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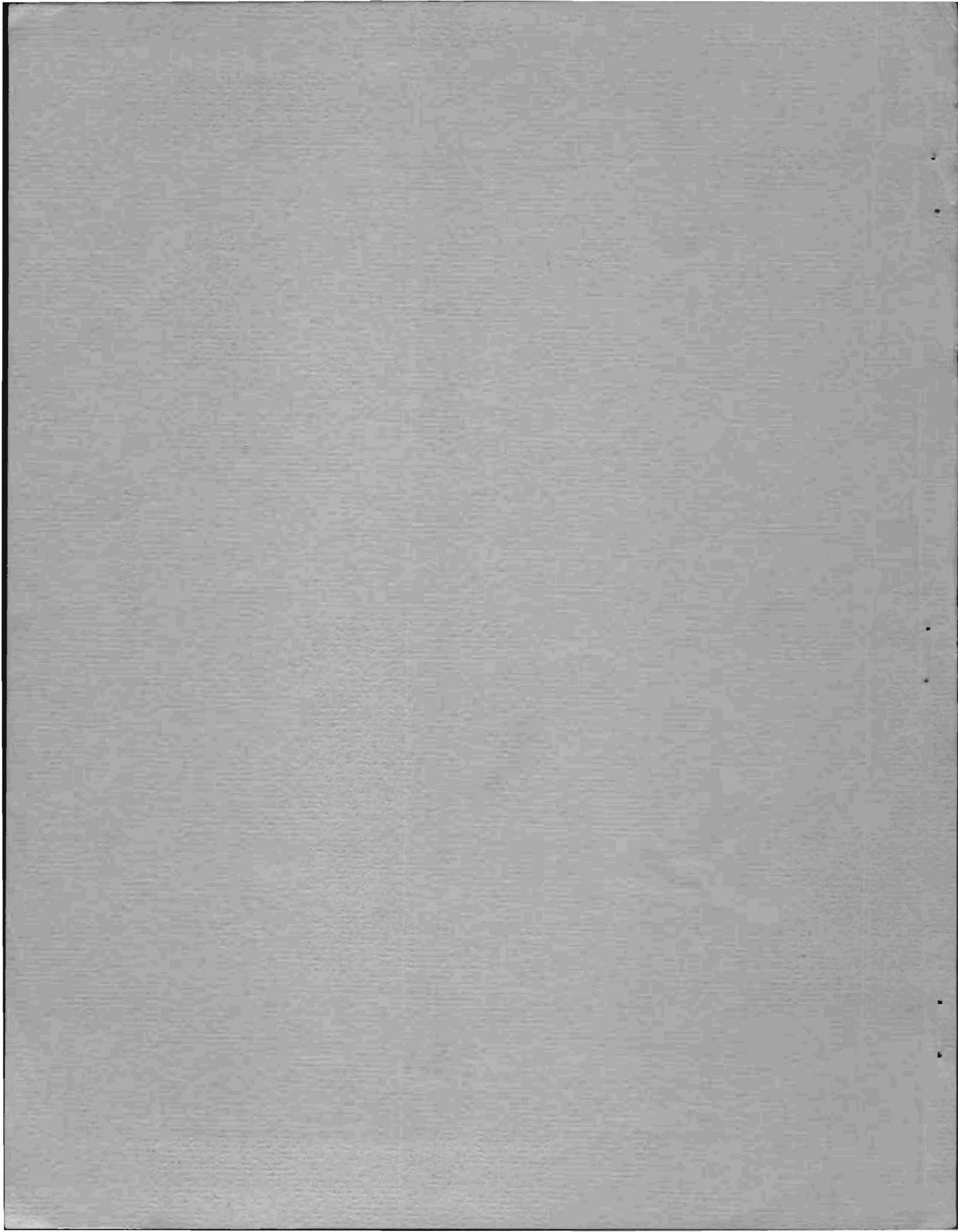
WINTER 1960



MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Showing recently built extension

PUBLIC Archives of Nova Scotia
HALIFAX, N. S.



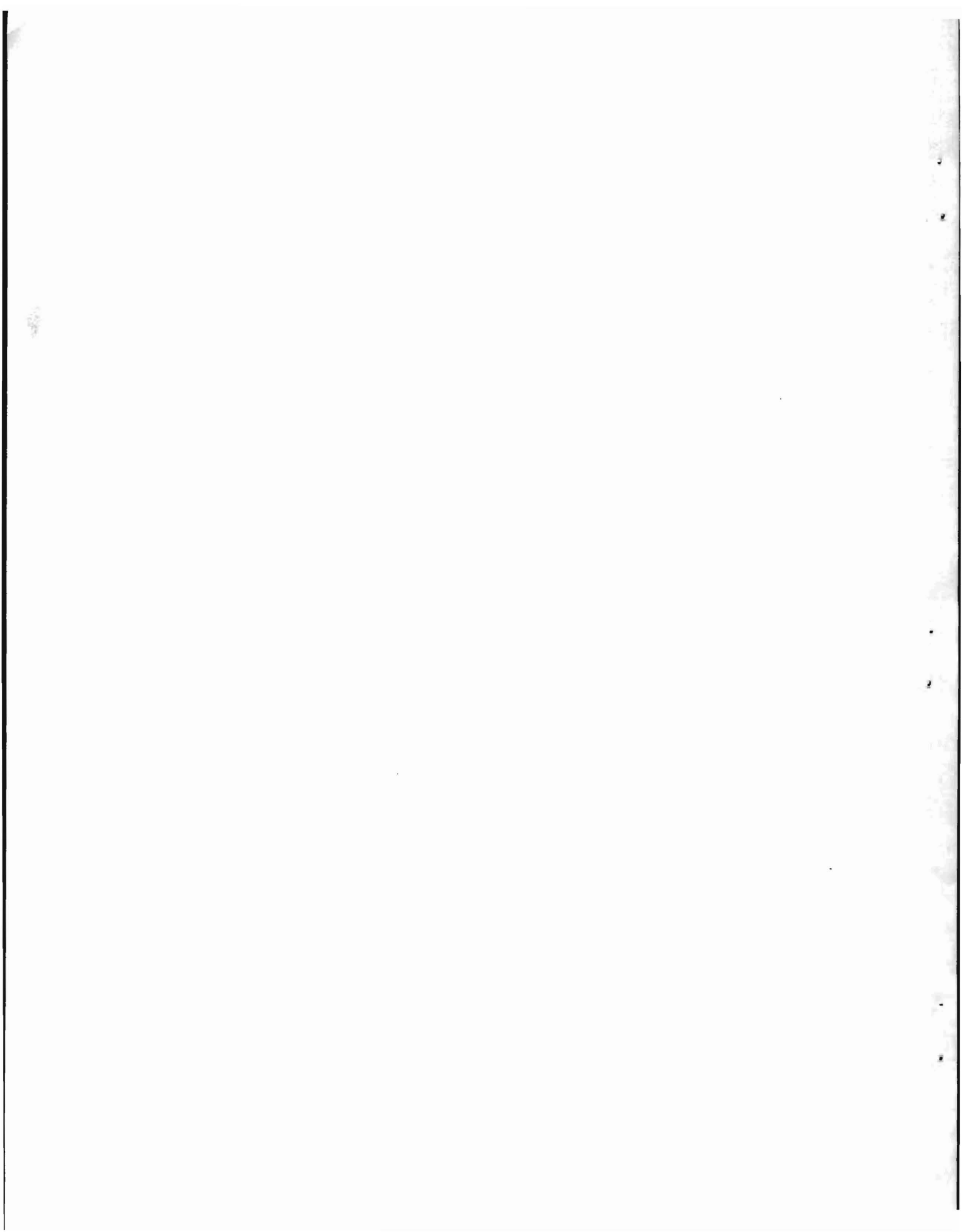
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How are YOU fixed for FIRE INSURANCE ?

