

# An incunable in a million...

**MAMMOTRECTUS** Super Bibliam by Johannes Marchesinus was printed in 1476 in Venice.

By KATE DENNEHY

Now this may not mean much to you, but it does to the Monash University library.

Mammotectus etc is the library's one millionth book, which is certainly something to celebrate.

Yesterday the president of the Friends of the Library, Mr Ken Horn, who is also the State Librarian, presented the book to the Monash Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Ray Martin.

The book will also be the library's oldest volume and its first incunable — a book produced before 1500, in the first 25 years of printing.

University librarian, Mr Brian Southwell, said the book was in remarkably good condition and a fine piece of early printing.

He said Monash library had the fastest growth rate of any library in Australia, since the first librarian, the late Mr Ernest Clark, was appointed 20 years ago.

The libraries of Mel-

bourne, Sydney and Adelaide universities had each taken more than 100 years to reach the size of the library at Monash, he said.

And the library won't be resting on its laurels, or its novels.

Its 1,000,001 volume is on the way — The Universal Penman written by George Bickham in 1741!



MR BRIAN SOUTHWELL (left) and Mr Ken Horn with the millionth volume in the Monash University library yesterday.