUMENTARIES ON "THE MIGRANT EXPERIENCE"

The Australian Institute of Multicultural Affairs in conjunction with Film Australia is to produce a major television series on the contributions migrants have made to Australian life.

Spokesperson for the Institute, Joe Swartz said, "the institute wants to spread awareness in the community about the importance of migration and the contribution made by migrants".

The programmes will be sold to the Special Broadcasting Service, the organisation which runs Channel 0/28.

"Film Australia is a natural partner for the production because they are our national film-makers and the S.B.S. also seemed the natural outlet," said Mr. Swartz.

"The format is six commercial hours, that's considered a major series in television terms."

Mr. Swartz said a thematic approach will be taken in the series because there are many experiences common to all ethnic groups.

"We'll be looking at reasons why people have come to Australia, why Australia needs them, the 'work experience', how they have been received and the impact they have made.

"Basically, you could say we'll be taking a two-sided approach; the migrant's experience of Australia and Australia's experience of the migrant."

The series is expected to be completed within about 18 months. Mr. Swartz said that time will encompass a lengthy research period.

The series producer from Film Australia is Malcolm Smith, who at this stage is recruiting researchers and film crew.

For films and T.V. documentaries available in the Ethnic Affairs Commission Resource Centre contact Egle Zizys on 231 7381.

"ENGLISH LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATING AT WORK" COURSE

The School of General Studies of the Department of Technical and Further Education will this year continue running courses for migrants of non-English speaking background wishing to enter the N.S.W. Public Service.

The course, "English Language/Communicating at Work", aims to teach basic job skills like telephone answering technique, memo and letter writing, filing and 'counter' technique and other basic clerical skills.

The course is open to any migrant of any age and runs over two, 18-week terms.

A selection test covering language skills will be held on February 8th. Locations where the tests will be held are available by calling Mary O'Connell at the T.A.F.E. Office.

For further enquiries please contact Mary O'Connell, General Studies Secretary, T.A.F.E. - 217 3583.

ETHNIC WELFARE COURSE

Personnel working in the field of ethnic welfare are eligible for admission to the Ethnic Welfare Course offered by the Department of Technical and Further Education.

The course provides basic knowledge and skills in welfare practice, Australian social, political and economic systems and psychological aspects of ethnicity.

Only 30 places will be available and applicants must be sponsored by an agency.

The course lasts 18 weeks and is held at Sydney Technical College, Thomas Street, Ultimo. Classes commence on February 15.

For further information, contact John Carson, Head of the Division of Welfare Work - 217 3916.

DIRECT EDITORIAL ENQUIRIES REGARDING
ETHNIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION ACTIVITIES TO:
JOYCE DI MASCIO - 231 7386 OR 231 7374

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RESOURCE INFORMATION
BULLETIN

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The Greeks in Australia - A Home Away from Home is a serious attempt by Andreas Papageorgopoulos to explain the reasons for Greek emigration and the problems and arguments it arouses in Greece itself. The book is probably the first of this nature to be written in dual text. Published by Alpha Books, 104 Bathurst St., Sydney. \$15.00

Who Are Our Enemies? : Racism and the Working Class in Australia, edited by Ann Curthoys and Andrew Markus, investigates the history of working class racism in Australia. It asks why the working class has experienced racial and ethnic antagonisms and what the effects of these antagonisms have been on labour's industrial and political action. Fourteen contributors present the results of their research into various aspects of this experience. Published by Hale and Iremonger, available from C.H.O.M.I. \$8.95

Jews in Australian Society by Peter Medding of Monash University, is a sociological analysis of one of Australia's oldest ethnic minority groups. It is based on a random sample survey carried out in the Melbourne Jewish community, and it deals with the adaptation and integration of Jews into Australian

society, and the quest for minority identification and expression in Australia. There is a particular emphasis on youth and adolescents and their attitudes are compared with those of adults. Published by Macmillan in conjunction with Monash University.

Attitudes to Non-European Immigration by A.T. Yarwood is from the Problems in Australian History series, and is published chiefly for tertiary students of Australian history. It concentrates on the issues presented by the White Australia Policy, and illustrates each phase of history through the use of primary source documents. Published by Cassell Australia, and available from C.H.O.M.I. \$6.50

Migrants is an overview of the history of migration to Australia by Robert Davidson. He traces new settlement in Australia from the Aborigines to the issues of the present day, discussing the policies of the Federal Government. Published by Lothian, in their Australian Life Series.

It Takes All Kinds is a unique collection of short biographies of people from Australia's multicultural society. These stories are designed for use in remedial English courses and in the teaching of English as a second language. Each story is followed by a selection of questions to test vocabulary and reading comprehension. Written by Ann Kohler and Janett Kohn, and published by Heinemann Educational Australia.

New Journals

India Calling, December 1981. Published in New Delhi for Indians living overseas. Contains programmes for the general overseas radio service, and information about India.

Italian Cultural Activities December 1981. Published by Friends of the Italian Cultural Institute, 291 George St., Sydney, this excellent journal is concerned with cultural issues within the Italian community. Articles are written in Italian, English and dual text.

New Books

DISCRIMINATION

Fear and Hatred: Purifying Australia and California 1850-1901, by Andrew Markus. Sydney, Hale and Iremonger, 1979.

The Yellow Peril: A Squint at Some Australian Attitudes Towards Orientals, Bill Honadge. Dubbo, N.S.W., Review Publications, 1976

The Barbarians, by Nina Syme, Armadale, Vic., Brian Zouch Publications, 1980.

EDUCATION

The Aim is Understanding: Educational Techniques for a Multicultural Society, Lorna Lippmann. Sydney, Australia and New Zealand Book Company, 1977.

Identity: A Study of the Concept in Education for a Multicultural Australia, J. Harris. Canberra, A.G.P.S., Education Research and Development Committee, 1980.

Language and Multicultural Education: An Australian Perspective, Gail L. Nemetz Robinson. Sydney, Australia and New Zealand Book Company, 1978.

Curriculum and Culture: Schooling in a Pluralist Society, Lesley Claydon, Tony Knight, Marta Rado. Hornsby N.S.W., George Allen and Unwin, 1977.

RELIGION

Religion and Ethnicity ed. by H. Coward and L. Kawamura. Calgary, Canada Wilfred Laurier University Press, 1977.

Soup Without Salt, the Australian Catholic Church and the Italian Migrant: A Comparative Study in the Sociology of Religion, Adrian Pittarello. Sydney, Centre for Migration Studies, 1980.

Material appearing in this Bulletin is available for loan through most libraries in Australia via the Inter-Library Loan System. It can also be consulted at the Ethnic Affairs Commission Library, 140 Phillip St., Sydney, 2000. Tel: (02) 231 7381