No, this isn't an advertisement on behalf of insurance companies, but after the third serious library fire in Nova Scotia in the past two years, librarians may feel impelled to double-check this item in their expenditures.

On March 3, 1957, the headquarters of the Pictou County Regional Library in New Glasgow was gutted by fire. The book stock of the New Glasgow Branch, and of the headquarters was completely lost. The bookmobile was saved, as well as the catalogue. Although some of the equipment and furniture was saved as well, it was found later to be so badly damaged that most of it was not worth re-finishing or re-conditioning.

Miss Alberta Letts, Provincial Librarian, in an article printed in the CLA Bulletin, June 1957, described the library the day after the fire - "Most of the books were a wet, pulpy mess, although a sharp drop in temperature had transformed some shelves of books into solid bricks of ice ... The fire destroyed more than a quarter of the book stock of the Regional Library. I think I minded the loss of the children's books the most, as in 1956 the juvenile book stock of 8400 books had had a circulation in the town and rural areas of over 170,000."

The second fire took place on October 30, 1959, at the Kentville Branch of the Annapolis Valley Regional Library. Miss Ruth Coyne, of the A.V.R.L. staff, reports - "The sad news from the Annapolis Valley Regional Library is that of the fire at our Kentville Branch, but when we heard soon after of the Sydney loss, ours seemed a mere 'flash in the pan'. Approximately 800 books were lost, most of the registration file, and a number of other records. Luckily, some 1000 books which had been packed for exchange the previous week were saved, and also the shelf-list and a few other records.

Unexpected delays in repairs, which the town had thought would be finished within a fortnight, meant that service could not be resumed until Jan. 5. With the generous help of the Halifax Memorial Library who gave many books, with books still due to Kentville on exchange, with books salvaged from the damaged library and a scraping of books from Headquarters, the Branch will be able to operate on limited supply until we build up to normal again."

Just two weeks later, on November 12, 1959, the Cape Breton Regional Library Headquarters, the Sydney Library and Bookmobile quarters were destroyed by fire. All were located in the basement of the County Court House, which burned to the ground.

Miss Ruth McDormand, Branch Supervisor, sent the following report:

" The fire broke out on the Court House roof at 2:10 p.m., and by 2:30 the building was a mass of flame and the roof had collapsed. Between 2:20 and 2:25 a half-dozen young men formed a salvage party under police direction to enter the corner of the basement occupied by Headquarters, Sydney Library being already cut off. Under Miss Ruby Wallace's supervision, these men saved the Regional catalogues of about 250,000 cards (containing the shelf-list and records locating copies of books in the various libraries of the Region), and two steel correspondence filing cabinets; these were brought through the windows without spilling a card.

The loss to the Regional Library, though very serious, was far from total. Glace Bay Library, in addition to their own book collection, has a duplicate of the Regional catalogue lost in Sydney Library; other book stocks are in the Branch libraries in seven of the smaller towns of the County and in Victoria County. In all these libraries, service was maintained without interruption; this was particularly difficult for the Bookmobile as all their records were lost. Fortunately, only a few patrons were in the Sydney Library when the fire broke out, and the staff on duty got the patrons and themselves out of the building without delay after the initial explosion blew in the plaster at one end of the library.

All furniture and equipment and over 20,000 books were lost by the three departments, either burned or damaged by smoke and water. The seriousness of the loss is more deeply felt because of the nature of the Sydney Library in its function as the main collection for the whole Region. The circulation and reference collections had been built up over the past nine years to serve the industrial city of Sydney and to supplement the Bookmobile and Branch libraries which serve coal mining and rural communities. Because Sydney Library was located in the same building as the Headquarters, several of the professional aids were kept there.

The most serious loss here, however, was that of the 'Nova Scotia Collection' which included some rare and out-of-print volumes dealing with the history of Cape Breton Island and of Nova Scotia. A complete set of the Champlain Society Papers had not long since been presented by Miss Katharine McLennan with the co-operation of Dalhousie University. This was lost, together with an invaluable collection used by Miss McLennan's father, the late Senator J.S. McLennan, as primary source material for his history of Louisbourg.

No lives were lost, and the work of re-organization began at once. On the evening of the 12th, arrangements were made for temporary quarters, and next day, with Miss Mary Fraser's organizing powers in full swing, the staff went to work. The Administrative, Branch Libraries and Bookmobile "arms" were established in the apartments of the Chief Librarian and the librarians responsible for these departments.

On November 20, Headquarters and Bookmobile were transferred to more permanent quarters in Building #3 at Victoria Park (the Reserve Army's Detention Barracks!), and we acquired private offices (ex-calls). This accommodation is really better than we had before. The staff was very pleased that the Board, at their December meeting, passed a resolution of appreciation for the fine spirit that prevailed.

Sydney Library has a new building almost ready for occupancy, although the terms of the bequest which provided for the construction of The James McConnell Memorial Library did not permit the housing of Regional Headquarters or Bookmobile. There was no salvage of equipment, records or books from their former location, but about 4000 books were in circulation. On November 23, Sydney Library began to re-organize in an office at 224 Charlotte Street, and on December 19 they opened for limited circulation.

Radio, television and press were extremely helpful with publicity, and the librarians were busy with this activity throughout the week after the fire.

