

day's festivities with lunch, dinner and sundry musical and dramatic entertainments. As heirs of a less exuberant tradition than that of Los Angeles I think we could manage a few hours once a year to pay a deserved tribute to our founder and those who continue to build on the foundation he laid, the Library's donors.

"Today the State and its agencies are the patrons of most of the world's great libraries and it is almost inevitable that this should be the fate of a mature research library. Running a large library is an expensive hobby and with few exceptions the state is the only body able to marshal the resources now required. But the great libraries were not the *creations* of state agencies but of individuals and families; of the Turnbells, Hockens, McNabs, Carters, Greys and Reeds in New Zealand; the Mitchells, Dixsons and Fergusons in Australia; the Huntingtons, Clarks, Morgans, Clements, Bergs, Bancrofts, Newberrys, Wideners in the United States; and in England the Bodleys, Cottons, Pepys, Sloanes and Harleys. But the assumption by the State of the role of patron of the great libraries has not ended the flow of private giving to research libraries. The British Library, the National Libraries of Scotland, Ireland and Wales, Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Yale, the New York Public Library, the Clements, the Clark, Mitchell, Turnbull, all continue to receive a steady flow of donations and bequests. People continue to believe that they as individuals ought to contribute to the growth of research libraries above and beyond the contributions of the state, just as in countries which provide a level of state welfare services far beyond that of past centuries people continue to contribute as individuals to the welfare of the less fortunate. I believe that there is a relationship and that these two kinds of giving are the obverse and reverse of our humanity. In charity we recognise our common mortality, the inevitability of sickness, pain and death, of the 'heartache and the thousand natural shocks that flesh is heir to' and we band together as mortals to ease the common burdens. And if it is from a recognition of our mortality that we give for charity then it is from our recognition of the immortality of the creations of man's hand and mind that we support great libraries. Shakespeare's body has long gone, his personality is but a pale shadow, but his creations grow more substantial with each century.

"As animals are driven by a genetic imperative to look to the welfare of the next generation man is driven by a cultural imperative to transmit the experience of the past to future generations. All those who have given objects and money to build the Turnbull collections have responded, even if unconsciously, to that same cultural imperative that built the great libraries of Alexandria and Pergamum, the libraries of the middle ages, the British Museum, the Library of Congress, the