

Notes and Comments

Turnbull Research Fund

A grant of \$10,000 has been made to the Endowment Trust's Research Fund by the Minister of Internal Affairs from lottery funds. The Hon. Alan Highet, in announcing the grant, expressed strong support for the principle of encouraging research leading to publication as a means of bringing the Library's collections to a wider audience. The Board of the Endowment Trust at its June 1979 meeting resolved to publicise the availability of grants to assist research based on the Library's collections and to invite applications during 1979 from New Zealand residents and New Zealanders living abroad.

Maori specialist position created

The Library has recently been given approval to create a new position of Subject Specialist (Maori Manuscripts) to develop the Maori language manuscript collections as a national resource for scholarly research, and to manage a Maori Texts Copying Project to make copies of unique Maori manuscripts and rare Maori printed books, periodicals and newspapers available in microform. Because of staff shortages in conservation and in the National Library's Microfilm Unit, it has been decided to defer work on the Maori Texts Copying Project and to concentrate on identifying the demand from teaching and research institutions, on assessing the resources available in public institutions, identifying significant collections in other hands and developing the collections in the Turnbull Library. Ms Sharon Dell, BA(HONS), DIP NZLS, has been appointed to the position and is undertaking a Maori language course at Victoria University to develop her language skills.

Urewera Notebook launched in Library

On 23 April 1979, at the invitation of the Oxford University Press, a small group of scholars, publishers, booksellers and library staff gathered in the Turnbull Library's exhibition area for a ceremony to launch Professor Ian Gordon's edition of the *Urewera Notebook* of Katherine Mansfield. John Griffin, Oxford's manager in New Zealand, welcomed guests, spoke briefly on the book and apologised for the delays in publication which had prevented Professor Gordon, who had gone overseas, from being present.