"From the moment that news of the fire was first reported, messages were received from librarians, trustees and other friends, offering sympathy and help in tangible forms. Duplicate copies of library holdings were made available, financial aid was received and more was pledged, and many private collections were reduced to help replace both current and rare books. To these people, our gratitude can never be adequately expressed."

The superstition is that "everything happens in threes". Let us hope that this will be the case with library fires in Nova Scotia, and that we have seen the last of them.

NEW AWARDS ! ! !

The American Library Association has announced the establishment of two new awards, the Library Literature Award and the Clarence Day Award.

The Library Literature Award, given by the Scarecrow Press, Inc. of New York, will be made for the next five years in recognition of an outstanding contribution to library literature. The Award amounts to \$500 and will be given only in those years when a title merits such recognition. A jury, serving as a subcommittee of the ALA Awards Committee will administer the Award.

The Clarence Day Award, given by the American Textbook Publishers Institute of New York, will be made for the next three years to a librarian for outstanding work promoting the love of books and reading. The Award, to be given only in those years when a suitable recipient is found, will consist of a citation, a contemporary print, and \$1,000. A jury, serving as a subcommittee of the ALA Awards Committee will administer the Award.

It is hoped that each of these Awards can be given for the first time at the Joint Conference of the American Library Association and the Canadian Library Association to be held in Montreal, June 19-25, 1960. Nominations for the Awards will be welcomed by the Juries.

SUGGESTION - A little periodical, NORTHEAST FOLKLORE, might be of interest to libraries in the Maritimes. It is published quarterly by the Northeast Folklore Society at the University of Maine and contains material on folklore of New England and the Maritime provinces. The subscription rate is \$2.00 yearly. For information, write

The Northeast Folklore Society
220 Stevens Hall
University of Maine
Orono, Maine, U.S.A.

A REPORT OF YOUNG CANADA'S BOOK WEEK IN THE ATLANTIC PROVINCES

NOVA SCOTIA - Cape Breton Regional Library - In spite of the FIRE, Book Week activities included a radio talk by Sydney Children's Librarian, Miss Catherine Nichols; a Book Contest at the Glace Bay Library; Miss Barbara Kincaid, Bookmobile Librarian, Mr. Gordon Hiscott, Bookmobile Driver and Assistant, and Bouncing Betsy. the Bookmobile, appeared on a 15 minute television show, while Miss Ruth McDormand, Branch Supervisor gave a book talk to several school classes at Florence. Victoria County Regional Library - Besides the usual displays, talks were given by the Librarian, Miss Pauline Williams, to the Baddeck Home & School Association and the Alexander Graham Bell Club. Annapolis Valley Regional Library - A special display at the Middleton Branch was visited by two teachers from rural schools and their classes. Pictou County Regional Library - A Window display at the New Glasgow Library, plus a radio talk. Colchester-East Hants Regional Library - Mrs. Margaret Snyder and her staff took part in a very interesting panel-type interview on the Truro radio station. Halifax - Book displays, radio shows and interviews, plus a good amount of newspaper publicity with several front page articles and photographs.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND - A book Fair was held at the Queen Charlotte Junior High School, Charlottetown; at Georgetown, a puppet-show was organized by librarian, Miss Genevieve Soloman; in Souris, librarian Mildred Fraser spoke to the Home & School Association and displayed new children's books; book displays, visits from school classes, book quizzes, story-telling; book reviews, poster competitions and newspaper publicity,

NEWFOUNDLAND - At Bar Haven and St. Kyran's the school children wrote essays on topics such as "What our Library means to us" and "The value of good books"; the Bell Island library had a practically continuous stream of school classes visit it during the Week; a school in Ppuch Cove held a poster contest; the St. John's Kiwanis Club donated \$100 worth of books to the library; other schools and branch libraries had special speakers, book quizzes, and film showings.

NEW BRUNSWICK - No report from this area; hope to have it for the Spring issue.

Mr. William A. Roedde, whose comments on Russian libraries appear elsewhere in this issue, tells of one question he was asked while in that country. A big woman with a big grin asked him, "How is it that in America women are so slim?" Mr. Roedde says, "As I fumbled for a reply, I saw that the magazine Soviet Woman on the rack was not all like Vogue, so I guessed that the answer might even have something to do with libraries."

LIBRARY EXPANSION AT M.T.A., N.B. -

The new wing of the university library is expected to be in operation this month. Construction was begun in the autumn of 1958 and the building was completed in December 1959. This, of course, over-simplifies a complicated story. Fortunately, time has helped make the dust, and dirt fade away, and we are just beginning to forget the upheaval of adding a new wing to an old building while still providing library service.

The original library, of native red sandstone, was built in 1927. It was built with a stack capacity of 45,000 volumes. Since the collection today stands at just over 90,000 volumes, not including documents, it is obvious that every corner of the building has been used for book storage in the intervening years. The completion of the new wing has relieved most of this desperate pressure. The main reading room remains unchanged; there is now a reserve book room adjacent to it and on the same level; the Mary Mellish Archibald Library reference room on the main floor has been enlarged; the old board room on the main floor is now the home of the cataloguing department; the order office has been doubled in size and is next to cataloguing. In the midst of all this, the librarian's office, fortunately, has remained unscathed. However, its day is soon to come. The old government documents room in the basement will be used as a shipping and receiving room, complete with elevator to the catalogue department above.

Unlike other new buildings on this university campus, we have been faced with the problem of adding an extension that is totally different in architectural style from the original or from its immediate neighbours. To have built in the original hand-cut stone would have been prohibitive in terms of cost and we would certainly not have what we have today. The old building is "Neo-Tudor-Gothic" style, and in spite of that descriptive phrase, is a beautiful building to behold; it is simple in its line and relatively uncluttered by exterior gingerbread work. The new wing is completely functional in its design, of three stories and a flat roof. Like the other new university buildings it is built of grey concrete block construction, with large expanses of glass in the lobbies and stairwells and on the western exposures. As I now know only too well, there is seldom unanimity on the subject of architectural styles, especially when a modern extension is to be added to an older building; However I, for one, was particularly pleased at this marriage of the new with the old. The essential plan of each section is simple, neat and flowing and the sections merge with an ease that is certainly pleasing to the eye.

There are three new reading rooms in the library extension, two for general undergraduate study and the third for the use of faculty members and graduate students. One reading room will be adjacent to the serials department and will connect, through a lobby, with the main reading room of the old building. These three reading rooms are situated at the front of the building. The stacks cover the entire section, on five floors, and have a capacity of 90,000 volumes. They connect with the old stacks by means of fire-doors on each floor. An electric book elevator has also been provided. Now, at long last, both stack areas will contain the entire book collection, except for material in the Mary Mellish Archibald Library reference room, and the books in the two departmental libraries. Order and cataloguing departments are well

organized and close to one another; reference and circulation facilities have been expanded; the long needed serials department has been provided; and a whole floor of the new stacks is to be given over to government documents.

