

FOREWORD

Now that the *Australian Journal of French Studies* has succeeded in making up a two-year delay, the editorial and production team at Monash University can turn its attention to *Explorations*. The present number completes the year 1991. It will be followed quickly by the June 1992 issue, which parallels a special volume recently published by *AJFS*. Somewhat later we expect to print a number devoted to French consular representatives in Melbourne. Two fascicles are planned for 1993 and, finances permitting, they will reach ISFAR members in the second half of the year. The Institute's committee is anxious to keep faith with supporters and to produce *Explorations* biannually. However, we are not a large body, and subscription income is hardly sufficient to maintain a semestrial journal. If we can obtain subsidies for one or more of our projects, it should be easier to meet what we consider our obligations.

It is certainly not matter that is lacking, as this number demonstrates once again. Apart from the rich field of French or Francophone commentaries on Australia in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, there are many documents on various aspects of cultural, social and economic connections to analyse and, where appropriate, to reproduce in diplomatic transcription or in facsimile. The Editor's interest in the Australian booktrade has led him to draw attention to a manifestation of the Francophilia that characterized the years 1914-1918.

As more and more facets of Australia's past are treated by historians and literary scholars, many books are appearing that touch at least incidentally on the matters that concern us. *Explorations* considers it its duty to notice these contributions, hence the brief review included at the end of this number 11. Bit by bit we see what people of French descent and admirers of France have brought to Australian life and intellectual activity. It is a timely reminder that it is misleading to regard Anglo-Celtic models as enjoying exclusive influence in this country before 1945.

W. K.