

to receive, under the compulsory deposit provisions of the Copyright Act administered by the General Assembly Library, a comprehensive range of materials being published in New Zealand to add to the national collection of last resort.

The collection of left-wing pamphlets was considerably strengthened by donations during the year, and a major item, *A Supplement to Dr Du Moulin, Treating of the Likliest Means to Remove Hirelings out of the Church of England* (1680) was purchased for the Milton collection with the aid of endowment funds. The Music Archive received by donation the Lilburn papers, Larry Pruden's collection of scores and papers, and materials relating to another 22 musicians, and purchased a good collection of New Zealand sheet music. Among manuscripts acquired during the year were the Newman-Buttle family papers, the Caroline Abraham letters, the papers of the trade union leader Toby Hill, the Sir David Smith papers, Rear Admiral John Ross's papers, and the journal of Lieutenant P. D. Vigors of the *Havannah* in 1850, purchased in London by the Endowment Trust. The photograph collections were strengthened by the acquisition of Professor J. T. Salmon's botanical and zoological negatives, the collection of Mr Robert E. Wells, and the mountaineering photographs of Edgar R. Williams. A self-portrait by J. A. Gilfillan, the pioneer artist, was purchased in Australia, and a portrait of Te Rauparaha by R. A. Oliver at auction in Auckland. Other portraits purchased included those of Rita Angus, Leo Bensemann, and E. H. McCormick. A number of important drawings, paintings and prints were donated to the collections, including two watercolours by William Mein Smith and a portrait of Dame Whina Cooper.

CONSERVING THE RESEARCH COLLECTIONS

The Library's special national role as the keeper of major New Zealand heritage collections of printed materials, paintings, drawings and prints, photographs, manuscripts and archives, maps, music and recorded sound, is not fully appreciated. The accommodation provided for these collections and the staff who work on them is below standard. The resources being made available for the long-term preservation of the records of New Zealand's past, both for repair and facsimile copying, are still inadequate. The Library is devoting what resources it has to the stabilisation of the collections through climate control, good storage practices, and the education of staff and users in the proper handling of materials. These policies are appropriate only for the short term and are quite inadequate to the long-term preservation needs of the collections.

J. E. TRAUER

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