

addition he will be visiting potential donors, specialist book dealers and charitable foundations, and discussing the exchange of duplicates with selected specialist libraries. Funds for his visit have been provided by the National Library from its overseas travel funds, the Trustees of the National Library, and the Turnbull Library Endowment Trust. To enable Mr Traue to see a wider range of libraries in the United States a supplementary grant has been made by the Council on Library Resources, Washington, D.C. In addition invitations have been received from the Netherlands Government to spend a week in Holland, from the International Committee of the Library Associations of the Federal Republic of Germany to spend two weeks visiting libraries in Germany, and from the Swedish Government to spend a week in Sweden. The British Council has also made a small grant for travel within Britain.

*Reginald George James Berry, O.B.E., F.R.N.S.N.Z.*

The Friends of the Turnbull Library learned with deep regret of the death of one of its earliest Life Members on 6th November 1979.

Born on 20th June 1906, James Berry early suffered the loss of his father, and was cared for by relatives until his entry to Dulwich College, long associated with the arts. From there, and from artistic members of his family, must have stemmed his abiding interest in painting and graphic art. At eighteen he emigrated to the Gisborne area as a prospective farmer; in 1928 he joined the Goldberg Advertising Agency in Wellington. The experience was invaluable, for it encouraged his innate ability, leading him successively to artistic journalism on the *Dominion* and the *Radio Record*, and to free lance graphic art and design.

Work on postage stamps began as a hobby which provided New Zealand and the South Pacific with some two hundred stamps during the period 1933-75. The quality of this work was recognised internationally when five of his designs were chosen out of a ranking twelve in the Stanley Gibbons competition of 1947, one for first prize.

An account of his work in the production of coins and medals appears in his Sutherland Memorial Lecture ('The Art Production of Coins and Medals', *N.Z. Numismatic Journal*, October 1978, pp. 1-35), and gives some idea of his enormous attention to detail. Public recognition began with the acceptance of his reverse designs for the Waitangi Crown and the Bledisloe Medal in 1935. The *annus mirabilis*, however, was 1966, with the choice of his designs for decimal currency by public acclaim; at the age of sixty the years of