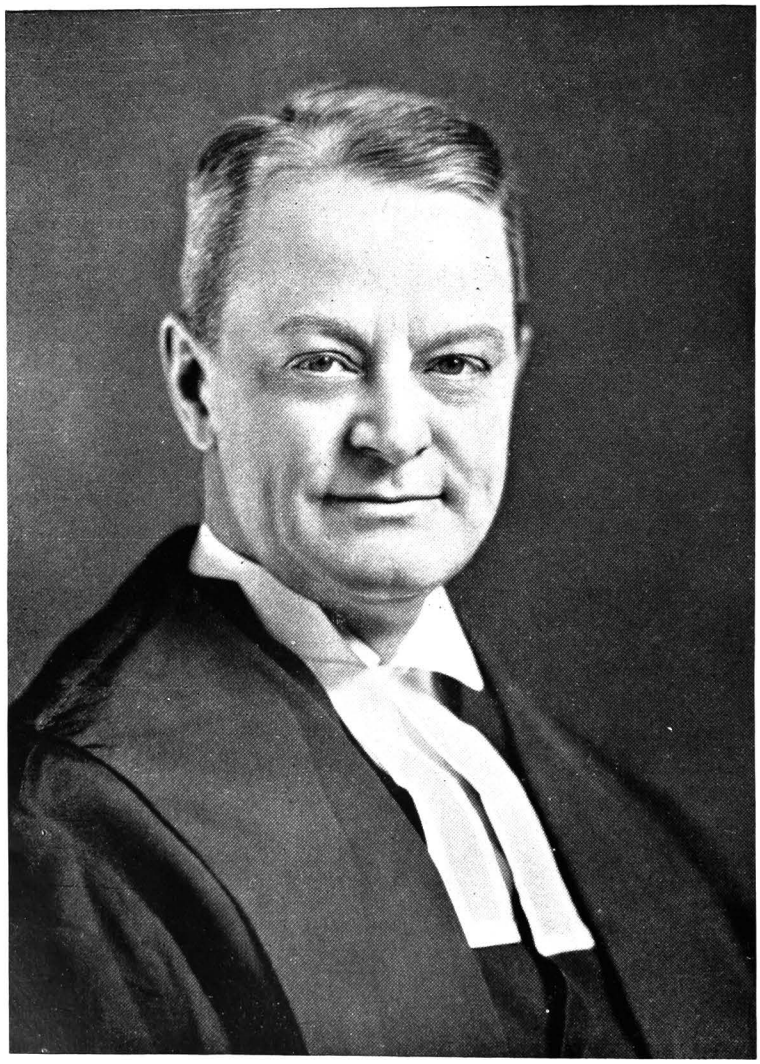
READING IN TORONTO

1938



J. C. M. MacBETH, K.C., B.A.
Chairman: The Toronto Public Library Board, 1938

READING
IN
TORONTO

1938

Being the Fifty-fifth Annual Report
of the
Toronto Public Library Board
for the Year 1938

E. Spalding Printing Co. - Toronto

CHAIRMEN OF THE TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

John Hallam.....1883-4

John Taylor..... 1885

George Wright, M.A., M.B..... 1886

Lieut.-Col. James Mason..... 1887

A. R. Boswell, K.C.....1888, 1892

Edwin P. Pearson..... 1889

His Honor Judge Jos. E. McDougall.....1890, 1898-9, 1901

R. A. Pyne, M.D..... 1891

D. O'Sullivan, LL.D., K.C..... 1892

Wm. Mara..... 1893

Miles Vokes..... 1894

Wm. D. McPherson..... 1895

Hon. Mr. Justice H. T. Kelly, LL.D.....1896-7, 1909, 1918, 1925

His Honor Judge W. T. J. Lee, K.C., B.C.L.....1900, 1915, 1921, 1928, 1934

Thomas W. Banton.....1902, 1914, 1920, 1927, (March-Dec.) 1930, 1937

His Honor Judge J. Herbert Denton, LL.B..... 1903

Robert H. Graham..... 1904

Hon. Sir Glenholme Falconbridge.....1905-6-7-8

A. E. Huestis..... 1910

Norman B. Gash, K.C., LL.B.....1911, 1916, 1922, 1929, 1935

John Turnbull.....1912, 1917, 1924

Thomas W. Self, J.P.....1913, 1919, 1926

R. B. Orr, M.D..... 1923

Ernest J. Hathaway.....January-February, 1930

Mrs. Richard Davidson.....1931, 1936

J. C. M. MacBeth, K.C., B.A.....1932-3, 1938

THE TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
1938

J. C. M. MacBeth, K.C., B.A., *Chairman*

His Worship the Mayor,
Ralph C. Day
Thomas W. Banton
Mrs. Richard Davidson
Norman B. Gash, K.C., LL.B.
Henry Glendinning, M.D.
Hon. Mr. Justice Kelly, LL.D.
His Hon. Judge Lee, K.C., B.C.L.
F. N. Walker, M.A., M.D.

Honorary Member: John Turnbull

LIBRARIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Henry Glendinning, M.D., *Chairman*

His Worship the Mayor,
Ralph C. Day
Thomas W. Banton
Mrs. Richard Davidson
Norman B. Gash, K.C., LL.B.
Hon. Mr. Justice Kelly, LL.D.
His Hon. Judge Lee, K.C., B.C.L.
J. C. M. MacBeth, K.C., B.A.
F. N. Walker, M.A., M.D.

Honorary Member: John Turnbull

The general management, regulation and control of the Toronto Public Libraries are vested in the Toronto Public Library Board composed of the Mayor of the City or a member of the Board of Control appointed by him as his representative, three persons appointed by the City Council, three persons appointed by the Public School Board (Board of Education), and two persons by the Catholic School Board. The representatives from the City Council and Board of Education hold office for three years, and those from the Catholic School Board for two years, the representatives retiring in rotation at the end of their respective terms on the 31st of January.

CHIEF LIBRARIAN

Charles R. Sanderson, B.Sc.

THE LIBRARY HOURS

Reference Library

College and St. George Streets. Open 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Boys and Girls House

40 St. George Street. Open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Central Circulating Library

St. George and College Streets—entrance on St. George Street. Open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Central Reading Room (College Street entrance) open same hours.

Downtown Branch

42 Adelaide Street West. Open 8.30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Beaches Branch

Queen Street East, near Lee Avenue. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Bloor and Gladstone Branch

Cor. Bloor Street and Gladstone Avenue. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Danforth Branch

701 Pape Avenue, near Danforth Avenue. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Deer Park Branch

St. Clair Avenue (near Yonge Street). Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.

Earlscourt Branch

Dufferin Street, south of and near St. Clair Avenue. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Eastern Branch

137 Main Street. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Gerrard Branch

Cor. Gerrard Street and Ashdale Avenue. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

High Park Branch

Cor. Roncesvalles and Wright Avenues. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Northern Branch

Cor. Yonge Street and St. Clements Avenue. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 9 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Queen and Lisgar Branch

Cor. Queen and Lisgar Streets. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 9 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Riverdale Branch

Cor. Broadview Avenue and Gerrard East. Open every day but Wednesday, 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Runnymede Branch

Cor. Bloor Street and Glendonwynne Avenue. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Western Branch

Annette Street, facing Medland Street. Open every day but Wednesday, 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Wychwood Branch

Bathurst Street, near St. Clair Avenue. Open every day but Wednesday, 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Yorkville Branch

Yorkville Avenue, North side, near Yonge Street. Open every day but Wednesday, from 2 to 9 p.m. Children's room, 2 to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 to 12 noon and 2 to 6 p.m.

Music Library

College and St. George Streets—entrance on College Street. Open every day from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

All Libraries are closed on statutory holidays.

Business Office Telephone, Kingsdale 1152 (connecting with all Departments). After 6 p.m. direct connections are made as shown by the telephone directory.

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD FOR THE YEAR 1938

To the Members of the Toronto Public Library Board:

Beyond ordinary maintenance repairs, no individual work of major importance was undertaken this year but effort was concentrated on internal re-organization with the purpose of co-ordinating all departments and branches of the service.

The Public Libraries Act provides that there shall be a librarian, a secretary and a treasurer and that one person may be appointed to any two or more offices. Heretofore there have been two persons occupying these three offices—a librarian (that is, chief librarian) and a secretary-treasurer. But, during the past year, all offices were combined under one head, and the Chief Librarian became also Secretary and Treasurer. It was thought that the change would unify all branches of activity and eliminate overlapping and conflict of duties, and it is expected that the Librarian-Secretary-Treasurer (who retains the appellation of Chief Librarian) will so organize the work of the whole system that he will be able to delegate many of his duties to responsible assistants and reserve for himself more freedom than he has enjoyed for some time past, to devote to the educational aspects of modern library science.

After effecting this co-ordination, the next step was to select two departmental heads to be placed in charge of the business office and the engineering and maintenance work. The vacancies were advertised in the local papers and written applications were received—almost 225 for the business office position and approximately 200 for the other. From these, after much consideration, the Board, at its October meeting, selected Mr. R. L. Charles and Mr. Edward Fullerton for the business office and the engineering and maintenance positions respectively.

