

ROYAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY: AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

ANNUAL REPORT 1975

The Committee consisted of the Chairman, Professor B.R. Morton; Vice Chairman, Dr J.W. Zillman; Honorary Secretary, Dr R.K. Smith; Honorary Treasurer, Dr J.G. Garratt; the Vice President for Australia, Dr A.J. Dyer; and four Fellows, Dr R.R. Brook, Dr T.T. Gibson, Dr M. Platt, and Mr P.G. Price.

Seven ordinary meetings were held during the year and attendances remained high. The speakers and their topics were: Mr A.H. Muffatti, Bureau of Meteorology, Melbourne, *Tropical cyclone Tracy - Christmas Day, 1974*; Mr N.A. Stretten, Australian Numerical Meteorology Research Centre, Melbourne, *Very high resolution satellite studies in the Arctic*; Dr U. Radok, Department of Meteorology, University of Melbourne, *New climatology for old*; Dr T.E. Keliher, Department of Meteorology, University of Melbourne, *The measurement and analysis of small pressure fluctuations*; Mr J. Warner, CSIRO Division of Cloud Physics, *Rainmaking reviewed*; Professor D. Walker, Department of Biogeography and Geomorphology, Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, *The biological base of palaeoclimatology*.

At the final meeting of the year held at the Bureau of Meteorology, Melbourne, the Chairman, Professor B.R. Morton, gave his address entitled *Oceanography for Australia, 1976?* This was followed by a dinner held at a nearby restaurant, attended by sixty-five Fellows and others.

An annual sixth form lecture for schools was inaugurated early in July. It was held at the National Science Centre in Melbourne and was attended by more than one hundred and twenty students. The lecture, entitled *Climate: is it changing?*, was given by Dr G.B. Tucker, Chief of the CSIRO Division of Atmospheric Physics, Aspendale.

In the second week of December, the Branch held a major regional interdisciplinary conference on *Climate and Climatic Change* at Monash University, Melbourne. The conference was co-sponsored by the Australian Academy of Science and generously supported by grants from the Commonwealth Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Australian Federal Government, the Victorian State Government, and local industries. Over two hundred delegates attended, including twenty-nine from overseas. Overseas invited speakers were Professor R.G. Barry, Institute for Arctic and Alpine Research, University of Colorado; Professor R.A. Bryson, Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin; Dr R.E. Davis, Scripps Institute of Oceanography, La Jolla; Professor R. Fairbridge, Department of Geology, Columbia University; Professor H. Flohn, Meteorological Institute, University of Bonn; Dr J.S.A. Green, Department of Meteorology, Imperial College, London; Dr W.J. Maunder, New Zealand Meteorological Service; Mr R.A.S. Ratcliffe, UK Meteorological Office, Bracknell; Dr N.J. Shackleton, Department of Quaternary Studies, University of Cambridge.

A book, based on the invited lectures given at the conference, is planned and is expected to be published within about a year. It will be published by Cambridge University Press.

Current membership of the Branch stands at about one hundred and fifty Fellows and four Student Members.

R.K. Smith
Honorary Secretary

14 April 1976

Department of Mathematics
Monash University

