MEETING REPORTS

MARCH: ANNUAL MEETING.

At our Annual General Meeting on March 4, all the reports as printed in the March/April issue of the Bulletin were received and adopted.

The election of officers resulted as follows:

President: Phil Presser
Vice-President Frank Osborne
Secretary Kath Condell
Treasurer: Leo Chapman
Bulletin Editor Joseph Davis
Museum Curator Joyce McCarthy
Public Officer: Kath Condell

Board Members:

Tina Anderson
Warren Bellamy
Carol Herben
Meg Murphy
Michael Organ
Anne Wood.

Speaker: Professor Ray Markey: LABOUR HISTORY IN ILLAWARRA

Professor Markey outlined the structure of the Australian Society for the Study of Labour History, of which the Illawarra Branch forms a part, numbering about 90 members who meet three or four times each year.
The Australian Society’s journal “Labour History” is an important historical journal on a national basis, whereas the local branch’s paper “Illawarra Unity” concerns itself more with local topics.

This year, in the long weekend in October, the sixth biennial National Labour History Conference will be held in the Wollongong town hall, October 2-4.

The general theme of the conference will be labour as part of the community. i.e. not only experiences as workers and unionists but also the part played in community activities, such as churches, friendly societies, civic affairs etc.

The conference will encourage activities in three strands:

- Traditional academic
- Labour Heritage display
- Art and artists involved with labour.

Following the talk, a lot of the discussion revolved around ways the society members and the museum could co-operate with the cultural strand.

**APRIL: ANNUAL DINNER**

The Society’s Annual Dinner, held on Thursday April 8, was a very successful function. Attended by about 30 members and friends, we all enjoyed the good food served by Mario and his people at Barnies on Crown, and judging by the buzz of conversation, it was a great talk fest as well.

Our speaker, Dr Win Ward, delivered in her usual clear manner a scholarly paper on Eliza Hassall, daughter of the Rev Thomas Hassall and Ann Marsden, and so a granddaughter of the Rev Samuel Marsden, known as “the flogging parson.” The Rev Thomas Hassall, however, was not of the same mould as his father-in law: Although he was known as “the galloping parson” he was highly conscientious in his clerical duties as well as a humane magistrate, regarded with great affection by all with whom he came in contact.