

Publications

Two issues of *The Turnbull Library Record* appeared during the year. While it is pleasing to note that interest in the *Record* has been sustained, the steadily mounting costs of publication must not be overlooked. Without the assistance of profits from the sale of publications, as well as donations, it would be difficult to maintain publication at the present level merely from subscription receipts. It is now five years since the subscription was raised to its present level of \$2.50 per annum, a relatively modest sum in comparison with contributions expected by other similar organisations. The Committee has no recommendation to place before the membership but the matter is one which will need to be watched. It is pleasing to note that there has been a small increase in the return from sale of publications through the Library, while the arrangement made with the Endowment Trust for the sale of Andrew Sharp's *Duperrey's Visit to New Zealand in 1824*, and further monographs published by the Trust, will provide some necessary assistance.

The Future

The period covered by this report represents the last complete year that the Library will be in the Turnbull Building. When the next annual report is presented, the Library, on present expectations, will have been in the Free Lance Building on the Terrace for some six months. Although it is proposed to retain use of the Turnbull Building, certainly for storage and perhaps for other purposes, for a limited time, the Library's main collections and services will be in the Free Lance until the erection of the National Library. The most optimistic forecasts place this latter development in perhaps five or six years, the more realistic 10-12 years. Cabinet authority for the working drawings of the National Library Building is welcomed, and will permit an advance to the next major stage, after final costing—the formal approval for the erection of the building itself. Within the Free Lance Building, as in the National Library, the identity of the Turnbull will be preserved. There may be differences of opinion as to how this can best be achieved in the National Library Building but what is evolving will be, I am sure, an appropriate recognition of the special character of the Turnbull Library. On the other hand, it is necessary to provide for close association between the various parts of the National Library, of which Turnbull is part, particularly for the efficient use of Turnbull's many special collections which, in themselves, form the country's national collections in these areas. The final alterations to the sketch plans will be considered by the Trustees' Special Committee for the Alexander Turnbull Library, which has a particular responsibility in this matter.