The engineering-maintenance work and the cleaning-maintenance work are by this move combined under one head and thus is eliminated the unpleasant but constantly recurring task

of adjusting border-line duties as between the two branches of maintenance-engineering and cleaning.

These changes have not as yet been long enough in operation to demonstrate much achievement, but the principles upon which they have been made were carefully considered in the light of experience, and, it is felt, are wholly good, and judging from indications the result is going to be entirely satisfactory. More efficient service is already apparent as well as a substantial monetary saving. The process of internal adjustment is still under way.

The preliminary work of investigation and report leading to this change was done by a committee of the Board consisting of Mr. T. W. Banton, the Honourable Mr. Justice Kelly, Dr. F. N. Walker and the Chairman, with the advice of the Chief Librarian.

During the period of re-organization and re-adjustment and until the two appointments were made, the Chief Librarian carried the duties of the two offices as well as those of his own, and the Board is not unmindful of the extra burden so efficiently and so satisfactorily borne.

Buildings have been kept in a good state of repair and equipment has been kept up to the required standards of efficiency, replacements and repairs being made where required. Under this item may be mentioned the purchase of a new truck to replace an old one which had given service for a period of ten years.

One should record the changing of the name of the Dovercourt Branch at the December meeting of the Board, the reason for which may be told as follows: Dovercourt was formerly the name of the locality (later amalgamated with the City) in which this branch library was established, but while it was the Dovercourt branch it was nevertheless located at the corner of Bloor Street and Gladstone Avenue. Dovercourt branch was celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary in the month of November and one of the members of the Board in finding his way to the library by street car alighted at the Dovercourt (Road) stop and found that he had a considerable distance yet to go to reach his destination. He decided that if the name misled him as to the location, it doubtless misled many others. The name is now Bloor and Gladstone. So

passes another landmark.

Precedent and tradition develop in the work of an institution as it carries on from day to day and from year to year, but there always has to be a beginning of each. This year we had the unique experience of marking the fiftieth anniversary of the appointment to the staff of Miss Margaret McElderry, head of the music department. Both Board and Staff honoured the occasion in suitable manner and the following resolution was inscribed on the December minutes of the Board and a parchment memorial thereof presented to Miss McElderry at the staff reception:

"The Public Library Board of the City of Toronto desire to express to Miss Margaret McElderry their deep appreciation of her fifty years of loyal and valued service, to congratulate her on this remarkable and fine achievement, and to wish her continued health and happiness for many years yet to come."

Precedent has been established and tradition made.

The Board works in close co-operation with the Public and Separate School Boards of the City. One of the aims of the new school curricula promulgated by the Department of Education of the Province is to give the children a wider personal contact with books, books that they will handle themselves and read, and to give them also some freedom of choice over their own reading matter. Schools are not libraries and the change has resulted in a heavier demand upon the libraries, which is manifest through all departments. It has taken some little time to realize the full effect upon library service of this change but it is found, for example, that circulation in the Boys and Girls Department has increased by one-third during the last two years.

This increased demand has not all come through the regular, self-contained libraries. Besides the Central Circulating Library, Boys and Girls House and the Reference Library, there are sixteen branch libraries all of which, except the Down-town Branch, have separate children's departments. In addition, outpost libraries, as they are called, are administered in fifteen primary schools and two settlement centres. In setting up these primary school libraries, the object, over and above the general desire to cultivate a taste for reading, is to bring the

advantage of library service to the younger boys and girls whose schools are situated either at long distances from the nearest library or in districts where going to and from the nearest library would necessitate passing through busy traffic areas.

The need for economy has latterly necessitated the denial of this school service to pupils of the eighth grade. Though this is regretted, yet it is felt that the hardship resulting is not serious, as eighth grade pupils are old enough and able to look after themselves and furthermore they should be encouraged to cultivate the library habit.

The matter of summer library service for City playgrounds came under consideration during the year, but it was thought that, under present conditions, we were not in a position to extend this branch of public service beyond that presently rendered, which is limited to supplying five of these playground centres with books discarded by the Boys and Girls Department.

The Board did, however, see fit to comply with an urgent request for some book provision for the Hospital for Incurables.

Mention may be made of a request which came to the Board from the Metropolitan Committee appointed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. In response, a brief was submitted outlining some of our pressing problems in regard to library service for border communities, making certain constructive suggestions and expressing a willingness to co-operate. Since the brief was submitted, the Committee has made several further suggestions for additional information, which has always gladly been given. It is intended, of course, that any service which may be set up by the Provincial authorities under any recommendation which may be made by the Metropolitan Committee, shall be given without expense to the City.

Outstanding in library events of the year was the Book Fair, held under the joint auspices of the Association of Canadian Bookmen and the Library. For two years past this Fair has been held in a down-town hotel but this year it migrated to its natural habitat and was held in the old auditorium of the Library, evening lectures during the Fair being given in the new auditorium. Much interest was shown by the public and it was a successful event, being attended on one evening

by His Honour The Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Matthews. Decorations, arrangement of booths and other essential matters were taken care of by our own staff, whose contribution is sincerely appreciated. A minute in the December meeting of the Board reads as follows:

"That the chief librarian be instructed to convey the appreciation of the Board to the Staff who worked so untiringly for the success of the Book Fair, and gave to it so ungrudgingly a large amount of their own time; to the various firms and organizations who loaned free of charge lamps, ventilating fans, furniture, show-cases, and exhibits; and to the speakers and chairmen who contributed to the lectures."

The lease of the Down-town Branch expired towards the end of 1937 and on its renewal it was arranged that a linoleum floor-covering should be laid without expense to the Board and that the rental should be decreased by $200.00 per annum.

Estimates for 1938 as settled with City Council were fixed at $486,061 which on the basis of population of the preceding year, 648,309, meant a per capita provision of 74.9c. or say 75c. While this appropriation is well above the obligatory statutory rate of fifty cents, it is well below the dollar per capita which the Council of the City may allow.

One notes with satisfaction the interest taken by the members of the staff in the Ontario Library Association, the American Librarian Association and their own intra-mural Association. Such interests keep one alive and responsive both within and without, enlarge the vision, increase the capacity for usefulness and prevent premature obsolescence.

Trends in adult reading indicate a distinct swing from fictional to factual material. Books on travel and biography and books written in foreign languages are in ever-increasing demand. The use of reference books is steadily growing. All of this indicates the success of the deliberate effort being made to increase the usefulness of the library in the life of the community and to make the community library conscious. The slogan "If it's in print, ask the Library" is striking a responsive note in the minds of the citizens. It is hoped that persons who want information in a hurry will overcome their diffidence at asking for it over the telephone, for that sort of service is also being developed and telephone inquiries are welcomed.

The longer one is associated with the work that goes on in the library and the courteous, capable service that is rendered by the librarians, the more one is impressed with the far-reaching possibilities of the library as an element in the social and educational advancement of the people.

I have had an enjoyably busy year. When I consider the radical changes that the Board has made in the frame-work of the organization, I know that I have had the support and confidence and patience of my colleagues. For this and for the loyal support and efficient services of each officer and each member of the Staff, I am sincerely grateful.

On behalf of the Board,
January 30th, 1939.

J. C. M. MacBeth,
Chairman.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LIBRARIAN FOR THE YEAR 1938

To the Members of the Toronto Public Library Board:

The year 1938 has maintained what has, throughout a generation, been something of a tradition—that each year should show reasonable progress over the preceding year.

The circulation for Boys and Girls libraries reached an all time high.

Adult reading continues to move away from fiction. The borrowing of books other than fiction increased during the year by 16.5%, or nearly five times the increase in fiction reading. It cannot be argued that all fiction has inherently a lower value than other books. The world would be no loser if many books in the non-fiction group were never published; on the other hand the novel to-day provides one of the accepted means by which social, political and religious problems are seriously discussed, whilst some of the widely read recent novels faithfully present a wide sweep of historical knowledge.

But along with the continued movement of reading habits towards books other than fiction, there is a definite evidence, within fiction reading itself, of a decrease in effortless time-killing book-consumption. On both sides the value of the library to the City increases year by year.

The divisional reports which follow later in this publication show to what a wide extent professional librarianship is now reaching out, not in one but in many directions, in its efforts to "make books vital" in the community; they indicate a staff placing at the disposal of the book-using public not only a high standard of knowledge and experience, but an additional personal contribution of time and effort which cannot be measured in "library hours",—the true spirit of librarianship inspired by a faith in its job. These statements of the work of the colleagues of the chief librarian could not fail to create a feeling of pride and of renewed inspiration. If the phrases might be so used, there is a "vitalism" of service which a "mechanism" could never offer.

One cannot escape the sincere conviction, therefore, that in each division of our work the year 1938 records a stride forward on solid ground; one that has never been surpassed in the years of successive progress which make the story of the Toronto Public Libraries.