This physical expansion of the university library has come to Mount Allison not a moment too soon. University enrolment stands at 1169 now, compared with 730 (full-time) in 1953; circulation to university students in residence has increased at a steady rate, and our circulation to extension students has climbed at an amazing rate. This has meant additional courses - offered in all faculties, more money allocated for books and journals, in fact twice as many books added to this collection in 1958-59 as in the year 1953-54. We certainly hope now that all our services can expand and be improved by the general excellence of our new facilities.

How has this expansion been financed? The estate of the late Dr. William Morley Tweedie, Professor of English at Mount Allison for 50 years, was left, no strings attached, for the future use of the University. In 1958 and 1959, through the generosity of the Canada Council, grants were made by the Council to match the amount left by Dr. Tweedie. What had seemed a far off dream a few years ago is no longer a dream. The new library is very much with us and although there is still much moving and adjusting to be done before the formal opening this coming summer, I am sure that before that time the new building will have made its first, favourable and lasting impressions on not a few students and faculty of this university.

L.M. Allison
Librarian

APLA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

At the APLA Executive Meeting, held on January 24 at the Halifax Memorial Library, the Treasurer reported that the Fund was accumulating very rapidly and well. There have been several large donations (one an individual donation of \$100) and many smaller ones from interested members. Therefore, it was decided that a scholarship for \$1,000 be offered for the 1960-61 term. Donations are still needed to bring the Fund to that amount, but it was felt that there were members who had not contributed as yet and who would be doing so. Non-members should also be reminded that \$1.00 of the APLA membership fee goes to the Scholarship Fund, in case they would care to contribute by joining the Association.

An Award Committee has been set up and publicity, terms of the award, and application forms will be available soon. Anyone wishing information about the scholarship before that time may write to Miss Mary Cameron, President APLA, Halifax Memorial Library, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

- LIBRARIANS ABROAD -

Travel abroad is fast becoming an average sort of way to spend a vacation - even for poverty-stricken librarians! Many of our members will have had a trip, or many trips, to other continents. In more recent years librarians, along with teachers, industrial experts, people involved in the Arts, etc., have been travelling abroad at the behest of such organizations as the Colombo Plan, and UNESCO or with the assistance of such foundations as the Canada Council.

Miss Alberta Letts, Provincial Librarian for Nova Scotia, spent 9 months last year in India where she had been sent by the Department of Trade and Commerce under the Colombo Plan to advise the Indian government on organizing libraries, library schools, etc. Since her return, Miss Letts has given many talks on her work there, and articles have already been published about it. (See C.L.A. Feliciter, December 1959) In order to avoid too much duplication of information, we asked Miss Letts to comment on some of the things which impressed her most about libraries in India.

"One of the things which made a big impression on me while I was visiting libraries was the way they were used. Everywhere I saw people lined up outside the buildings, waiting to get in to use the libraries. As one or two people came out, the guard on the door would let one or two in. In Tokyo, many of these people outside the public library were students who had no place at home to study. At the parliamentary library, there were two long lines stretching out of the building into the rain, each person patiently waiting a turn at the newspapers and magazines. In New Delhi, there were similar lines, with people holding carefully the books they were returning, and waiting for an opportunity to see the shelves or the catalogue.

One of the questions I was asked everywhere I went was whether Canada found open access shelves feasible, and whether we lost many books. In a country where the value of a book would keep a family in food for a week, the temptation to take one "unofficially" must be very strong. Libraries which were trying the experiment had turnstile exits with guards standing by, who would have no hesitancy about "frisking" anyone they considered suspicious.

Another difference from Canadian libraries was, of course, language - or rather, languages. In the New Delhi library there were four main languages represented: Hindi, English, Urdu, Punjabi, with about two percent in other languages. Usually a book was catalogued in the language in which it was written. This posed the problem of whether or not to interfile or have separate language catalogues. And of course, there would not be typewriters in all languages, so would the cataloguer transcribe, and if so, using what characters.

Children's rooms were usually a heartache. In India I saw two or three really good children's libraries, but I saw many which were rooms only, with few books. One beautiful new children's library was stocked wily with the free pamphlet material sent out by publishers of reference books. And sometimes where they had a few books, the children could not take them home, but had to read them there.

But I saw few discouraged librarians. Things were so much better than they had been, that surely as time went on, the problems they faced now would also disappear. It made me long to be a fairy godmother, and shower books & buildings & scholarships upon them. Of course, I've felt that way in Canada, too."

As you know, Don Redmond, librarian at the Nova Scotia Technical College and former editor of this Bulletin, is now in Ankara, Turkey, where he was sent by UNESCO as advisor to university libraries in that country, and where he is now Director of the Library at Middle East Technical University. This University teaches architecture, education, engineering and administrative sciences -- all in English.

In a letter dated December 16, Mr. Redmond reports:

"Today is the last day of classes; exams begin to-morrow, and the students are understandably restless. But the thing that gratifies us is that they are using the library, even though we're bothered by their noise, demand for books we haven't got or can't lend, and their probable habit of absconding with books without the formality of signing a book card. Through the coincident fact that there is no lounge area or study hall available this year, the library is the general meeting place; but it gets students into the library habit, which will probably stay with them. For a student body of approximately 500, most of whom seem to be in the reading room at 10 a.m. every day, (actually, we have over 80 at a time in the library) we lend perhaps 50 books a day in addition to reading-room and overnight circulation of reserve books. We're growing so fast and working so hard we've no time to count, but I think the METU Library has about 10,000 volumes, most of which are out when wanted. We're badly understaffed having lost a cataloguer back to Illinois (on her second trip here). In addition to myself, we have a Turkish graduate of Rutgers, and one with the diploma of the Ankara U. library institute, and several students.

The library institute at Ankara University, now five years old, is fortunate this year in getting Dr. Carl White, of Columbia, and Miss Ethelyn Markley of UCLA. Its four-year undergraduate course is given in Turkish, but we're looking forward to some bilingual graduates. METU, you see, is an odd phenomenon because it operates in English, and has students from all points between Cyprus and Pakistan. Ankara has a bustling National Library, to whose union catalogue we contribute, and American, British, French and German information center libraries. The Turkish Library Association issues a scholarly bulletin, and there is a good national bibliography, though many Turkish publications are in small editions not widely available. But the high wages offered by oil companies and American military missions make it hard to attract staff to libraries.

