A PRESS IS BORN


FISHER PRESS
SYDNEY
1963
A STATEMENT OF INTENT

Mr. Harrison Bryan wishes to advise that he proposes to print, as opportunity offers, on the hand press installed in the new Fisher Library, University of Sydney.

He will be joined in this endeavour by colleagues and friends on the University Library staff.

It is proposed to dignify the venture with a high-sounding title — The Fisher Press. Time alone will tell if this is justified.

There may well be some to enquire, with propriety, the motive behind this activity and to them we would make answer, as follows:

We are librarians. Although our profession stems from the book, our interest today must lie perforce beyond it, in the information and inspiration to be found in the whole record of human communication. Nevertheless, we are deeply impressed by the enormous part that the printed book as such has played in the story of man's development. We note that after five hundred years of printing with movable type the book produced by this method is still the commonest vehicle for our stock in trade.

We know that this situation may not be perpetuated but we would like, by personal acquaintance, to know more of the craft of making books; both to appreciate the genius of its discoverers and to experience the satisfaction that attends the creation of any product of human skill, patience and endeavour.

Moreover, though it may not be long before hot metal type joins hand setting as a forgotten element in recording human experience, we and our successors will continue to handle books produced by these methods and we think it behoves us to understand them.

It is not our aim to pander to the past, to cherish the precious or to promote the dilettante. We just hope to print well.
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The University Press wishes to publish your work in the hope that it will
provide an opportunity for you to present your ideas
more widely to a larger audience of students and
scholars. We will be proud in the exploration of
your ideas and

This work will be published through the University Press
in December 1963.

We would like to thank you for your contributions and
we look forward to working with you in the future.