

Research Notes

Dr Claudia Orange, the deputy editor of the *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography*, reports that the dictionary's researchers continue to draw heavily on the resources of sections of the Turnbull Library, especially Reference and Manuscripts and Archives. Staff engaged in the editorial and research processes now number twelve full-time and eight part-time people. Apart from research relating to essays about to be written or in the process of being written, the major call on library time arises from checking on the written essays to prepare them for publication. In addition to this checking of six hundred essays in English, the translation of some two hundred of them into Maori is necessitating searches for information on personal, place and pa names as well as numerous other points. Work is also well under way for the next volume, scheduled for publication in 1992.

The Library's sound collections became available to researchers at the beginning of May 1988, after a delay due to building problems. The collections consist of both commercially-produced and unpublished New Zealand sound recordings of music and spoken work, the latter including oral histories. Researchers are encouraged to first use recordings held in other institutions, unless they are unavailable or are unique to this Library. Prior notice of access is required so that listening copies can be made for use within the Library.

The Pictorial Collections have been made more publicly accessible in the past year through a number of exhibitions held in the National Library Gallery. The opening exhibition, 'Points of View', and a more recent one, 'Wellington After All', both presented a cross-section of material from a variety of collections. The first major exhibition from the Drawing and Prints Collection was 'Drawn from Nature' showing early European visual records of New Zealand. It displayed the original work of some well-known artists, such as Heaphy, Fox and Earle, as well as the little-known impressions of early amateurs. A significant collection of the watercolours and oils of Albin Martin is currently on loan to the Auckland City Art Gallery as part of an exhibition to be toured by the Art Gallery Directors' Council.

The Cartographic Collection has acquired a reprint of the first edition of the one-inch to one-mile Ordnance Survey of England and Wales, originally published between 1805 and 1873. This series is complemented by a modern set of maps covering Scotland, England and Wales, the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale Landranger series. A gazetteer containing some two hundred and fifty-six thousand names enhances access to this modern series. The Australia 1:100,000 topographic survey is part of the Australian National Mapping programme and covers more densely settled areas of the continent and other areas of social interest. At present, the Cartographic Collection has nearly four hundred sheets from this series. At a smaller scale of mapping, there are over three hundred sheets in the Australia 1:250,000 topographic survey.