

### *Webster Collection*

By arrangement with Messrs Maggs Bros, London, the Library received in November the bulk of the material from the collection which it is purchasing from the estate of the late K. A. Webster. The materials to hand include some items located initially from Mr Webster's own catalogue, but largely comprise the selection made by Miss M. Walton in London in August 1969. The most significant items are manuscripts, broadsides, and other ephemera, printed pamphlets and extracts from periodicals. The manuscripts are specifically of New Zealand interest, but the broadsides and other printed material, covers what may be regarded particularly as the social background of colonialization from Britain in the early nineteenth century. The broadsides represent material not hitherto available for research in this country.

### *Other Acquisitions*

The Library was fortunate in obtaining at Sotheby's in November the New Zealand volume of Captain T. B. Collinson's autobiography (outlined in 'Notes on Manuscript Accessions'). Accompanying the narrative, which gives Collinson's impressions of military operations and social life in Wellington and Wanganui at the time, are many pencil sketches of considerable historical and topographical interest. About the same time the Chief Librarian was pleased to be able to arrange, by courtesy of Mr J. Eyles, Director of the Nelson Museum, for the copying of the two volumes of the diary of Lieutenant C. J. Ewen, held in the Museum since 1952. The existence of this diary was not generally known until the Chief Librarian saw it in a display case in the Museum, although sketches by Ewen are in the Nan Kivell Collection in the National Library of Australia. The diary deals chiefly with his military duties in the Wellington area, much of Ewen's time being spent in the Barracks at Paremata, with notes of travel through the country. With the Journals of Lieutenant Bennett and Ensign Best, the Library's holdings of records of army officers of the 1840s is now of some significance.

### *Carmelite Book of the Hours*

Mr Christopher De Hamel, BA(HONS), a graduate of the History Department of the University of Otago with special interest in and knowledge of medieval manuscripts, was fortunately able to work in the Library during the long vacation. One of his particular studies was an illuminated manuscript which forms part of the donation of Sir John Ilott. Mr De Hamel was able to establish that this was a very rare Carmelite Book of the Hours and we are pleased to publish the results of his research in this issue of the *Record*.