We believe that never before have we reached such a high level in the contact between personnel and public; in the real value of the contribution of the libraries to outside organizations; in justifiable attempts to meet the needs of readers with a minimum of inconvenience to themselves. Many illustrations of developments in these directions are given in the divisional reports. The extension of the telephone service is only one of a number of innovations during the year. To the casual observer it may seem an obvious step, but the substantial addition to the work of even one individual Branch Library is indicative of the general increase of work now being carried by the staff.

The success of the Book Fair exceeded our most optimistic expectations. It was reached only by a "build-up" through months of hard work, during which the staff gave unsparingly of time, thought, and energy. Undiminished service was carried on in all departments both throughout the months of preparation and during the exhibition week itself. Such an additional burden added to duties which are already heavy tells its own tale of the sacrifice of what ought to have been leisure hours. It was an inspiring achievement by a co-operative effort in which everyone joined. It should be added that

the contribution of the specialized knowledge of librarians of to-day was reflected not only in the careful selection of the books, but also in the assistance so willingly given, at every booth and throughout every hour the Book Fair was open, by a staff who *know* books.

As the chairman of the Board has stated, the establishment of a new curriculum in the schools aims to build education upon books. It has brought a development which the libraries welcome, but it is proving a big problem to try and adapt the library service to the new situation. We are rapidly reaching a point where a discussion of the whole case with the education authorities may be necessary. The addition to the load carried by the Boys and Girls Division and the Circulation Division is shown in the detailed reports of those divisions. The statements justify serious attention.

This great access of demand for both books and service has so far been met without increase of book provision or increase in personnel. Neither is possible under our own present finances. Some readjustment appears inevitable, because the load itself continues to increase.

The report of the Reference Division also shows the extended services of the year. Throughout all branches of our work we are trying to develop the idea, referred to by the chairman of the Board: "if it is in print, ask the library." In the Reference Library alone the telephone enquiries amounted approximately to 10,000 in the year. It is becoming a practical impossibility to find time-space on existing lines to telephone back to enquirers the information required and at the same time leave any line open for incoming requests, and additional telephone facilities are a pressing necessity.

Another addition to our service is provided by the photography department which has produced films or enlargements of 1367 pages or illustrations from books, and 64 reproductions of pictures in the John Ross Robertson Collection. This new service instituted during the year is rapidly expanding in its use by illustrators, students, and research workers.

We are also making a definite effort to render the manuscript collection of the Reference Division more accessible for research purposes. The library possesses an extensive and invaluable collection of manuscripts. A librarian is now specialising

in surveying and arranging the collection, and it is hoped during the coming year to initiate some publication in the form of check lists, calendars, or even complete transcripts of significant groups of material.

Side by side with these new developments there has gone on a steady improvement of our internal organisation that is known only to ourselves. Month by month, the book-market covering selected topics has been winnowed for a basic selection which would best answer the needs of the user. Lists were circulated to all libraries and the book-stocks throughout the system have been systematically overhauled and built up in one subject after another. This may sound like a simple routine job; in execution it involves moving a mountain of work. These lists have been further extended to keep all Branch Libraries informed of books which are available within the system even though not immediately housed at the particular branch. This in turn has led to a further extension of the use of the Interloan system by which any book is sent to any branch library upon request, and over 18,000 such requests were handled in the year. Thus does one service involve another service.

Choosing only the foregoing points from the many which are set out in the detailed reports which follow, the chief librarian would fail in his responsibility if he did not stress the fact that the progress of the year is due not to increased finances having made an extended staff available for the undertaking of additional work, but to the members of a non-expanding library personnel having carried an increased and an increasing individual burden.

LINKING HANDCRAFTS AND BOOKS:
One of the many booths at the Book Fair held in December by the Toronto Public Libraries.

The details of the use of books during the year are given herewith:

	1938	*1937*
Reference, including government documents, patent specifications, maps	**326,453**	**303,429**
Adult Circulating Libraries		
1. Central	410,357	391,204
2. Danforth	187,155	181,293
3. Northern	183,071	164,296
4. High Park	171,273	161,929
5. Deer Park	170,503	153,192
6. Down Town	164,509	146,592
7. Earlscourt	155,824	149,487
8. Runnymede	150,507	139,774
9. Yorkville	144,834	123,943
10. Bloor & Gladstone	140,978	130,627
11. Beaches	135,643	122,342
12. Eastern	118,767	109,343
13. Riverdale	116,360	100,149
14. Gerrard	103,064	100,588
15. Wychwood	99,966	88,165
16. Western	86,551	83,353
17. Queen & Lisgar	85,002	77,484
Music	23,062	20,952
	2,647,426	**2,444,713**
Boys & Girls Libraries		
1. Boys & Girls House	120,055	91,297
2. Earlscourt	84,522	64,181
3. Danforth	74,865	54,295
4. Gerrard	74,563	49,472
5. Eastern	68,417	50,454
6. Bloor & Gladstone	68,188	50,470
7. Northern	65,532	46,794
8. Western	61,295	42,320
9. Riverdale	54,409	44,026
10. Queen & Lisgar	50,781	35,271
11. Beaches	46,106	36,662
12. High Park	39,522	28,842
13. Runnymede	37,248	29,272
14. Wychwood	33,811	27,290
15. Deer Park	29,909	21,347
16. Yorkville	25,336	20,919
Settlements	72,875	53,155
Schools	248,511	*164,967
	1,255,945	**911,034**
Total	**4,229,824**	**3,659,176**

* Schools closed for five weeks owing to Poliomyelitis.

CHARLES R. SANDERSON.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

THE CIRCULATION DIVISION

"The reasonable attitude is, since we've got this human nature, let's start with it." Perhaps something of the philosophy of Lin Yutang's thought-provoking book "*The Importance of Living*" is influencing the work of the Circulation Division to-day, for reports from all Branches show that the increasing tendency of the librarians is to make the immediate needs and interests of their people the basic factor around which they build up their collection. It is not a new departure for the librarian to study her community, but during 1938, one sees a definite extension of the aim that the various elements in the community should know not only of the existence of the library, but should also know what part of its resources will be of special interest to them. Undoubtedly such a plan means the building of firmer foundations rather than the achieving of quick results in circulation statistics, yet 1938 shows an increase of more than 200,000 book issues over the previous year in this Division.

So many of these attempts to reach out to the community are so definitely a part of the everyday routine that it is only when we sum up the year's work that we realize into how many avenues we have ventured. For instance, the libraries receive continual requests for speakers from various organizations—church, school, club—one Branch alone reporting that they had undertaken 13 such talks during the year.

The Book Fair, in which the Circulation Division co-operated with the other departments of the library was, of course, our major effort in spreading the library gospel. In the spring the Circulation Division was responsible for the selection and arrangement of a booth of Gardening Books at the International Flower Show; and in December a display of Handcraft Books was made at the Royal Winter Fair, in co-operation with the Canadian Handcraft Association. Two branches of the Y.W.C.A. asked for displays at their "Open House" evenings. The Second Mile Club, whose membership consists of those who have "graduated from youth," requested a display of books demonstrating "*Reading is a Hobby*" at

their annual meeting and hobby exhibition. Various Home and School Clubs have sought the co-operation of our librarians in planning displays of Child Psychology books at their meetings. Reading and Travel and Current Event Clubs perennially seek help from the library in planning their programmes. That this assistance is appreciated is evident from such a note as this from a men's group: "You very kindly wrote a full criticism of the programme chosen by the reading club which I represent—a criticism so full of constructive suggestion that we are looking forward to the best rounded programme of our going career."

It is not a new story that several series of lectures on the Problems of Child Life have again been organized by the library in co-operation with the Home and School Council in a number of the Branches. But while to the librarian this does not seem an original idea yet new parents attend, and the librarian is alert to lead them on to further use of the library, sometimes through Child Psychology books, sometimes through books of general interest. One library found that the circulation of books on Child Psychology tripled as a result of the study course.

Nor is it a new story that Beaches Library Drama League has carried out another successful year and provided an outlet for creative expression on the part of many members of the community in its programme of writing, reading, and production of plays.

In the summer the Central Library planned a vigorous campaign to increase work with the summer school students at the University. Posters were placed in all the men's and women's residences of the University, explaining the library's provision for visitors to the city. As a result the number of visitors' cards issued in July increased by 20%.

A quite different group of people were introduced to library privileges by Yorkville and Queen and Lisgar Branches. Groups of girls from the Home Training Centres in connection with the Government Youth Training Scheme made a special visit to their nearest Branch, where the librarian in charge explained the arrangement of the library to them and showed them something of the possibilities of books. In both cases it worked!

Still another group of lively, interested, potential borrowers—100 boys from the City Camp of the Central Y.M.C.A.—were conducted on a tour of the Central building during their camp period, and greeted with equal enthusiasm the workings of the Bindery, the replica of the King's Coronation Chair, and a talk on recent books for boys!

A practical experiment in community co-operation was successfully carried out by Northern Branch last summer when the librarian in charge suggested to the active Horticultural Society of the district that they might enjoy making an exhibit of flowers grown by their members, in the library each week. A succession of beautiful bouquets was the result, and the circulation of gardening books at this Branch in 1938 was the highest of any of the Branches.

