

archives (with an interesting analysis in tabular form), the work of records centres, records management, and gives a detailed appendix of records received. There is also a second appendix "Sources of Contemporary History" in which the Senior Archivist, Miss Judith Hornabrook, gives a valuable guide to the archives available for the study of comparatively recent events. It is no mere titillating statement, for as Miss Hornabrook says at the outset, in New Zealand "there is no thirty-year rule, although there are restrictions on the use of some archives . . . and recent accessions." The Summary covers the year ending 31 March 1972 and was available in Australia at least at the beginning of this year.

## NEWS NOTES

### J. S. Battye Library of Western Australian History

A volume of the *Perth Gazette* covering the years 1869-72 has recently been purchased by the Battye Library. Previously only a few copies were known to exist for this period. The person who offered it to the Library had found it in the garage when he purchased a house in Nedlands. From the binding it appears to be part of the set which was given to the Library early in the century by the Colonial Secretary's Office. Presumably someone had "borrowed" it long ago from the departmental set and it had never been returned.

A new courthouse having been built in Kalgoorlie an officer from the Battye Library flew up there in January to inspect records still held in the tower of the old building. They were a substantial collection of miscellaneous series of mining and court records for Kalgoorlie, Coolgardie and Norseman from as early as October, 1893. Those of value have now been transferred to archival custody. A good collection of early Coolgardie photographs, donated to the Coolgardie Historical Museum has been lent to the Library for copying and these are a useful addition to our growing number of goldfields illustrations.

Records from the Benedictine Monastery at New Norcia are at present being microfilmed by the Battye Library. They consist of 13 boxes of correspondence and other papers covering the period 1844-1900 and diaries, letterbooks, etc., of Bishop Salvado and his successors, 1844-1908. The assistance of Professor K. Garrad, Professor of Spanish at Flinders University, has been most valuable in this project as most of the early material is in Spanish. The records have been brought down to Perth and with his help sorted into order for filming. It was hoped at first to make a detailed listing of the records but this proved too time consuming and they are now being copied in a date order arrangement. The records will be returned to the Monastery and a microfilm positive also lodged there.

Mrs. Christine Heagney has resigned from the staff of the Battye Library to go overseas. She has been with this library for four years. A new member of the staff is Mrs. Wendy Sobon who recently completed her Registration Examination.

Father Martin Newbold has been appointed Archivist at the Catholic Archives in Perth as a full-time appointment. Father Newbold is President of the Catholic Historical Society and has been active in historical research for some years while holding the incumbency in parishes in Denmark and Kojonup. Previously the appointment has been a part-time one only.