

Acquisition and Cataloguing

The bulk of the library's acquisition of printed books, pamphlets, and periodicals has been of New Zealand and Pacific publications. In this area the 1971 amendment to the depository provisions of the Copyright Act will enable the current intake to be better organised and more efficiently controlled. Despite the recognition of the Turnbull Library as the National Library's comprehensive collection of the literature relating to New Zealand, many gaps still exist for the intermediate period of the library's history from Turnbull's death until the recent past. Every effort is made to rectify such omissions by purchase, gift, or photocopy and the past year has been reasonably successful in this regard. Acquisitions in the library specialist areas which for technical processing are under the guidance of the catalogue department, are noted in these sections. However, the rare book collection was significantly strengthened by an Endowment Trust purchase of over 100 titles of modern fine printing formed within New Zealand as well as by matching purchases overseas. As funds have permitted, specific titles have been added to the library's holding of English literature, maritime discovery, and Pacific exploration.

Microfilm has continued to grow as an essential medium of acquisition and conservation. During the year, 471 reels of microfilm were received from overseas in which over half a million pages of manuscript or rare books not hitherto in New Zealand are now available to scholars. Within the library the camera lent by the New Zealand Library Association to the National Library Centre has been operated full-time by staff seconded by the Government Printer. The camera, now 25 years old, has long passed its point of efficient use and in order to step up the library's programme of copying New Zealand newspapers and manuscripts for conservation and wider use its replacement is urgent.

Within the catalogue section 3,283 books and pamphlets were catalogued as well as sound recordings and microfilm. The section's main responsibility is in bibliographical compilation noted below but it is also responsible for the Union Catalogue of pre-1801 books held in New Zealand, the supervision of the cataloguing of the special collections, the control of its binding programme, and the organisation of the periodicals section.

Bibliography

Work has continued on both the current and retrospective *New Zealand National Bibliography*. Monthly issues of the *New Zealand National Bibliography* were prepared, listing 1,574 items in section I—books, pamphlets, art prints, music scores, and sound recordings. The annual cumulation for 1970 was published in September 1971, but it is hoped to issue that for 1971 a little earlier. The prompt, efficient, typographic-