

In spite of disruptions 5,237 readers used 24,050 volumes during the year. There was a noticeable increase in the use made of the microfilm of Maori Land Court Minute books and as over 6,000 microfilm reels are now held fairly constant use is made of the three microfilm readers. One hundred and twenty-four books or photocopies were lent or provided to other libraries and there were 621 telephone enquiries and 747 letters during the year.

Of the readers using specific research materials 8 were working on doctoral theses, 14 on M.A. theses and 2 on Ll.B's. Research topics included the impact of World War I upon aspects of New Zealand social history; the role and achievement of Sir Apirana Ngata in the United party and Coalition governments; a centennial history of the Williams family; women's role in New Zealand society; domestic servants in New Zealand in the 1920's; a social history of Auckland in the early 1870's; Geraldine and Manawatu county histories; a history of the Armed Constabulary; a life of Rev. Richard Davis of the Church Missionary Society; and a book on the coconut palm. Overseas students were interested in material on Christmas Island; Maoris in the novel; and William Anderson, surgeon on the *Resolution*. The English literature collections were used for a study of Laurence Sterne's work, a descriptive catalogue of 19th century periodicals, a study of the political thinking of Dryden and for a D.Phil. thesis on the ultra Tories in British politics and their attitude to Catholic emancipation.

Manuscripts

For the Manuscripts Section the move into the new building made a considerable difference to the quality of service the staff are able to give. For the first time, most of the Library's accessioned manuscript holdings are now under one roof, and readers' requests can be met on the same day. Further acquisitions will, unfortunately, have to overflow to other buildings. Acquisitions over the year have been varied and consistent. A number of important manuscripts relating to New Zealand have been brought to light in the United Kingdom thus emphasising yet again the need for an overseas field officer. Among the more significant recent acquisitions were the letters of John Middleton Murry to Katherine Mansfield (a unique correspondence, the other side of which has been in the Library for some years); a small collection of original Katherine Mansfield letters; records of Sir Truby King; the papers of James Coutts Crawford; the nucleus of a John Beaglehole manuscript collection; further Richard John Seddon material; the records of The Terrace Congregational Church; Dora de Beer's correspondence relating to her translation of Kramer's *Die Samoa-Inseln*; the Wanganui his-