

copy-typing programme was inaugurated. This would be supplanted only a generation later, by the xerox machine and copy microfilm. Then there was the Russell Duncan photograph collection, Percy Smith books and manuscripts, the W. H. Triggs donation and the high spot for the decade, the Mantell collection about which the Librarian rather hopefully wrote: 'A booklet is in preparation which will include a list of the books and letters.'<sup>53</sup>

And in 1926 W. F. Barraud had presented his father's collection of 196 water colours, perhaps following Percy Hodgkins who the year before had donated some important W. M. Hodgkins items. The period closed appropriately with a donation by Bishop H. W. Williams of 400 volumes of Maori language material. The Librarian even thought up an ingenious proposal by which the book fund could be enhanced by the value of donations. It did not find favour.

In 1930-31 and 1932 the rays of hope on money and staffing which had appeared fitfully during the clouded years behind were extinguished altogether. Misses Davidson, Hardie and Woodhouse supported the Librarian throughout this period and kept the precarious life-line of service operating. Perhaps even they were really unnecessary for we find Andersen making a spirited rejoinder: 'So far from any of the assistants being supernumerary I have before reported that more assistance is necessary, and the position is becoming more and more acute.'<sup>54</sup> Small sums of money were obtainable only after a prolonged struggle and the Librarian was undoubtedly cowed by the Gould contretemps noted earlier. Even the renewal of individual periodical subscriptions needed the approval of the Under-Secretary, and there was a battle in April-May 1933 for the few remaining.<sup>55</sup> Prior to the onset of the depression the annual sum available appears to have been £250<sup>56</sup> but for the year 1929/30 the amount spent was £92 16s 3d. More pathetically the Librarian sent a list of proposed purchases forward on 4 March 1931. 'As you know I have not sent in any list for some time so this is an accumulation.' The Under-Secretary advised on the 10th that the Minister had minuted the paper: 'Matter to stand over until the new financial year.' And it kept standing over beyond that watershed. Perhaps not too much should be made of the careful filing without visible response, mark or blemish of a departmental routine request for a contribution from Turnbull staff towards a retirement present to two under-secretaries.<sup>57</sup>

But as yet unrecognised, the embodiment of young masculine vigour with potential strength, if not salvation, was around the corner. Andersen in 1933 was sixty years of age and had forty-six years of superannuation service. The question of a successor was worrying even the Department. The Librarian on 30 June 1933 reported to the Under-Secretary:<sup>58</sup> 'I have seen Mr Taylor referred to in your Memo and wish