As in former years, attractive and varied book displays in all the libraries have been kept at a high standard. To mention only one of the many—the great interest in Handcraft at the present time, and the willing co-operation of the Canadian Handcraft Association, and of individual craftsmen, has made possible particularly interesting and practical displays in a number of the Branches.

The Poster Pool, which circulated 1,577 posters during the year, added greatly to the success of the display work.

The unceasing energy of the Interloan Department, which handled over 18,000 Branch requests in 1938, is appreciated by every Branch. Because of this extension service a Branch is able to keep in touch with, and satisfy, the more specialized reader, who would otherwise be forced to journey to the Central Library himself—often from the extreme ends of the city—in search of required information.

The introduction of an extended telephone service in ten of the Branches is one of the most important departures of 1938 in reaching out to the community. Limited staff has made it seem wise to promote the extension of its use by degrees, yet the appreciation shown by the public of this new convenience is already evident. High Park Branch writes: "Just how valuable such an extended service is becomes obvious when in one night we verified data for two men seeking facts to include in articles they were writing for the newspaper and which had to be mailed that night; verified the source of two

lines of verse in one of Shaw's plays which the borrower wanted to use in his speech; supplied dates for material being used in a debate; gave publisher and price of a book that could not be obtained downtown and had to be mailed to England the next day. This service is all the more valuable because time was a matter of importance in each case."

Another aspect is revealed in a comment made by the Central Library: "The experience with telephone renewals has added to our circulation, and most of all has helped to establish the feeling that we are willing to co-operate with our borrowers to make library membership as simple for them as possible."

One might continue—the opportunities to widen the sphere of library service are restricted only by the limitation of money, and the resultant limitations of staff, books and equipment. There is still another definite point in which a number of Branches continually regret restrictions. At least six Branches situated near the city limits are daily faced with the unfortunate situation of having to refuse the use of the library to county residents who are unable to pay the required fee for non-residents. The *need* of the people is incontrovertible.

Now that the production of books for "the man on the street" is becoming more and more an accepted fact, perhaps we are beginning to take for granted that we continue to supply the craftsmen with a supplement to his tools, the business man with new suggestions of up-to-date methods, and the "average man" with readable books on the affairs of the world. In any case, the demand continues, and in spite of systematic efforts to build up an adequate, well-balanced stock, the demand still exceeds the supply.

The circulation of "*Useful Arts*" shows an increase of 21% over the circulation of that class in 1937. Another group of future technical leaders were recently given an introduction to the library's resources when all the first year students from the School of Practical Science at the University were conducted in small groups through the Central Library building. The visit of the undergraduates was followed up by the Faculty placing an hour's lecture period at the disposal of the Chief Librarian for a talk on "general reading" to the entire freshman year of over 300 students. And again we are able to

report as a result new registration and a greater use of scientific books.

International problems! With increasing interest men and women continue to study the conditions and problems confronting our own and other countries. The circulation of books on Sociology has increased by 17% during the past year, and the circulation of History by 16%. To even keep up with the obvious books published in these classes is no small task; to select impartially, and to represent all points of view is one of the major responsibilities of the librarian.

And yet—the practical, the informational, the utilitarian, represent only one side of a library's function. It has been reported that "a wise man" once said: "Let me make the songs of a people, and you shall make its laws," and since the world's era of material and scientific advancement seems to have so far brought only turmoil in its wake, it may very well be that it remains for the idealist to turn the balance. Surely the library should give leadership to such a movement. One wonders if the fact that the largest increase in any class of our circulation this year — an increase of 25% in the "*Fine Arts*" class—is some slight indication of a new trend, again a reconsideration of ancient wisdom, that in addition to bread, we must have "hyacinths to feed the soul." Undoubtedly the past year has brought a growing interest in musical appreciation, a renewed urge for poetry, a constant demand for art books, a new consciousness of the artistic possibilities of photography.

Is there another aspect of the same tendency in the "interest in ideas" which one librarian feels lies behind the requests of her borrowers—"not for a selected book, but an opportunity to check up on related books with someone who will be able to point out the book's real significance?"

If in some phases of our work the best course to follow seems to be a continued development along lines already laid down, in our contact with 'teen age boys and girls, a little advance in the field only reveals the vast extent of the territory yet to be conquered. If Youth seems to claim an undue share of the Circulation Division report, that is the reason. Here is its challenge—"More and more the intermediate readers are demanding experience, social problems, and creative writing

in their books." How can we pass on to them an enthusiasm and appreciation for books without destroying the much to be desired urge to find out for themselves?

While in every Branch special attention is given to older boys and girls, a concentrated study of their demands has been continued by a committee of Circulation Division librarians who are especially interested in 'teen age readers. As a result three bookmarks, "*Men Against Death*", "*Girls Who Did*", "*Horizons*", and an annotated booklet, "*Biography and Travel*", have been prepared for recreational reading.

The possibilities of the new curriculum now in use in the lower forms of the High Schools are becoming increasingly evident. Provision of material and its most satisfactory distribution is an imminent problem. Since the curriculum definitely directs the student to the library, it seems obvious that the most economical method of book buying for this part of the work can only be achieved by some system of co-operation with the Board of Education. The librarian in charge of the Kipling Room states her problem—"the reference work, greatly increased by the adoption of the new curriculum, is making large demands on time, space, and ingenuity, and there is a great need for formal training of the students in the use of books and the library." One step towards this formal training is being taken by an increasing number of Branches when each June they invite the Public School classes that are about to enter High School to visit the Adult Department of the library. One library reports that eleven classes received instruction in this way in June 1938; another was visited by 285 pupils and 6 teachers. Gerrard Branch tell of their project—"Each class came for about an hour, and after being instructed in the use of the catalogue and the location of the books on the shelves, every pupil was given a slip of paper on which had been written a title, author, or subject to look up in the catalogue, and locate on the shelf. This proved to be almost a game at which each tried to excel. It has been a satisfaction since then to have a boy or girl reject an offer of help with the remark: "Oh, I know where to look. I was here that morning, you know."

Of course the usual co-operation with the schools continues. The library tries to provide the kind of book for Sup-

plementary Reading that will engender in the student an enthusiasm for reading and an appreciation of literature that will carry over into his adult life. Western Branch refers to "a bibliography prepared on "*Letters Through The Ages*", including not only our own books on the form and types of letters, but also famous letters of notable people available at the Branch and through Interloan. It was used in connection with a fourth form English course which combined class-room instruction and supplementary reading in a most interesting way. Each student, theoretically, was taking a trip abroad—business letters to steamship agents, social letters to friends and hostesses, description of places visited, and novels with a setting in the British Isles, were all part of the course."

Even apart from the work with the schools "circulating reference work" increases steadily. In the Music Library, in readers' advisory work, throughout the Branches, the development continues. Concrete proof of the amount of work accomplished is elusive, but the record kept by Danforth Branch during February, March and April, 1938, reveals something of its scope and extent. A total of 1,254 questions were recorded, and inevitably some were missed in the record. They ranged from "How to keep mice from eating their young", to steam turbines, criticism of George Bernard Shaw's works, upholstery, period furniture, photo-electric cells, silicosis, grafting roses, pacifism, advance of medical science, surrealism, cost accounting, and "causes of weather." At this Branch, during the busy months, two librarians, and sometimes three, were required every evening to give full time to reference work.

Down-town Branch in referring to the growing reference work says: "Three requests this week were for bibliographies, with appraisal of books from circulating stock, on Mexico, Socialized medicine, and the History of Bruges, leading from a reading of Froissart's Chronicles."

Obviously the adequate meeting of such requests demands an increasing awareness of the life going on around her, and an increasing urge to read on the part of the librarian. Staff meetings, the Book Talk Group, and the Discussion Club give opportunities for some formal practice and expression, but behind it all lies the constant striving which is inevitably part of the daily life of every circulation librarian.

ANNIE M. WRIGHT.

REPORT OF THE REFERENCE DIVISION
1938

The year 1938 was an exceptionally busy one in the Reference Division of the Library—a record if one judged only by the marked increase in our statistics, and it gives us much pleasure to say that we consider it as being the most successful and progressive one in all the branches of our service for many years.

It is gratifying to note that the number of our patrons is growing steadily, as is also their appreciation of the efforts of the staff to meet their many needs and demands efficiently and satisfactorily. We find that the general public is using the resources of the Reference Library more and more to gain information on questions of practical importance in their every day lives.

As usual our service to the public is not strictly confined to the patrons of our own municipality, for many letters come to us from outside sources, from the Old Country, United States, and throughout Canada, and occasionally from as far afield as Australia and South Africa, requesting information on subjects particularly regarding Canadiana, which they cannot find to any extent in their local libraries. It is rarely that they fail to receive some assistance from our resources.

Activities in regard to the telephone service have been greatly increased during the past year. This phase of our work is, of course, of great assistance and importance to the public seeking information required at a time when it may not be convenient to make a visit to the Reference Library. A slight idea of the labour entailed through this service may be had by stating that 9,457 phone calls were received and answered during 1938, an increase of 1,295 over the previous year. These calls have not merely to be received, but in almost all cases the inquirers have afterwards to be rung up by the librarians to give the required information when it is found. This increase in the number of our telephone calls in 1938 has accentuated the over-crowded condition of our lines. It is difficult to get the answer telephoned back, and also people complain that they cannot get our line because it is always busy.

