

## Notes and Comments

### *Permission to publish manuscripts in the Library's collections*

The Library's policy on permission to publish materials from its collections has been made explicit in a memorandum dated 1 November 1978 which is being made available to research workers. The long-standing 'Notes for the Users of Manuscripts' which are part of the *Rules for Use of Library and Reading Room* state that written permission must be secured from the Library to publish materials from the Manuscript Section. Until recently all users have correctly interpreted this to mean that permission should be sought from the Library at the earliest possible opportunity and before any approach is made to the copyright owner or agreements made with a publisher. The memorandum states that 'authors and editors are strongly advised not to enter into negotiations with copyright owners and publishers until they have secured permission from the Library as proprietor or custodian. Failure to observe this procedure may lead to a refusal by the Library to allow publication.'

A departure from these established procedures is likely to jeopardise the orderly business of editing and publishing original manuscripts and can lead only to friction between scholars, the waste of scarce human resources, and uncertainty among publishers.

### *The Turnbull Research Fund*

The last issue of the *Record* outlined proposals by the Board of the Alexander Turnbull Library Endowment Trust to establish a research fund to be used to encourage scholarly research based on the Library's collections. The Fund has now been established but not in the form originally proposed. The Board was initially advised that an amendment to the original deed of trust would be the best method of achieving its objectives but was subsequently advised late in 1978 by its solicitors that the Supreme Court was unlikely to agree to the substantial variation proposed. The Research Fund has therefore been created by a separate deed of trust between an anonymous settlor and the Board constituting the Alexander Turnbull Library Research Endowment Fund. The settlor specifies that the trust fund should be used for 'The advancement of learning and the Arts and Sciences through the promotion and support . . . of or for scholarly research and