

matters which have already been commenced. While it is not expected that any spectacular acquisitions will necessarily follow from these efforts, it is, nevertheless, clear from known contacts and from the relative frequency with which diaries, letters and paintings come to light in the United Kingdom, that there is still a considerable reservoir of such material in private hands. Mr Bagnall will, also, be in touch with officers of the National Library in Australia House who are engaged in the Joint Copying Project, and will endeavour to arrange for the priority copying of records in public and institutional repositories of particular New Zealand interest.

The State of Mansfield Scholarship

Our attention has been drawn to an article by Mary Louise Bardas in *World literature written in English*, Vol. XI, No. 1, published by the University of Texas at Arlington. It is titled 'The State of Scholarship on Katherine Mansfield, 1950-1970' and consists of a brief discussion of the situation, followed by a useful bibliography. The discussion, however, seems to us somewhat casual and uninformed. Although she says that 'Perhaps the most important event for the would-be critic of Katherine Mansfield . . . is the discovery by Ian Gordon of Murry's extensive "creative" editing of the Mansfield papers', and although she goes on to discuss these papers and even speculate about what should result 'when Mansfield scholars have access to these papers', no mention is made of the Alexander Turnbull Library, or, indeed, of New Zealand. A discussion of the state of Mansfield scholarship without mention of the repository of the main bulk of Mansfield manuscripts, and without clarification of the fact that scholars *do* have access to these papers, is surely inadequate.

Some assumptions are also misleading. The observation 'Hopefully, the Mansfield papers will appear under more conservative editing' carries a footnote which reads 'One assumes that Gordon himself is undertaking this task.' Although mention was made in the *Record* nearly a year before publication of this article of the fact that the Mansfield letters are currently being edited by Margaret Scott, we should now make it explicit that Mrs Scott has been commissioned by Oxford University Press to collect and edit the complete letters of Katherine Mansfield. This work is being done by Mrs Scott in a private capacity and is quite distinct from the editing of unpublished manuscripts of Katherine Mansfield which she has been doing for the past three years for the *Record*. The Library's collections of Mansfieldiana (manuscripts, photographs, editions of works, published related material, ephemera, association articles and artifacts) are growing continually. Texas is bound to hear of us sooner or later.