In view of these facts we would suggest that a telephone in the Hallam Room has become an absolute necessity, as it would relieve a certain amount of this trouble, and would also save time for both librarian and inquirer.

In March of 1938 the Government Documents, patents, and clipping files, were moved to the Hallam Room of Technical Literature, along with the removal of many books on technical subjects from the Reference stock-room. This change has proved of much advantage and convenience to our readers, as will be seen from the report given. "There has been a large increase in the use of Government Documents for the year 1938, a larger number of reports relating to Government, industry, production and business were consulted,and statistical data was supplied to more research workers and business men than in former years. Special reports such as Briefs presented to the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial relations, together with reports of Special and Standing Committees of the House of Commons were in much demand. The current file of newspaper clippings was again indispensable, and supplied information on recent topics not obtainable elsewhere. Among the technical material required was information on designs in metal work, methods of applying wall paper, cardboard looms for teaching school children weaving, automatic sprinkler system, collotype printing, ammonia absorption machine for refrigeration, manufacture of erasers, Bauxite method of producing aluminum, "skin effect", a term used in electric transmission, grease traps, type faces; answers to all of which were supplied. Statistics show that 13,857 technical books were used from March 17th, 1938, to the end of the year. Government Documents used during 1938 numbered 53,921, making a total of 67,778 for the Hallam Technical Room."

In relation to our Map Collection is the following interesting note: "The Map Collection has continued to make its special contribution to the work of the Reference Division in providing particular facts which are not readily available in books. An outstanding example of detailed information which is quickly discernible from maps is found in a recent gift to the Library, the Atlas of Finland. The Geographical Society of Finland in issuing this third edition has included in its scope

not only the country, its geography, geology, flora and fauna, but also the people, their activities in agriculture, forestry, mining, manufacturing, trade, even in education, libraries, medical care and politics. Three languages are used in the explanatory notes on each map, Finnish, English, and Swedish. The maps are accompanied by a volume of text of which we have the edition in English.

Several times during the year our reference displays have drawn on the resources of the Map Collection for decorative supplementary material. These items varied in extent from a plan of a small area of our own city, to a map of the world as a whole; some located the settings of books; some disclosed the lure of travel; while others depicted the ever popular subject of local history."

Microphotography which is a new and interesting feature of work in the Reference Library has developed rapidly. "Many fiims have been added to the Reference Department during the year, of which 432 belong to a series that will eventually include reproductions of all books printed in the English language before 1550. The camera and enlarger which were installed late in 1937 have proved very satifactory. Reproductions of illustrations, maps, pictures from the J. Ross Robertson Historical Collection, manuscripts and articles from magazines and books have been made in response to orders from the public. Valuable historical material not available in the Library has been borrowed and reproduced for our own files."

Special exhibits shown in the Display case during the past year included the art of China; Peasant Europe; a collection of flower prints; views of old Ontario loaned by the John Ross Robertson Gallery; views of the Canadian National Exhibition during the sixty years of its history; a collection of books and fine maps depicting Canada and its present day problems; plates showing fashion to-day and yesterday; book illustration; nature photography; accounts and pictures illustrating Christmas in Canada from the days of the Vikings of the Flatey Book to modern times.

The preparation of the annual Canadian Catalogue of Books published in Canada was carried on during the year. We expect the 1938 issue to be published early in the Spring.

We are again co-operating in the work in connection with the Subscription Books Bulletin.

It is a pleasure to mention that three members of our staff completed the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Library Science at the University of Toronto, namely Elizabeth W. Loosley, Margaret Davidson and Ruth McKenzie.

The number of books issued by the Division during 1938 was 326,453, an increase of 23,024 over 1937.

Donations received during the year were 1,604, of which 229 were bound and 1,375 unbound.

The number of new books added to the Reference Library was 3,386 of which 326 were bound periodicals; 394 pamphlets and 123 patents were added.

The total number of books in the Reference Library at the end of 1938 was 165,046.

FRANCES M. STATON.

THE BOYS AND GIRLS DIVISION

The circulation of books in the Boys and Girls Division reached an "all high" record in 1938 of 1,255,945. This figure is a quarter of a million higher than that reached in any previous year in our history, and accounted for sixty per cent of the increase in the library's total circulation. The impetus given by the new course of school studies has been sustained through the entire year and gives every indication of permanence now that the phase of spectacular increases has passed.

As well as the statistical increase there is a marked outspread of the field of interest in what the library has to offer. School principals and teachers who until now have only partially availed themselves of library services are now making the fullest use of them. This is true not only of the public schools but of the separate schools also, among whose principals and teachers we number some of our most enthusiastic and faithful library friends.

If the influx of boys and girls has filled the children's rooms to the bursting point, it has also emptied the library's shelves until finding enough books to go around has become an acute problem. Last year a large proportion of our appropriation

was spent for books needed to meet the unprecedented demand for "Social studies". These books were not in any sense "school texts" or "supplementary reading" but were selected by us for their power to enrich the subjects in the new course of studies. They have been enthusiastically received by both children and teachers and are read by many even when they are not actually studying the particular subject around which they are written. Numbers of children are following up everything that can be found about Marco Polo, Julius Caesar, Drake, races of men, and undersea life. Their imagination is caught by Egyptian picture writing and by Eskimo igloos. They haunt the library for books about Switzerland and China and Norway. Every book on the stars is seized as a prize. There is undoubtedly a spirit of interest and enthusiasm among the children; the library is its centre and it is definitely worth while to be able to meet their interests and carry them further.

But there is another side to it from the library standpoint. To supply factual and informative material is one of the Public Library's legitimate functions, but the Library Children's Room has another and more important aim. We want to stimulate and develop in boys and girls a desire to read for the pleasure of reading, to provide them with books as real and as important to their mental world as the people they know in real life. We want them to have for friends, Mowgli and Robinson Crusoe and Jim Davis, to exult in the heroic deeds of Roland and Beowulf and Grettir the Strong, and to feel the moving beauty and subtlety of Bambi and the Three Mulla Mulgars. We want to give them books of the kind and quality of these, that are a foretaste of that love for books and reading that gives a lifetime of pleasure.

How this ideal is to be attained has given us pause in the midst of the general clamour for help with school projects. It is unfortunate that in the interests of peace and quiet those who clamour loudest usually have their wants attended to, while the others pursue their unguided way through the children's room shelves.

There are in the children's rooms at this time a great many children who have never come to the library before, and who come now only through pressure of school projects. They

have not been readers in the past but they may, if the right book is found, be readers in the future. About two months ago a boy of fourteen came to Boys and Girls House. He had never had a library card and after some talk it became evident he had never read a book through. He took home Stevenson's Kidnapped and on returning it asked for "another book by this fellow" and took home Treasure Island. He has read steadily and widely ever since, and last week he was overheard recommending "*The Black Arrow*" to a friend as a "neat" book. Boys and Girls who come to the library, as this boy came, because the change of curriculum calls for information outside of texts and not because they are impelled by the urge to read, constitute a challenge and an opportunity. Whether these children become readers of books or not, it seems to us they should have the opportunity of finding books to their hand which will attract them by a persuasive format, arresting illustrations and with all the ensnaring qualities of a good story, well told. If the boy of whom I have spoken had not found Kidnapped in a binding in which the action begins on the cover and continues in the dashing coloured pictures by Wyeth, if he had gone away with only his school demands satisfied, he might never have come back. Instead he has discovered that the library is a reservoir of unguessed pleasure, and not only a utility to dispense information.

If we could only have enough copies of books that would intrigue these children as they glance casually over the shelves, books with an immediate appeal such as "*Merrylips*", "*The Good Master*", "*The Princess and the Goblin*", "*Escape to Persia*", "*We Never meant to go to Sea*", and many other delightful books; books provided in sufficient numbers so that the children would happen on them when the pressure of crowds makes it unlikely that a librarian will find an opportunity to introduce them personally there would be established between these new borrowers and the library a faith in it and a friendliness toward it that would go a long way toward making these casual borrowers into real readers. It seems that the schools have provided us with this unusual opportunity, one which we should not miss. And yet with the crying need for books in all classes, particularly history and nature study, with the desperate struggle to supply enough little children's books

and picture books (one children's librarian reports that she received 150 new picture books in 1938 and that her *increase* in circulation of picture books was over 5,000) and when money spent on any class of books is at the expense of every other class, it seems almost impossible to save enough from our budget for extra copies of books of this sort even though it would be so rewarding an investment. These are extraordinary circumstances, and perhaps extraordinary measures should be taken in order to take advantage of them.

