

photographs rounds out the Library's McLean collection. An extended note on the collection as a whole and the significance of the recent accretion will be published later this year. Typical of the political section of the correspondence is the letter from William Fox to Sir Donald McLean, part of which is reproduced in this issue of the *Record* in facsimile. The sentence at the beginning of the extract commences: '[Some of them have been pressing me to] resume office . . .' and that on the second page ends: '. . . worships Stafford, & [was so active last Session.]' Clearly the influence of women in New Zealand's political decision making has been so far as little studied as that of senior civil servants.

With the publication in February of Part II of the *Union Catalogue of Manuscripts*, covering the manuscript holdings of the Alexander Turnbull Library, a fourteen-year-old project initiated by the Archives Committee of the New Zealand Library Association reached a useful beginning, if not what might seem more fitting – a conclusion. The *Union Catalogue* in two parts prepared by Mr Peter Crisp, Assistant Manuscripts Librarian, is described as an interim edition and is the first to record in any degree of fullness both the holdings of this Library and less satisfactorily those of other New Zealand libraries. However, it will at least provide a basis on which to induce other libraries to complete their notifications. So far as Turnbull is concerned the Part II of the *Union Catalogue* is a stop-gap until the completion of a more detailed and analytical catalogue on which, before his leave in Australia, Mr Grover had made good progress.

In September 1969, fourteen watercolours of Mohaka, Hawkes Bay, dating from 1855 to 1861, were presented to the Library by Mr and Mrs W. J. Mouton of George, Cape Province, South Africa.

The watercolours had been annotated by John Lavin, and sent to his brother (Mrs Mouton's grandfather) who had emigrated to South Africa at about the same time. Taken in sequence, the paintings are an interesting record of early New Zealand pastoral settlement.

It had always been assumed that Lavin was the artist, but close examination of the sketches revealed not only a disparity between the handwriting of the titles and that of the annotations, but also that two of the paintings were initialled 'AJC'. The paintings have now been attributed to Alfred John Cooper, Lavin's sheepfarming neighbour at Mohaka. Both Lavin and Cooper were killed in the Hauhau massacre at Mohaka on 10 April 1869. An article by B. N. H. Teague, '*The fire in the fern*' by the Mohaka, in the Journal of the Whakatane and District Historical Society, November 1969, gives a few details about Lavin and the Mohaka massacre. The Library has a number of letters written by Lavin to Donald McLean before his death but, unfortunately, none by Cooper.