

volumes and the Fleck Bequest of an entire estate of some \$50,000, to a single photograph. The Library covers many specialised fields of research although primary emphasis is on every aspect of New Zealand and the whole Pacific area, together with English literature and rare books, including mediaeval manuscripts and the history of printing from the 15th century to the present day. Only by continued active collecting can the Turnbull retain its position as a leading centre of learning.

Sir Alister McIntosh, when opening the exhibition, emphasized the part the Endowment Trust has to play. 'In the last five years the Trust has spent some \$75,000 in purchases for the Library's collections. It has published three books and five sets of colour prints from original paintings in the Library, and has made grants toward overseas travel by staff members carrying out further research.' The purchases, additional to those normally made by the Library, have included rare books and New Zealand historical paintings and manuscripts. Some have been aided by generous grants from the Lottery Funds and from the T. G. Macarthy Trust. Sir Alister thanked the Friends of the Turnbull Library for so kindly financing both the Donors' Exhibition functions and also the brochure. He also stressed that the Endowment Trust requires substantial continuing monetary support by way of bequests, donations and grants. Prices have soared, competition by private collectors has increased and ever more important material is coming on the market in consequence. Special purchases must continue to reinforce the many donations of library items.

The Chief Librarian's speech was so well received by the large audience, and is so particularly apposite for the Friends of the Turnbull Library, that it is printed in full below.

"The exhibition which we are about to open this evening is to honour 566 persons, associations, societies and business firms who have donated objects to the Library's research collections in the period January 1975 to March 1976. We honour these 566 by name in the exhibition brochure; vicariously we also honour the many thousands more who have donated books, pictures, photographs, maps, prints, newspapers, periodicals and manuscripts from the time of Alexander Turnbull, the many thousands who shared Alexander Turnbull's belief in the importance of a national research collection for New Zealand, a national research collection which would have a continuing and vital role in interpreting New Zealand's past to each new generation, which would in Turnbull's own phrase 'assist future searchers after the truth' about our country.

"This exhibition is the first of its kind held by the Library and after the success of our open house for donors yesterday afternoon I think we should give serious consideration to making the donors' exhibition a regular feature of the Turnbull calendar. The William Andrews Clark Library in Los Angeles has its Founder's Day as an excuse for a whole