The adult clientele of the children's rooms is growing in numbers until they constitute an interesting and important phase of the work of many children's rooms. Parents, teachers, all sorts of workers with children, are almost a new public, alert and intelligent, many of them cognizant of the world of books, interested in children's books from both their literary and artistic values, and alive to new trends in literature and art. They read about children's books in literary reviews of both sides of the Atlantic, and ask for these books before they are published, anxious that their children shall not miss the most significant and outstanding contemporary writing and illustration produced for them to-day. The problems that have arisen in dealing with unprecedented numbers and the pressure of new demands from our public, big and little, has forced us to reorganize ourselves, our time, our methods and technique in order to utilize to the utmost all our resources of book supply and staff to handle adequately these large groups of children.

The emphasis on internal organization has meant that there has been very little extension of our activities but rather an intensive concentration on what was to hand. Because of this we hope that 1938 has contributed to the building of a solid foundation on which to build our efforts in eager, if somewhat apprehensive, anticipation of 1939.

LILLIAN H. SMITH.

CATALOGUING DIVISION

The year 1938 was a busy one for the Cataloguing Division. A detailed description of our work is too highly technical for inclusion in a report but we hope that the users of our catalogues will find them of greater help as a result of our labours.

By the end of March, the 201 volumes in the Wood "Rasselas collection" were catalogued. In each case we indicated whether or not the edition could be found in Courtney's Bibliography. A set of 267 catalogue cards for this collection and a transcription of some twenty title pages were sent to the University of Rochester.

Two very interesting requests came to us during the year. The first was for our co-operation in assigning subjects to 77 titles in the Union list of serials. The periodicals allocated to us were very old ones, to many of which subjects had not previously been given. The second request was for a list of our holdings of the publications of the Ontario Government since Confederation. As many of our entries under Ontario Province, were of long standing we felt that a complete checking of some 556 entries was advisable. In both cases our own catalogue has benefited by the research.

To the Reference catalogue we have added material on 251 subjects not previously represented in that file. The 1,832 new titles added bring our material on many other subjects up to date.

The regular cataloguing of new books for the Circulation Division proceeded as usual. Among other things done for this Division three stand out. At Beaches and High Park the catalogues were revised, and a section of 90 drawers was added to the Central catalogue. When the books from Hallam Kipling were removed to the Kipling room it was necessary to transfer the cards for these books to the Kipling catalogue and to type similar cards for inclusion in the Central catalogue. Finally the cataloguing of fiction was discontinued at the end of September and cards for all books of fiction were removed from the catalogues.

In June, J. Eldred Fulton and Sadie I. Marston received the degree of Bachelor of Library Science of the University of Toronto; the project submitted being "A first survey of material on Indian folk-tales and legends of Ontario"

"TOWARDS A NEW WORLD"

Linking together the books presenting the modern approach in Economics, Politics, Science, Music, Art, and Thought. One of the many booths at the Book Fair held in December by the Toronto Public Libraries.

Tabulated Statistics

Circulation Division;

New Titles Catalogued:		
Classed	3,085	
Fiction	448	
Foreign	315	
Music	251	
Total number		4,009
Books catalogued		30,823
Books transferred from Branches to Central		2,100
Cards filed in catalogues		90,661

Of these 22,892 were filed in Central catalogue.

Reference Division;

New titles catalogued	1,670
Books catalogued	3,992
Pamphlets catalogued	412
Library of Congress cards used	3,365
Cards filed in catalogue	38,322

Hallam Room;

New titles catalogued for Drama Collection	88
Books catalogued	328
Cards filed in catalogue	1,156
Telephone enquiries answered	1,425

Gertrude M. Boyle.

THE REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT

The Registration ship has reached port safely after a very busy year, coming into port with increases in all branches of the work.

New registrations during 1938:		
Adult borrowers	22,283	
Juvenile borrowers	17,431	
Total for year		39,714
Unexpired transfers from Juvenile Department		564
Transfers from Juvenile to Adult department		3,332
Postcard notices of books overdue		34,268
Borrowers notices of books overdue		16,970
Renewed applications		24,351
Renewed filled cards		31,417
Lost cards returned		7,868
Changes of address		13,290
Cards cancelled for fines		2,485
Applications cancelled and removed from files		321
Medical Health Office slips issued		110
Books taken by Medical Health Office		548
Books collected		1,288
Total registration at December 31, 1938		181,754

Ada E. Ruse.

THE JOHN ROSS ROBERTSON HISTORICAL COLLECTION AND THE LOAN PICTURE COLLECTION

In 1938 over 13,000 people visited the John Ross Robertson Gallery, a considerable increase over the number of visitors in 1937, and 1,100 people saw the exhibit during the week of the Book Fair when the collection was on view until 10 o'clock each evening. A number of classes of school children visited the gallery this year, and displayed particular interest in the pictures dealing with the early French explorers. During the latter months of the year an exhibit of views and pictures relating to the history of Ontario and Quebec has been on display, and has proved of great interest to visitors. The work of repairing the pictures has continued, and we now have had a number of the frames regilded, and 2,244, or more than half the collection, rebacked. A number of pictures have been photographed by the Reference Department for reproduction purposes, and this service will continue to find favour with authors and publishers.

The Loan Picture Collection loaned 131,278 clippings this year, an increase of more than 20,000 over 1937. On November 9th, 6,473 pictures were in circulation as compared to 4,344 on the same day last year. Although the collection now contains 229,559 items, we are still unable to meet the demands of the number of teachers wishing identical subjects at the same time. We are concentrating on building up the files on those subjects which are taught at a stated time each year.

ELSPETH SMITH.

THE BINDERY AND BOOK REPAIR DEPARTMENT

Over one thousand more books were repaired or rebound in 1938 than in 1937, and there was an increase of more than three thousand in the number of books stamped and numbered. The total number of books handled by the department relative to the total expenditures indicates that the cost per book was slightly lower than in 1937.

Files of Reference Division periodicals, the binding of which was held in abeyance during the years of depression,

are now being bound at the rate of fifteen or so each month together with a like number of current volumes. It is expected that the close of 1939 will see the arrears completed.

This Department also played its part at the time of the Book Fair. Its activities were entirely back-stage, and therefore the generous recognition of its work was much appreciated.

	Circulation	*Reference*	*Miscellaneous*	*Total*
Books repaired	27,498	266	26	27,790
Books rebound	10,765	96	—	10,861
New books bound	681	193	65	939
Periodicals bound	197	326	—	523
Pamphlets covered	117	50	8	175
New books stamped	7,738	2,924	—	10,662
Old books stamped	9,166	—	—	9,166
Books discarded	516	—	—	516

TERENCE W. BARCLAY.

THE DRAMATIC CLUB

The year 1938 was a highly successful one.

The committee of the Drama Festival asked us to take charge of the ushering during Festival Week at Hart House. Eight of our members were on duty each evening.

In April the Club presented an evening of plays, which consisted of "Let it go at that" by Essex Dane, a play for seven women in one act. It was directed by our very good friend Miss Doris Dignum. The play was followed by an amusing skit, "The wives of Henry VIII", by the authors of "1066 and all that", and directed by Miss Marjorie Jarvis.

We were again invited to present our play at the Ontario Library Association's annual conference in May.

During December we put on a short Christmas play at the Christmas party of the Toronto Public Library Association.

At the annual meeting of the Club in October, the following officers were elected; Irene Belcher, president; Lillias Alexander, vice-president; Valentine Barrow, secretary; Judith St. John, treasurer.

MARJORIE JARVIS,
President, 1938.

DOROTHY THOMAS,
Secretary, 1938.

THE LIBRARY CLUB

The year 1938 has been an active one at the Library Club House. Four committee meetings were held during the year.

13,393 meals were served during 1938, an increase of 998 over 1937, and 96 parties were catered for, 8 more than in the previous year.

The delegates to the Ontario Library Association Convention in May were invited to make use of the Club House and dinner was served to 89 on the Monday, before the evening session.

A special dinner was served on St. Patrick's Day, and a combination Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner the end of November, both of which were very popular.

During Book Fair week the dining room was kept open until 8 o'clock for the convenience of the library staff and considerable entertaining was done, with guests going on to the Book Fair.

In addition to minor repairs and renovations, the front hall and stairway were re-papered and painted, and a chair and footstool in the hall were re-upholstered, adding greatly to the attractiveness of the Club House.

General Account

Receipts		Expenditures	
Balance on hand Jan. 16, 1938	$225.05	Wages	$1,942.10
Fees	660.00	Food	2,974.31
Meals	4,106.00	Petty Expenses	124.47
Parties	409.91	Telephone and Renovating	84.29
L. C. Sales	156.10	Gas	163.85
Sundries	5.45	Laundry	111.36
Bank Interest	1.20		
			$5,400.38
		Balance (Cash in Bank)	163.33
	$5,563.71		$5,563.71

Capital Account

Receipts		Expenditures	
Balance in bank as of Jan. 16, 1938	$827.50	Balance in Dominion Bank as of Jan. 15, 1939	$831.60
Bank Interest	4.10		
	$831.60		$831.60

WINNIFRED HARKNESS, *Convener, 1938.*

HELEN TAMMARO, *Treasurer, 1938.*

THE TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Toronto Public Library Association held four meetings during the past year. The first meeting took the form of a reception at which our guests of honour were Mr. MacBeth, honorary president of the Association, and Mrs. MacBeth, and Mr. and Mrs. Sanderson. We were also pleased to welcome several members of the Library Board to our meeting. The exhibit of rare books from the collection of the Reference Library was shown in the Auditorium, and Miss Staton's delightful talk about the display created much interest. Other meetings held during the year have included one business meeting, a Christmas party held at the Staff House, and the annual meeting at which three members of the library staff gave brief accounts of various aspects of library work.