The university staff at METU includes British, American, Dutch and Scandinavian experts, but many of our Turkish professors are U.S. -trained, and prefer American texts and references. This makes the library much like any North American college library, though the rubber stamp at the circulation desk has the Turkish names of the months. We use the L.C. classification and dictionary catalogue, and are strongest in art and architecture now, but building fast in social sciences. In addition to substantial Turkish funds, we've had assistance from the U.S. through USBE, and UNESCO help with more budgeted. The plans envision 10,000 students by 1980, and by that time there should be a 100,000 volume library. At present the growing pains are severe.

Undersupply of books and over-demand from students is our major problem (aside from professional whims, as everywhere), and we may reluctantly have to close the stacks for better control, despite added demands on staff and the barrier between students and books. Until our card-typing and filing arrears are caught up, we cannot guess our losses.

The high cost of textbooks -- 80 liras or more -- is harsh in a country where a clerical worker may get 600 liras a month, and some students exist on bursaries of 175 liras a month. (The lira is 9 to the dollar.) We're hoping a textbook rental scheme may take some load off the library.

I can't give personal impressions of other libraries in Turkey, largely because I haven't had time to visit them yet. The American Library (one of the excellent units of the U.S. Information Service around the world) is well patronized. But we're pleased by occasional comments from staff members and outsiders who find service and satisfaction (sounds like an airline slogan) in our library. We do find dissatisfied faculty members who haven't got the research materials they want, but the library is developing as fast as we can make it."

Mrs. Redmond gives us some glimpses of the domestic side of life in her new home:

"Our apartment is worth the fourth-floor climb; we look out in all directions across the basin of hills in which Ankara is set, to the ever-changing shadows on the bare slopes. But Ankara's bustling growth thrusts new apartments and offices against the skyline constantly, and as winter closes in, thousands of chimneys obscure the lights and sights in lignite smog.

Porridge for breakfast sound prosaic, but bulgur, a characteristic dish in wheat-growing Turkey, makes a sound start on a chill morning. The most spectacular dish is shish kebab, cubes of meat broiled on a sword or a two foot restaurant skewer. For dessert, try baklava made of dozens of paper-thin layers of pastry drenched in syrup.

As yet we haven't seen Turkey outside Ankara. Most of this city we see daily could be any city in Europe. Yet the Turk is never far from the village, in a country 9/10 of whose people are rural. And the village is just beyond our back balcony. One side we face the lights of city traffic; on the other we look out over whitewashed, tile-roofed cottages clustered about with chickens and tame pigeons, a turkey or two and a goat, while squads of geese march about the field beyond. Occasionally we visit the Old City, clinging precariously to its rocky hills, where the women's costumes are still brilliant, baggy Turkish trousers and voluminous head scarves pulled across the face. But the businessmen are a universal type, and the university students as irrepressible as students anywhere.

In the market, in tiny shops, with pedlars at the door, the best part of the sale is to haggle about price. The "crazy foreigners" of course pay what is asked. But it's part of the game to offer $\frac{1}{2}$ of what is first asked, then after voluble protestations - in mutually unintelligible languages - to settle a price and feel that you've both had the best of the bargain. The one household help, who cleans house and irons two days a week, is Fatima, jolly and square, who talks volubly in Turkish and laughs immensely at our attempts to produce a few words. As the University's language is English, we've been remiss in learning Turkish, beyond words needed for elementary shopping."

This very interesting letter ends with the Turkish words of leavetaking: "Allaha ismarladik" -- We have given unto God.

Early in October, Halifax librarians were fortunate to be able to meet and talk with Mr. William A. Roedde, Assistant Director, Provincial Library Services of Ontario, who visited some of the Halifax libraries on his way to Toronto. He had just returned from Russia and the Scandinavian countries where he had been on a Canada Council scholarship to survey library services.

Mr. Roedde very kindly sent a report on his Russian visit to the Bulletin, but as much the same material has already been published (see CLA Feliciter - December, 1959) we will print just a few excerpts here.

.... "In the USSR there is organized a definite library system which embodies the teachings of V.I. Lenin on the question of the cultural revolution and the education of the masses." I was in an office of the Ministry of Culture of the Soviet Union, and my interpreter had just translated the words of a library official. I was about to find the meaning behind this man's rather formal statement during a two-week tour of libraries in the Russian Republic.

There is no country in the world where the word "system" can be used so accurately in describing library organization. Soviet librarians readily describe their work in terms of a "plan", and then describe difficulties in fulfilling the plan. Also, they see different levels of government and differing types of libraries in terms of defined responsibility. Canadian permissive legislation, scattered library authorities of various sizes, areas with no libraries, and a central government with no library department - all this is strange to them.

Public libraries in the Soviet Union come under the Ministry of Culture of the USSR, a Ministry with a wide scope including cinemas and book stores. Within it, the department of cultural and educational establishments looks after libraries. Its role is perhaps less extensive to-day, following decisions for a greater degree of decentralization. Libraries are more under the ministries of culture of each republic, rather than the all-union Ministry, and further, under lower levels of government such as district and city soviets. Co-ordination and planning is the role of the highest ministry. During my discussions with officials, I thought of an illustration which perhaps indicates the evolution of its role during 40 years of Soviet history. I pictured an engineer who rebuilds a broken machine. Later, he watches over it constantly, fixing it when it breaks down and replacing make-shift parts with new ones. Finally, he can leave it with others in charge, but gives them a detailed manual and is always ready for consultation. Simple, but not inaccurate.

Other ministries with large library systems include the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education. Smaller library networks are operated by such ministries as transport and health. The Academy of Sciences has a considerable number of libraries, as do the trade unions and other public organizations. I had expected to find libraries in Moscow, where government, industry and organizations must be served. But I was surprised at the size of the Lenin State Library which contains 20 million items, receives 3 copies of every book published in the country, and purchases a wide selection of foreign books - even, I was told, Dr. Zhivago. Also in Moscow is the Central Polytechnical Library which is under the direction of the "Society for spreading Political, Technical and Scientific Knowledge". This important Society also directs 28 planetariums, including one in Moscow where I heard a wonderfully-illustrated lecture on astronomy and sputniks.

Less specialized public libraries are the district libraries located in each of several thousand rural and urban districts. However, an efficient system of supervision and inter-library loan makes it possible for any worker to pursue any serious interest. It is certain, however, that if a reader wanted Trotsky's The Russian Revolution "just to see what he says" the request would be denied. Such books are available in the state library only for scholars.

