

measures are being taken to improve short-term preservation by increasing the rate of duplication and reducing the use made of the collections.

The Library's collections are now housed in seven buildings between Courtenay Place and Thorndon. The movement of items between the outlying buildings and the main library on The Terrace, which cannot but continue until the collections are housed under one roof, is increasing and constitutes a physical and security risk. All buildings now used to house the Library are below a standard appropriate to the value of the collections.

A substantial increase in demand for advice and assistance from outside has led to the Conservation Unit accepting a growing national role. Conservation staff are involved in the work of the Wellington Cultural Conservators and they organised a successful workshop on the salvage of cultural materials on 6–8 March 1981. The Conservation Officer acted as a consultant to the Historic Places Trust after flooding affected the contents of Trust properties at Kerikeri in March 1981, and has acted as an adviser to a number of museums, galleries and libraries. Mr Baillie also attended a conference of the International Institute for the Conservation of Historical and Artistic Works in Vienna and the international conference on paper conservation in Cambridge, England, both in September 1980, and visited conservation laboratories in England, Britain and Canada. The Photograph Librarian attended a seminar on photographic conservation at the Rochester Institute of Technology in the United States.

#### BUILDING THE RESEARCH COLLECTIONS

Donations during the year rose slightly to 436. Greater selectivity in the acceptance of donations, especially of manuscripts and archives, has been exercised and donors are being asked to do more sorting and organising under the Library's supervision. A more precise collecting policy for manuscripts and archives is under discussion. The Library continues to receive for the national collection, under the compulsory deposit provisions of the Copyright Act administered by the General Assembly Library, a comprehensive range of materials published in New Zealand.

Important manuscript donations include the records of the Bible Society in New Zealand, the Presbyterian Bible Class movement, the New Zealand Theatre Players' Trust Board and Bethune and Hunter. The Library also received papers of the late Dr Reo Fortune, the New Zealand-born social anthropologist. With the assistance of the Endowment Trust the fine printing collection was strengthened by recent examples of American and English private presses, and items from the Gregynog Press and Gwas Gregynog, and the Officina Bodoni. Several volumes on the art of Japanese hand-made paper were purchased for the collection on paper making. A significant addition to the history of printing collection was *An Exact Narrative of the Tryal and Condemnation of John Twyn* (1664), and the Miltoniana collection benefited by the purchase of Haquin Spegel's Swedish language work *Guds Werck och Hwila* (1725) and *The Life and Reign of King Charles, or the Pseudo-Martyr Discovered* (1651).