

Library and agreement reached on the transfer of the Rt. Hon. Sir Keith Holyoake's papers from the General Assembly Library. Additions to the manuscript collections continue to be announced to research workers through the *Turnbull Library Record* and *Archifacts*.

The collection of seventeenth century Milton related books has been significantly strengthened during the year. Mr V. G. Elliott a rare book specialist on leave from the Library in England has been employed by the Alexander Turnbull Library Endowment Trust to identify and purchase a wide range of minor seventeenth century titles. Purchases in other fields include a number of eighteenth century Swedish language titles for the Pacific collections, the first and second series of William Swainson's *Zoological Illustrations* (1820-1832), two rare New Zealand pamphlets *Notes on a Short Tour Into the Interior of the Northern Colony of New Zealand . . .* (1852) and Bishop Selwyn's *Are Cathedral Institutions Useless?* (1838), and two examples of the work of Edgar Mansfield the noted New Zealand binder. Seven rare Pacific maps given by the Prime Minister of Australia to the Rt. Hon. W. E. Rowling, M.P., were deposited in the Library. Major additions to the photograph collections included the Shotton albums and negatives and copies of the W. H. Davies and George Moore negatives.

The rate of growth of the collections of original art materials declined during the year. Donations have fallen and the effects of inflation and rising prices for paintings and drawings have considerably reduced the Library's ability to purchase original works. The major purchase during the year, made by the Endowment Trust, was of five watercolour Maori studies by J. J. Merrett. The Library's programme of photographic copying of important works held outside New Zealand was advanced considerably by the visits of one of the art specialists to the Australian National Library, the Mitchell Library, National Maritime Museum at Greenwich and the British Museum.

The Library is once again indebted to those who have contributed by donation to the growth of the collections and acknowledges their generosity. A full list of donors is published in the *Turnbull Library Record*. The role of the Alexander Turnbull Library Endowment Trust in purchasing highly priced books, manuscripts and pictures for the Library and in making funds available for related activities is noted elsewhere in this report. Donations rose from 519 last year to 639, a new record.

Conserving the Collections

The Conservation Laboratory with a full-time staff of one technician and a photographer can do no more than make a token contribution towards maintaining the national collections. The Laboratory represents