By car I travelled sixty miles north of Moscow. It was raining, and we passed through dreary collective farms until we came to the industrial town of Klin. I was accompanied by a librarian from the Moscow Regional Library and my interpreter, a graduate of the Moscow Pedagogical Institute. We stopped in front of a large government building where the Klinski Regional Library was located and were met by the local librarians. Russian librarians are friendly people (just like those in the Atlantic Provinces!) (Comment by Mr. Roedde - Ed.) In the course of our tour they soon had books, lists, cards and posters spread out for me. I found no mechanization in the smaller Russian libraries, and the circulation system is time-consuming. Book selection is easier, however, and cataloguing no problem for they receive their cards from a central agency.

Ivanovna Solodova Evgenya, the chief librarian, handed me the "reader's card" belonging to a young machine operator in the nearby thermometer factory. This card will list all books recently borrowed and is kept in a library file. The reader, a woman, had indicated an interest in astronomy, and the librarian had prepared a reading list of 12 titles. The list is clipped to the card and the card itself shows that she has already borrowed three - What is the Universe?, Is there life in space?, and Astrobiology. The librarian is proud of this young reader and points out that she has also read Sholohov's Virgin Soil Upturned, Gogol's Dead Souls, and the collected stories of Jack London.

In Klin, and in the village library I had visited the previous day, I was interested in the "books from the West" that are available. Authors translated into Russian include Shakespeare, Dickens, Dreiser, Jack London, Howard Fast, Mitchell Wilson, Mark Twain --- these are likely to be in small libraries. They may also have, or obtain from regional centres, Priestley, Balzac, Steinbeck, Hemingway, Faulkner, and others. An occasional Canadian story, such as Leacock's How we kept Mother's Day, is published and the best-known Canadian author is Ernest Thompson Seton. But political books from the West, and most modern foreign novels, will be available only in the state libraries in Moscow and Leningrad.

Trading questions with foreign librarians helps one take stock of one's country. I could be proud of our larger city libraries with their modern furniture, bright books with plastic jackets, comfortable chairs and mechanical charging machines. But the Soviet Union has 400,000 libraries of all sizes from the big state library to the shelf on the collective farm, and publishes more than 50,000 titles per year. I thought of our meagre Canadian publishing, and of municipalities without library services. But I also knew that a librarian and board with courage could obtain any controversial book, while in Russia, controversy is "controlled". While I could see the efficiency of central planning and could admire the status of the librarian in the USSR, I longed for some of the "uncertainty" of life in the West.

Canadian Library Week - 1960

April 3 - 9

A NEW YEAR LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE APLA BULLETIN

The beginning of the New Year is traditionally the best time to look over the year ahead but hardly the most diplomatic moment to focus attention on one special week in the fifty-two --- especially if there are some of us who sympathize with the cynic who remarked that since there is now a Week for the promotion of practically everything from cranberries to citizenship -- thank Heaven there are just fifty-two!

Well, this is not an effort to discuss the relative merits of cranberries or citizenship -- nor even to champion the cause of the Week. On the other hand, there may be a question of whether the cause of the Week is worthy of being championed. But this is the Heart of the Matter!

From April 3rd to April 9th, 1960, hundreds of communities throughout Canada will be celebrating Canadian Library Week for the second consecutive year. Sponsored by the Canadian Library Association, the Book Publishers Association, and La Société des Éditeurs Canadiens des Livres Français, and supported partially by funds of the Canada Council, the campaign as we already know is devoted to stressing the importance of all kinds of libraries -- public, school, university, corporate, special libraries, and those maintained by individuals in their homes.

Like Young Canada's Book Week's objective for the young people of the nation, the central motivating force for Canadian Library Week is to spread the gospel of Good Reading as a means to a richer intellectual, cultural and recreational life -- for the community as a whole. Admittedly, Y.C.B.W. has the advantage of being scheduled in the Fall when stored-up summer energy and ingenuity (of librarians!!) are naturally seeking outlets into which to overflow. Canadian Library Week comes alas in the Spring when staff reservoirs are often perilously low on energy and inspiration.

All things to the contrary notwithstanding, those who face this "occupational hazard" as well as those who are irked by the observance of "Weeks" in general must recognize in Canadian Library Week a strategic opportunity to strengthen support for libraries and to encourage their use; to awaken people to a more active realization of the rewards of reading; and to point up the importance of good reading to our national life. In a word, it is not just another Week to be observed but an integral part or projection of the total effort that is the goal of our librarianship.

Perhaps no other observance offers just the same opportunity of reaching out to interested adults in the community and of linking the services and resources of our libraries with that of other groups and programmes seeking the same ends. From our point of view, emphasis should be on what libraries can do for the community rather than on what the public can do for the libraries.

If the synthesis of the Canadian Library Week programme is properly worked out between librarians and laymen, the latter will become a corollary of the first. Moreover, this is one occasion when librarians can offer a valuable contribution in the role of participants and co-workers rather than as isolated initiators, since the Week's plan will evolve in collaboration with other community leaders.

As a final compensation for the effort involved, Canadian Library Week could offer an incomparable opportunity to dramatize librarianship as an attractive and rewarding choice of career — for ardent recruiters, this is too good to be missed!

These are my sentiments sincerely submitted,

Sister Francis Dolores, Librarian
Mount Saint Vincent College

P.S. Last year, as you will remember, the Canadian Library Week Council decided to adopt the U.S. Library Week theme — "Wake Up and Read". This year after thoughtful consideration on the part of Executive Committee and Council, a new distinct slogan has been created. Canadians will be asked to:

READ FOR PLEASURE

READ FOR PROFIT

READ FOR PROGRESS

N.B. Canadian Library Week publicity material will be sent to individual libraries which send requests to:

CANADIAN LIBRARY WEEK COUNCIL INC.
25 Richmond St. West
Toronto, Ontario.

DON'T FORGET ! ! !

A P L A CONFERENCE

MAY 20 - 21, 1960

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

THE NOVA SCOTIA UNION CATALOGUE 1959

While some of the work on the Union Catalogue suffered during 1959 on account of the confusion inevitable in the move of the Provincial Library from the basement of the Chronicle Building to the attic of the Provincial Building, the catalogue itself was in use even through the move. We recorded a slight increase in both telephone queries and interlibrary loan requests received by mail.

Telephone calls recorded totalled 309, and included, besides enquiries for locations of needed volumes, requests for information to be found in our growing reference collection. For the Nova Scotia Regional Libraries outside of Halifax, 866 specific books were sought, and 154 subject requests filled. From other libraries, and in co-operation with the National Library, 202 requests for loans were received. These requests came from nine of the ten Canadian provinces, British Columbia alone sending none. The one United States request came from Seattle. During the year, 4 bibliographies were checked with the catalogue.