A questionnaire was prepared and sent to the members of the Association in regard to the form of meetings desired by the majority of those interested. The results of the questionnaire are to be passed on to the incoming executive for consideration in preparing the programme for the coming year.

The work of Miss Forman as convenor of the George H. Locke Memorial Scholarship Committee is nearing its end. Miss Forman and her committee have worked arduously and deserve great credit. Our objective has already been reached, but the fund will be kept open and it is hoped that the capital fund will be further increased in order that the value of the award may be greater. It is hoped that it will be possible to make the first award within the coming year.

The sincere appreciation of the Association is due also to Miss MacMillan and the members of the Committee on Salaries, who have worked faithfully in the interests of our Association. We regret their decision to resign and in accepting their resignation we would like to thank them for the distinguished way in which they have carried on their work over a long period of time.

We have to report a slight increase in membership, and a balance in the treasury which permitted us to donate Fifty Dollars from the Association to the George H. Locke Memorial Fund.

The Association has maintained its association with var-

ious women's organizations including the Local Council of Women, the League of Nations Society, the Inter-Professional Association, and the Home and School Council.

The president for the coming year is Miss Mary Finch.

JEAN THOMSON,
President, 1938.

ELIZABETH W. LOOSLEY,
Secretary, 1938.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY 14, 1939.

RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURES		
Cash on hand	$1.41	Home and School Council fees		$2.00
Balance in bank, Jan. 11, 1938	55.76	Local Council of Women fees		5.00
Grant from Library Board for new supplies	25.00	Expenses *re* Association meetings		58.56
Receipts for the year	225.65	Flowers		31.00
Bank interest	.25	Gifts		15.00
		New Supplies		28.00
		Petty Expenses		25.49
				$165.05
		Cash on hand, Jan. 14, 1939	$1.25	
		Balance in bank, Jan, 14, 1939	141.77	
				143.02
	$308.07			$308.07

MARTHA SHEPARD,
Treasurer, 1938.

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, MANUSCRIPTS

Book Stock at December, 1937:			
Circulating Libraries		429,641	
Reference Libraries:			
Reference Library	141,994		
Patents	16,652		
Hallam Room	1,679		
John Ross Robertson Room	69		
		160,394	
			590,035
Additions during 1938:			
Circulating Libraries		77,341	
Reference Libraries:			
Reference Library	4,404		
Patents	123		
Hallam Room	308		
John Ross Robertson Room	1		
		4,836	
			82,177
Deductions during 1938:			
Circulating Libraries:			
Lost and paid for	366		
Taken by Medical Health Dept	577		
Otherwise withdrawn and written off	61,479		
		62,422	
Reference Libraries:			
Reference Library, withdrawn	28		
Hallam Room, withdrawn	32		
		60	
			62,482
Book Stock at December, 1938:			
Circulating Libraries		444,560	
Reference Libraries:			
Reference Library	146,370		
Patents	16,775		
Hallam Room	1,955		
John Ross Robertson Room	70		
		165,170	
			609,730

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

For the year ended 31st December, 1938

RECEIPTS

Balance as per Statement, December 31st, 1937	$6,142.74	
Less 1937 Commitments	5,922.94	
		$219.80
Tickets	$5,887.73	
Fines	15,268.90	
Books Lost	203.42	
Books Damaged	102.12	
Reserve Service	730.73	
Duplicate Service Surplus—after providing $897.15 for books on order	82.37	
Canadian Catalogues Sold	92.08	
Robertson's "Landmarks" Sold	49.00	
Book Lists for Boys and Girls	7.50	
Canadian Bibliography	32.39	
Waste Paper	53.45	
Magazines Sold from Files	5.60	
Use of Assembly Hall	75.00	
Rent of Church Street Building	1.00	
Special Service to Readers	134.63	
Packing Charges	173.60	
Legislative Grant	2,425.34	
Bank Interest	60.97	
		25,385.83
City's Library Appropriation		486,061.00
1939 Revenue Received in Advance (Rent of Auditorium for January)		10.00

PAYMENTS

Books, Maps, Freight, etc. (Includes 1938 commitments—$4,175.00)	$67,022.94
Newspapers, Magazines and Learned Societies	2,964.14
Salaries and Wages (including Occasional Assistants)	295,426.90
Bindery and Book Repairs:	
Wages	22,830.88
Supplies and Equipment	2,993.36
Caretaking:	
Wages	38,281.70
Supplies	3,594.49
Maintenance and Repairs:	
Wages	7,974.90
Firemen's Wages	4,559.37
Supplies	5,418.98
Furniture and Equipment	1,200.80
Light	6,333.70
Fuel	7,206.95
Gas	389.26
Water	423.92
Care of Grounds:	
Wages	3,171.77
Supplies and Equipment	436.38
Auto and Truck Service:	
Delivery Service Wages	1,565.00
Maintenance and Repairs	1,338.35
Gas and Oil	209.66
Staff Service	500.00
Printing, Stationery, General Supplies:	
Cataloguing	659.84
J. Ross Robertson and Loan Picture Collection	299.95
Stationery, Forms	3,399.68
Branch and Department Supplies	2,899.51
Printing	1,139.10
Postage	2,149.21
Rent of Branches	5,900.00
Insurance	2,872.44

Telephones		2,750.42	
Petty Expenses		285.34	
Workmen's Compensation Board		632.64	
American Library Association		336.40	
Ontario Library Association		20.00	
Travelling Expenses		123.60	
Bank Charges		267.70	
			$497,579.28
Petty Cash and Change Funds as at December 31st, 1938		$195.00	
Balance in Bank December 31st, 1938		21,381.12	
Sundry Accounts Receivable		5.34	
		$21,581.46	
Less 1938 Commitments as follows:			
Books on order	$4,175.00		
Duplicate Service Books on order	897.15		
Sundry Accounts payable:			
Printing	200.00		
Maintenance and Repairs	111.96		
Fuel	2,100.00		
		7,484.11	
		$14,097.35	
1939 Revenue on hand			10.00
1938 Surplus			14,087.35
			$511,676.63

$511,676.63

TRUST ACCOUNT

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31st December, 1938

RECEIPTS			PAYMENTS		
Balance in Dominion Bank, 1st January, 1938	$610.95		Visitors' Deposits at $3.00 refunded		$ 3.00
General Account for Trust Funds held in General Bank Account as at 1st January, 1938	139.44		Visitors' Deposits at $1.00 and $2.00 each, refunded		384.00
		$750.39	Senator John Lewis Memorial Fund		86.05
Visitors' Deposits at $2.00 each		396.00	Balance in Dominion Bank at 31st December, 1938	$610.95	
Interest *re* Investments from Senator John Lewis Memorial Fund		90.00	General Account for Trust Funds held in General Bank Account, as at 31st December, 1938	155.39	
Bank Interest		3.00			766.34
		$1,239.39			$1,239.39

