he himself had done only a little indexing, but enough to realize that the task of producing an index each year was not one to be envied.

On behalf of Hebe Jerrold, Mr Giles Moore, representing John Wright, said that, as a founder member of the Society of Indexers, she was delighted to receive the commendation, and sorry to be unable to be present.

In conclusion Mr Ken Bakewell, Chairman of The Society of Indexers, said how pleased all its members were to have the Founder-President there, and referred to his forthcoming book, *Indexing, the art of*, to be published by Allen and Unwin next spring. He also spoke of the bookshop and exhibition prepared for the conference, which included two special publications to mark the society's anniversary; a volume of selections from *The Indexer* of 1958-77, *Indexers on indexing*; and the Society's *Select reading list on indexing*.

**Books at the Conference**

All good craftsmen respect the material they work in, so it is not surprising that the bookshop and exhibition was thronged whenever the presence of delegates was not required in the conference hall or refectory.

An exemplary set of indexes was displayed in the sequence of books which had won the Wheatley Medal from its inception in 1962. Institutions with aims related to those of the Society had sent material to indicate or illustrate their work: the Library Association, Aslib, the British Library, the Institution of Electrical Engineers (compilers and publishers of indexes and abstracts under the various divisions of INSPEC), the Chemical Society, the British Film Council, and the British Standards Institution (now as much interested in standards for Documentation as for other processes). Books in print relating to indexing were available for sale.

Some of the books had been written or compiled by members of the Conference. Two had been specially produced to celebrate the Society's twenty-first anniversary: *A select reading list on indexing*, and *Indexers on indexing*, both reviewed in this issue (page 119). Other recent publications by delegates included *The PRECIS index system*, proceedings of an international workshop edited by Hans Wellisch; *Classification and indexing practice*, by K. G. B. Bakewell; the fourth edition of *The librarian's glossary and reference book*, by L. M. Harrod; a cumulative index to *IBIS*, compiled under the direction of Magda Whitrow; issues of *Index Islamicus*, with a cumulation, compiled by J. D. Pearson; and an article with its own unconventional index, by William Heckscher, in *Joachim Camerarius 1500-1574* (Essays on the history of humanism during the Reformation), edited by Frank Baron.

To our great regret, our President's forthcoming book, *Indexing, the art of*, which we had hoped to display as another celebratory volume, will not be available until next spring.

The bookshop and exhibition was organized by Mr J. W. Burton, of the Acton Book Centre, who runs the bookshop in Digby Stuart College. He could not have been more helpful, and his contribution to the success of the Conference is gratefully acknowledged.

Our thanks are also offered to the Library Association for their kindness in allowing us to display material in honour of our 21st anniversary in the entrance lobby to their premises in Ridgmount Street, and for sending the set of Wheatley Medal award-winning books to the Conference exhibition. In particular, we wish to thank Mr David Will, Advertising Manager, and Miss Ann Hobart, Professional Officer.

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**Overheard in the bar at the conference**

**Creation**

First there was nothing
And God created the earth and heavens
And he created man, the tree of knowledge
And the lurking snake.

After Adam and Eve ate of the apple
Chaos was borne.

Then God created Norman Knight
And the Society of Indexers.

Lo, there was order.
And peace reigned in heaven and earth,
For a while.

ANON