The editing of the Union Catalogue was suspended for about two months due to the move, with the result that the number of cards received outnumbered too much the number edited. 13,448 cards were received, but only 7,805 were edited, 5,716 representing titles not previously recorded. The main file of the Catalogue contained at the end of the year about 82,000 edited cards, representing approximately 122,000 volumes. In addition, 1223 Secondary Entry and Reference cards were made and filed, and a total of 683 cards were withdrawn.

With the exception of the majority of the entries under CANADA, all of the enlargements of Dalhousie and Acadia University cards have now been filed, and those of all other libraries to the end of the letter L. 5,774 of these were edited and incorporated into the Catalogue.

Once more we thank you all for your continued co-operation, for your forbearance while we were upset by the moving, and your patience, assistance and advice, and especially for the growing use you are making of our services.

Some bibliographic aids added to our collection in 1959:

- Baker, E.A. Bibliography of food. London, 1958.
- Beers, H.P. The French in North America. Baton Rouge [1957]
- Bonser, Wilfred. An Anglo-Saxon and Celtic bibliography. Berkeley, 1957. 2v.
- Cambridge University Library. A catalogue of the fifteenth-century printed books in the University Library. Cambridge, 1954.
- Foxcroft, A.B. The Australian catalogue. Melbourne, 1911.

- Fraser, I.F. Bibliography of French-Canadian poetry. v.1. New York
[c1935]
- Henderson, G.P., comp. Reference manual of directories. Pt.7.
London, 1959.
- Kraus, H.P., booksellers, New York. The eightieth catalogue. New York
[c1956]
- Library Association. Catalogue of the library. London, 1958.
- Logasa, Hannah. An index to one-act plays, 1900-1924. Boston, 1924. --
---- Supplement, 1924-31. Boston, 1932. -- ---- Second supplement,
1932-40. Boston, 1941. -- ---- Third supplement, 1941-48. Boston,
1950. -- ---- Fourth supplement, 1948-57. Boston, 1958.
- Lowndes, W.T. The bibliographer's manual of English literature. London,
1834. 4v.
- Maclean, Donald. Typographia gadelica. Edinburgh, 1915.
- Malclès, L.N. La bibliographie. Paris, 1956.
- Malclès, L.N. Cours de bibliographie. Genève, 1954.
- Malclès, L.N. Les sources de travail bibliographique. Genève, 1950.
3v. in 4.
- Mendelssohn, Sidney. South African bibliography. London, 1957. 2v.
- Miller, E.M. Australian literature, a bibliography to 1950. Sydney.
[c1956]
- Mitchell, P.M. A bibliographical guide to Danish literature. Copenhagen,
1951.
- Morgan, H.J. Bibliotheca canadensis. Ottawa, 1867.
- Peel, B.B. A bibliography of the Prairie Provinces to 1953. [Toronto,
1956]
- Pollard, A.W. Short-title catalogue of books printed in England, Scot-
land, & Ireland, 1475-1640. London, 1946.
- Reference catalogue of current literature, 1924. London, 1924. 3v.
- Shaw, Ralph. American bibliography, 1801-1805. New York, 1958.
- Watters, R.E. Check list of Canadian literature and background materials
1628-1950. [Toronto, c1959]

Gladys F. Black
Reference Librarian
Provincial Library

!!! — OPPORTUNITIES — !!!

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF HALIFAX -WANTED

Chief Librarian for the newly established Regional Library for the Municipality of the County of Halifax. The Headquarters and a Branch Library will be located in the new Municipal Administration Building, which is on the Dutch Village Road within 100 yards of the boundary of the City of Halifax.

Excellent working conditions and usual Medical and Hospital Plans available.

Salary to be paid will be negotiated with the successful applicant and will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Letters of application should state age, qualifications and experience in Library work and should be addressed to the undersigned at P.O. Box 300, Armdale, Halifax County, Nova Scotia.

Applications for this position will close March 15, 1960. Duties will commence as soon as the successful applicant can be available.

R. G. Hattie
Municipal Clerk and Treasurer.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA LIBRARIES -

The University of Florida Libraries is offering three graduate assistantships in the academic year 1960-61 for study leading to a master's or doctoral degree in a subject field other than library science. Graduate assistants work approximately 15 hours per week, assisting in bibliographical research or library administration.

Stipend is \$1,700 for a nine-month period and holders of assistantships are exempt from out-of-state tuition fees. The deadline for filing formal application is March 31, 1960.

Applications should be made to: Director of Libraries, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, U. S. A.

MELCHER SCHOLARSHIP 1960

Applications for the Melcher Scholarship are now being received. The Scholarship of \$750.00 is open to candidates from the United States and Canada, and its purpose is to provide financial assistance for the training of librarians to work with children in public, school, or other libraries.

For information write to Mrs. Ruth Hill Viguers, 110 Cliff Road, Wellesley Hills, 81, Massachusetts, U. S. A.

Deadline for completed applications is April 1, 1960.

BULLETIN BRIEFS -

- HALIFAX - Mrs. Phyllis Brown has been appointed part-time cataloguer on the Nova Scotia Provincial Library staff. Mrs. Brown will be remembered by New Brunswick librarians as she was formerly on the St. John Public Library staff.
- NEW GLASGOW - Miss Diane MacQuarrie, former bookmobile Assistant, spent the Christmas vacation period working at the New Glasgow Library. Miss MacQuarrie is attending the University of Toronto Library School on the Louise Riley Scholarship.
- HALIFAX - The annual Nova Scotia Regional Librarians staff conference was held at the Provincial Library on November 4, 1959. Miss Alberta Letts, Provincial Librarian, spoke about her work in India and showed slides of Indian libraries. Miss Pauline Home, head of circulation services, Halifax Memorial Library, discussed standards of book selection at the morning meeting and the visiting librarians were given a display of Bookamatic operation at the H.M.L. in the afternoon. The regional Librarians were guests at the meeting of the Halifax Library Association in the evening.
- ANNAPOLIS VALLEY - Miss Dorothy MacKay, Director of the AVRL, reports that although the Kentville fire delayed exchange work in the Region, circulation figures are all healthily increasing and the book stock slowly expanding.
- CHARLOTTETOWN - Mrs. T.M. Lothian was appointed Librarian of the Queen Charlotte Junior High School here in September. Many Maritime librarians will remember her as Frances (Peg) Tilley, who worked in the Sackville Children's Library some years ago,
- SOURIS - The Souris branch of the P.E.I. Libraries, which was burned out last spring, has been re-established in a room on Main Street. Readers, who had been without library service since March, are flocking to the library and circulation is close to 200 books per week.
- NEWFOUNDLAND - The big event in Regional Libraries this past year was the training-school and conference for regional librarians held at St. John's and capped off with a dinner given by the Public Libraries Board at the Newfoundland Hotel. Newfoundland librarians were especially happy to meet Miss Elizabeth Morton, executive-secretary of the CLA, and later to hear her opinions about libraries given on TV in her inimitably pleasant but firm way.
- NEWFOUNDLAND - Radio programmes sponsored by the Newfoundland Public Libraries Board are now well underway with a variety of regular presentations including straight talks, interviews, panel discussions and selected BBC recordings. Topics covered include a Newfoundland author's impressions, English poetry, Irish wakes, the importance of good speech - and each time, of course, a plug for public libraries.
- NEWFOUNDLAND - In early November, Mr. Eric Moon left the library services of Newfoundland, after a sixteen-month stay, to take up his new duties in New York as editor of the Library Journal. Mr. Harold Newell, who retired last

