

and Dame Ngaio Marsh papers. Other major acquisitions of original materials included the early records of the New Zealand Public Service Association; the records of St John's Presbyterian Church, Wellington, the Brethren movement, and the Churches' Education Commission. Several portraits of artists were acquired, including a fine oil of George French Angas, and three watercolours of the Wellington region by Christopher Aubrey were purchased. Additions to the photograph collection included albums of views of the Waikato and Auckland in the 1860s and of nineteenth century Maori portraits. Negotiations were concluded for the important Ans Westra collection of negatives to be deposited with the Library. The map collection's major acquisition was of 5,350 aperture cards containing microfilm copies of some 1,400 manuscript maps from last century held in the Head Office of the Department of Lands and Survey. Among the many donations to the Archive of New Zealand Music were the papers of Arthur Hilton, Dorothy Davies, the Music Federation of New Zealand and the New Zealand Opera Company.

A subscription has been placed for 'The Eighteenth Century', a set of microfilm copies of some 200,000 volumes of works published in Britain and its colonies from 1701 to 1800. This is a major addition to the resources available in New Zealand for research in British studies and it will be made available on library interloan. This new set supplements the microfilm copies of British books from Caxton to 1700 already held by the Turnbull. The collections relating to John Milton and the seventeenth century were strengthened by the purchase of 21 additional titles and, by the Endowment Trust, of a collection of 64 pamphlets.

#### CONSERVING THE RESEARCH COLLECTIONS

The Library continues to place considerable emphasis on stabilising the collections through control of the climate in its various buildings, good storage practices, and education of staff and users in the proper handling of materials. Users, both actual and potential, are being advised that to protect the collections for the future they should restrict the use of last resort collections to minimum levels. The resources available for long-term preservation, both for repair and facsimile copying on microfilm, are still inadequate. Financial assistance for microcopying of materials in heavy demand is being sought from private sources.

Ms Pamela Najar was recruited in the United States to fill the position created two years ago for a conservator, an illustration of the lack of qualified conservators in New Zealand. The Conservation Unit provided internship experience for four graduates of conservation courses and one bookbinder, and the conservation staff participated in a seminar for the librarians of newspaper publishers and a disaster preparedness seminar sponsored by the Nelson Provincial Museum. The Conservation Officer travelled to the United States to visit conservation laboratories and to participate in the International Institute for Conservation's conference, 'Science and Technology in the Service of Conservation'.

On 31 March 1983, the Conservation Unit, a responsibility since its