USE OF BOOKS DURING 1938

	Reference	Central	Beaches	Bloor and Gladstone	Danforth	Deer Park	Downtown	Earlscourt	Eastern	Gerrard	High Park	Northern	Queen and Lisgar	Riverdale	Runnymede	Western	Wychwood	Yorkville	Total
General Works		1,631	335	914	521	553	1,596	575	499	353	715	469	350	401	429	358	124	632	10,455
Philosophy		7,592	1,485	1,383	1,900	2,040	2,570	1,527	1,233	794	1,893	2,058	1,014	1,053	1,608	994	843	1,892	31,879
Psychology		3,334	705	574	811	759	820	767	616	513	599	834	396	486	943	467	693	517	13,834
Religion		6,701	1,024	1,201	1,456	1,455	1,762	1,472	947	533	1,233	1,525	433	956	1,075	837	705	1,085	24,400
Sociology		18,802	4,031	3,632	5,920	4,296	8,146	4,024	2,848	2,623	4,546	5,106	2,517	2,899	4,273	2,756	2,225	5,208	83,852
Language		475	75	76	113	95	329	92	101	82	80	53	69	32	79	36	51	87	1,925
Natural Science		12,437	2,405	2,896	4,636	2,664	3,276	3,183	2,326	1,891	2,787	4,449	1,906	2,414	3,151	1,764	1,517	1,946	55,648
Useful Arts		21,925	4,207	4,931	7,279	4,832	8,401	5,443	4,238	3,980	5,315	5,642	3,255	4,405	4,835	3,711	2,733	4,521	99,653
Engineering		4,148	842	1,182	1,676	710	1,142	1,304	897	1,151	1,190	1,277	708	1,185	848	881	797	586	20,524
Gardening		1,617	678	611	996	600	1,114	811	462	529	461	1,161	215	455	939	419	589	531	12,188
Fine Arts		11,867	2,444	1,640	2,753	2,700	3,101	1,849	1,788	1,495	2,968	2,683	1,292	1,552	2,923	1,490	1,418	1,765	45,728
Music		*23,062	559	960	848	865	877	642	669	385	1,100	875	432	648	588	518	503	582	34,113
Amusements		8,338	2,314	1,867	3,188	2,707	3,019	1,913	1,674	1,594	2,420	3,229	1,287	1,573	2,473	1,347	1,064	1,733	41,740
Literature		13,103	3,121	2,986	3,446	4,482	4,893	2,792	2,382	1,716	3,370	3,848	1,590	2,299	3,221	1,590	1,750	3,597	60,186
Poetry		6,320	677	999	1,348	774	937	893	955	532	690	1,286	563	842	873	652	611	693	19,645
Drama		15,575	1,490	2,314	2,422	2,026	2,002	1,778	1,348	1,021	1,669	2,329	1,825	1,261	2,132	1,196	1,405	1,720	43,513
History		17,921	3,934	3,612	5,896	5,523	5,977	4,408	3,316	2,919	5,045	6,162	2,820	3,516	4,710	2,491	2,635	4,108	84,993
Travel		28,378	7,618	7,554	11,360	11,101	10,772	9,463	6,799	5,778	8,621	12,102	5,231	7,237	9,309	4,962	4,905	9,404	160,594
Biography		38,901	8,302	7,762	12,182	13,984	12,065	8,536	5,793	5,088	9,643	13,186	5,464	6,364	10,391	4,964	6,276	11,427	180,328
Total Non-Fiction		242,127	46,246	47,094	68,751	62,166	72,799	51,472	38,891	32,977	54,345	68,274	31,367	39,578	54,800	31,433	30,844	52,034	1,025,198
Fiction		183,319	89,296	93,622	118,166	107,500	91,427	104,136	79,769	69,915	116,626	114,366	53,267	76,640	95,382	54,904	68,939	92,522	1,609,796
Foreign		7,973	101	262	238	837	283	216	107	172	302	431	368	142	325	214	183	278	12,432
Total Adult		433,419	135,643	140,978	187,155	170,503	164,509	155,824	118,767	103,064	171,273	183,071	85,002	116,360	150,507	86,551	99,966	144,834	2,647,426
Boys and Girls		†192,930	46,106	68,188	74,865	29,909		84,522	68,417	74,563	39,522	65,532	50,781	54,409	37,248	61,295	33,811	25,336	1,007,434
Schools		39,544			23,739	25,515		7,756	10,615	17,148	22,590	26,881	13,330	48,173			4,239	8,981	248,511
Total Boys & Girls		232,474	46,106	68,188	98,604	55,424		92,278	79,032	91,711	62,112	92,413	64,111	102,582	37,248	61,295	38,050	34,317	1,255,945
Reference	‡326,453																		‡326,453
Grand Total	326,453	665,893	181,749	209,166	285,759	225,927	164,509	248,102	197,799	194,775	233,385	275,484	149,113	218,942	187,755	147,846	138,016	179,151	4,229,824
Total for 1937	303,429	575,361	159,004	181,097	253,062	193,655	146,592	215,165	168,222	158,887	209,680	231,184	122,818	179,005	169,046	125,673	116,799	150,497	3,659,176

* Music Library.

† Including Settlements.
‡ No count is made of use of Reference Books in Circulating Libraries.

CIRCULATING LIBRARIES: BOOKS ADDED DURING 1938

	Central	*Beaches*	*Bloor and Gladstone*	*Danforth*	*Deer Park*	*Downtown*	*Earlscourt*	*Eastern*	*Gerrard*	*High Park*	*Northern*	*Queen and Lisgar*	*Riverdale*	*Runnymede*	*Western*	*Wychwood*	*Yorkville*	*Total*
General Works	38	6	6	10	10	31	22	15	17	10	12	6	21	18	72	3	13	310
Philosophy	186	49	80	77	77	133	43	47	36	55	68	46	35	61	59	29	42	1,123
Religion	150	45	31	42	33	50	37	22	15	33	42	46	35	38	25	26	35	705
Sociology	497	100	292	169	102	189	97	78	62	107	117	56	72	112	203	56	107	2,416
Philology	13	2	8	3	5	12	1	5	2	4	4	6	1	4	9	1	2	82
Science	216	69	127	126	74	153	85	79	64	78	89	56	56	83	127	62	71	1,615
Useful Arts	646	211	243	312	157	298	197	199	184	249	199	142	129	174	233	167	249	3,989
Fine Arts	*1,583	162	172	229	180	271	136	156	128	180	196	104	108	175	143	143	159	4,225
Literature	431	140	156	175	138	219	81	87	69	133	132	82	128	112	208	75	206	2,572
Travel	510	124	148	193	144	201	197	112	97	160	164	96	106	150	276	89	181	2,948
Biography	614	168	230	315	212	593	203	173	110	195	232	148	129	200	447	107	206	4,282
History	609	71	103	131	98	112	87	81	59	98	105	59	51	81	108	103	130	2,086
Fiction	3,133	1,294	1,832	1,787	1,616	1,341	1,816	1,412	1,170	1,830	1,696	1,079	1,367	1,417	1,080	1,296	1,414	26,580
Foreign	234	2	14	14	33	16	11	8	16	20	35	21	7	5	2	18	8	464
Reference	.....	20	17	53	22	85	23	54	18	29	22	10	13	6	144	21	69	606
Boys and Girls	†2,381	993	1,272	1,502	819	.....	1,455	1,356	1,605	879	976	908	1,327	580	1,032	719	550	18,354
Schools	281	.....	.....	247	379	.....	149	229	186	175	152	398	408	.....	.....	.....	150	2,754
Settlements	2,230	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,230
TOTAL	13,752	3,456	4,731	5,385	4,099	3,704	4,640	4,113	3,838	4,235	4,241	3,263	3,993	3,216	4,168	2,915	3,592	77,341

* Includes 1,105 in Music Library. † Boys and Girls House.

CIRCULATING LIBRARIES: BOOK STOCK BY CLASSES AND LIBRARIES

	Central	*Beaches*	*Bloor and Gladstone*	*Danforth*	*Deer Park*	*Downtown*	*Earlscourt*	*Eastern*	*Gerrard*	*High Park*	*Northern*	*Queen and Lisgar*	*Riverdale*	*Runnymede*	*Western*	*Wychwood*	*Yorkville*	*Total*
General Works	1,695	37	65	52	28	84	40	26	31	51	90	38	40	39	90	19	66	2,491
Philosophy	1,827	209	269	254	247	286	256	199	156	323	271	153	190	279	239	146	259	5,563
Religion	4,515	192	352	222	197	227	238	202	105	254	201	125	231	197	210	136	246	7,850
Sociology	10,550	413	686	632	483	847	556	458	362	601	641	287	496	592	554	260	510	18,928
Philology	819	9	36	14	12	45	20	18	14	18	14	12	15	17	35	12	9	1,119
Science	3,725	376	492	549	318	413	545	386	304	437	586	281	412	523	496	272	356	10,471
Useful Arts	7,619	799	1,051	1,153	621	1,239	1,037	854	738	882	937	635	866	907	911	561	805	21,615
Fine Arts	*20,598	1,172	1,220	782	862	1,018	820	643	505	919	910	489	690	940	917	475	693	33,653
Literature	16,069	1,411	1,683	1,074	1,170	1,245	1,078	949	789	1,654	1,181	850	1,086	1,098	1,473	872	1,177	34,859
Travel	10,580	805	973	947	1,088	1,002	1,061	794	700	1,115	1,040	770	941	906	1,104	676	1,230	25,732
Biography	16,147	1,036	1,300	1,137	1,358	1,066	962	831	696	1,171	1,176	812	962	1,065	1,148	712	1,271	32,850
History	13,157	579	880	633	704	646	802	599	504	684	767	484	660	601	1,000	399	576	23,675
Fiction	18,365	4,917	5,249	5,682	5,867	4,457	5,884	6,147	4,756	6,520	5,884	4,757	5,412	5,825	5,234	4,675	5,272	104,903
Foreign	3,317	7	58	42	107	27	23	21	24	35	62	46	36	21	13	18	33	3,890
Reference	.....	144	691	120	139	208	155	134	136	192	323	132	158	109	303	96	189	3,229
Boys and Girls	†10,469	4,944	6,110	5,766	3,798	.....	8,162	5,836	5,317	5,072	4,932	3,289	5,063	4,463	6,598	4,567	3,837	88,223
Schools	1,854	.....	.....	2,178	2,377	.....	519	1,239	1,163	2,002	1,964	1,576	3,235	.....	.....	.....	1,231	19,338
Settlements	6,171	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,171
TOTAL	147,477	17,050	21,115	21,237	19,376	12,810	22,158	19,336	16,300	21,930	20,979	x14,736	20,493	17,582	20,325	‡13,896	17,760	444,560

* Includes 14,037 in Music Library.

x Including 373 volumes at Brant School transferred from Wychwood.

† Boys and Girls House.

‡ Excluding 373 volumes at Brant School transferred to Queen and Lisgar.