March has temporarily stepped back into his old post as director without causing the merest perceptible jolt while arrangements are being made for the appointment of a new Libraries Service head.

- LEWISPORTE, NFLD. - In November, a new building for the public library was officially opened, with Chief Regional Librarian Jessie Miffen attending between visits to other parts of the Island by car, plane and boat.
- ST. JOHN'S - Thanks to the initiative of Chief Librarian Marjorie Mews, the Gosling Library walls, in December, sported a series of outside drawings depicting Dickensian scenes from English domestic life. They were the work of display-artist Webber of Bowring's department store. This fall, while plowing through the usual mounting pile of incoming books, the Cataloguing Department gave a great burst of speed in the direction of Newfoundlandiana and provided a grand mixture of Newfoundland work about rocks, songs, lobsters, stamps, Beothuck Indians, black spruce and Sir Humphrey Gilbert. A "yaffle" as they say in Newfoundland, (meaning as much as you can carry) - a yaffle and more of books of new fiction went into general circulation ten days before Christmas as a special offering to those who, after their exhausting seasonal chores are over, like to put up their feet and read a light book.
- MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY, N.B. - Mount Allison's three new residences for men, which accomodate 312 students, were occupied for the first time in the fall of 1959. Grants from the Canada Council made possible the completion of these houses which are named after Captain R.V. Bennett, chief benefactor, and the late Dr. S. W. Hunton, professor of mathematics, and the late Dr. H.E. Bigelow, professor of chemistry. Each of the houses is to have a small library. It is planned to build up these small collections to include basic reference works, books which are always in constant demand in the main library, and books of general interest. This will be a new library experiment for Mount Allison; each library will be run by student committees of the residence concerned; they in turn will be responsible to their residence deans and the librarian. Initial interest in this scheme is running high, especially from students in older residences which do not boast such facilities.
- ALBERTON, P.E.I. - Miss Eva I. Dyer, formerly custodian of the Alberton Branch of the P.E.I. Libraries, died Jan. 9, 1960. Miss Dyer gave outstanding service to her community as custodian of this branch for over twenty years until her retirement four years ago. Her interest in books and in the users of the library, both young and old, enabled her to bring books and readers together in a very happy way. She was always an enthusiastic promoter of any library project initiated by Library Headquarters. In addition to her work at the library, Miss Dyer served as Secretary of the School Board for a number of years. During her term as custodian, a new library building was built by the citizens of Alberton and vicinity. Miss Dyer is succeeded at the Alberton Library by her niece, Mrs. Kenneth Quigley.
- ST. JOHN, N.B. - The St. John Free Public Library has appointed Miss Doreen Harper to be Chief Librarian as of January 1, 1960. Miss Harper is a native of New Brunswick and at one time was the Legislative Librarian. Mr. Stanley MacDougall, formerly Chief Librarian, has accepted a position in Ontario.

HALIFAX - A conference of regional library board members and trustees was held here in January to review the regional library set-up in the province. Representatives from the regions of Halifax City, Halifax County, Colchester-East Hants, Pictou, Cape Breton and Annapolis attended the meetings which were held in the board room of the Provincial Building. Premier Stanfield, Minister of Education, was guest speaker at a luncheon given for the conference delegates.

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY, N.S. - In October, 1959, Mr. D. G. Lochhead had the following comments to make (see Halifax Mail-Star, October 20): "Over the last five years the number of students using the library facilities at Dalhousie University has doubled. Five years ago the number of students who used the library reading room during the academic year stood at 48,655; last year the attendance in the same room was 97,166, and there is every indication that the top figure of last year will soon be surpassed. There is a more earnest desire among students to do well in their courses. The emphasis on learning in Russia today might be worrying some people, but Canadian students are answering this challenge in their own way - by working harder. Not only has the number of students working in the library increased, but the circulation of books has gone up from 24,000 in 1955 to 40,000 in 1958. The library is also lending more and more books to other libraries throughout Canada. Contained in the library is one of the most complete collections of Kipling's works, of which a bibliography is soon to be published. Efforts are being made to cope with the increased activity in the library by increasing the staff and providing more seating in the existing building. The shortage of space will be eased slightly with the opening of the new science building and the men's residence, but it is evident that if the University continues to expand, extensions to the library will have to be given serious consideration."

N.S. TECHNICAL COLLEGE LIBRARY - Miss Barbara Murray sends this morsel of information: "YOU CAN PROTECT YOURSELF FROM FALLOUT RADIATION - Any mass of material between you and the fallout will cut down the amount of radiation that reaches you. Sufficient mass will make you safe. There is about the same amount of shielding in 8 inches of concrete, for instance, as in 12 inches of earth or 16 inches of books." This cheering news comes from the Office of Civil and Defense Mobilization in Washington which decrees that ten square feet per person is adequate in a Family-Fall-out Shelter. (We may be grateful for those crowded stacks yet.-Ed.)

HALIFAX MEMORIAL LIBRARY, CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT - A Grade VII borrower showed the librarian a picture of a bottle tree and wanted to know more about it. The encyclopedia revealed that such trees contained a resinous substance used for food by the Australian natives. "Oh, milk, eh?" commented the lad, with a twinkle. A former staff member told of sending a copy of Daugherty's Andy and the Lion to her pre-school nephew in The Pas, Manitoba. After insisting on having it read to him umpteen times, he soon knew the story by heart, and every visitor to his home had Andy and the Lion "read" to him by the wee lad. One day his mother heard his voice from the back porch, going on and on and on. Looking out, she saw her small son surrounded by a fascinated and admiring audience of several small Indians and one very large one, listening breathlessly to Andy and the Lion!

