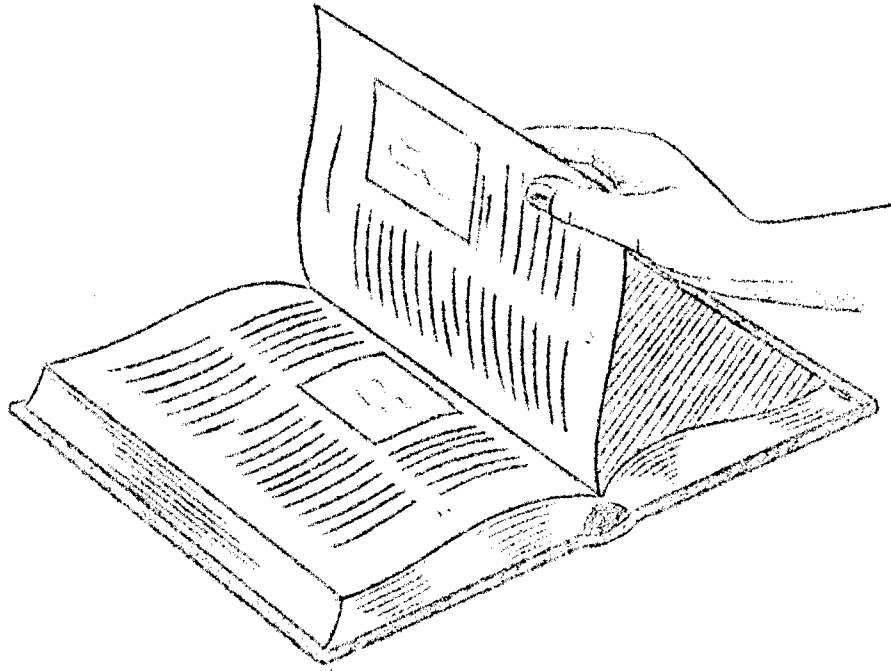


BULLETIN



MANITOBA
LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

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The Medical Library

Ruth D. Monk

Librarians, Military Hospitals

Manitoba Sanatorium patients' library

John Mahr

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Margaret Ashley

THE MEDICAL LIBRARY
of
THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

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This year another milestone was passed in the history of the Medical Library in Winnipeg when the new wing of the Medical Buildings was officially opened by the holding of a Special Convocation.

As the population of this city and province has grown, so has the Medical Library. Great credit is due to the first group, who, inspired by the zeal of such men as the late Doctor H.H. Chown and Doctor Wm. Harvey Smith, met with 18 others of their profession on a cold winter's evening November 18, 1898, in the old Clarendon Hotel, which stood on the corner of Portage Avenue and Donald Street near the "Harley Street" of Winnipeg. They met to discuss the ways and means for the furnishing of the Medical Library, proposed by the members of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba in 1895, and these 20 doctors at this meeting agreed to finance the furnishing of the library and contributed \$530.00.

The Medical Library's new quarters are the fourth in the history of the medical school and the third since 1919 when the doctors deeded their property to the University of Manitoba.

In 1919-20 the College of Physicians and Surgeons' library was moved to the Medical College and their combined holdings formed the first Medical Library of the University. The total number of volumes in 1921 was approximately 3,079. Today the total capacity of the shelving is 35,000 volumes, and the present number is 20,000.

The first library was in the area which is now occupied by the R.C.A.F. Laboratory, the Medical Artist, a cloak-room and the mimeograph department, in all about 1,035 square feet. The library today occupies about 12,000.

The second move was in the summer of 1922. The space had recently been the Pathology Department. Here it was thought would be ample space for many years. There were two large rooms on the first floor and one in the basement, also the Board Room as extra reading room space for doctors; a total area of approximately 3,410 square feet. However, every few years, more space was required and since the end of the last war in 1945, the library's growth has been constant, in material, readers, staff and services. When the library vacated the old quarters in December, it was using about 6,500 square feet, not including the department libraries.

All through the years the Medical Library has had the generous support of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba, the Winnipeg Medical Society, the Manitoba Medical Association, and the individual doctor. The Manitoba Medical Students' Association has from time to time also donated funds for the purchase of books or journals. The lay public has also contributed towards the purchase of valuable reference material.

And so again on a very cold winter's evening in 1956 history repeated itself and another milestone was reached in the library's history when on January 20th the new building was officially opened.

The library is now on the main floor of the new wing, having a total seating capacity of 100. There is also additional stack and work space

The imposing entrance, which is on the east side, is of plate glass set in aluminum. The woodwork of the furnishings is "natural" oak finish that harmonizes well with the two-tone green walls of the Periodical reading area and Main Reading Room.

The large "L"-shaped Circulation counter is on the right of the Foyer and faces the Reference and Periodical Reading area, which is 22 x 72 feet. It is well lighted by large windows and underneath them are grouped semi-lounge chairs with small low tables for extra reading material.

The Main Reading Room runs parallel to the Reference and Periodical Reading area and is 28 x 72 feet, with continuous windows on the west wall; the dividing wall on the east is half glass. This adds light and makes for easier supervision. Book cases are placed around the walls and contain the books published within the last five years.

This room is furnished with large tables, also individual desks and around the west side and south end are grouped semi-lounge chairs with their side tables. The seating capacity of this room is 56.

The Periodical Reading area contains six journal display stands; four have the current titles and the other two have special displays. One side has each day's journals on view for 24 hours before being filed with the main current year groups. The Department journals are also shown here for one week before being taken to their respective departments.

The student journal publications from other medical schools are filed separately, also the Trade Journals. One new feature is the displaying of the "sample" journals received, to acquaint the profession with new titles published which are not yet among our files.

Another innovation is the "Browsing Corner" at the far end of this area. Here are books on subjects other than medicine. Some of these have been donated but for the majority we are indebted to the University librarian for their loan.

The Museum and Rare Book Room, which is 16 x 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet, is at the end of the Foyer, opposite the main entrance. Its walls are lined with book shelves with glass doors, for display purposes. There is also a double display case in the centre of the room. With these features it is hoped that museum pieces, interesting books or pictures, will be constantly on display.

The Librarian's office and the Processing departments are adjacent to the Circulation department and the stacks. At the far end of the Processing area there is a small but useful staff lounge with kitchen facilities.

There are 7 carrells (individual study cubicles) on the east side of the main stack room. These are available to the students with special assignments.

The total book capacity of the library is now 35,000 volumes, and the approximate count of volumes in the department libraries purchased on the library's budget and those in the main stack rooms is 20,000.

At the extreme south end of the library are three graduate Study Rooms. These may be converted into a small lecture room of 25½ x 16 feet by opening the folding walls. One of these rooms is for those using the Microfilm Reader.

Adjacent to these rooms and at the end of the Periodical Reading Area is the Faculty and Doctors Reading Room. This room, 17 x 17 feet, is tastefully furnished by a donation from the Winnipeg Medical Society. The colour scheme is a soft neutral shade known as "nutmeg"; the walls and curtains matching. The furniture is of teak wood and oak and is from Denmark; there are casual chairs, arm chairs and a comfortable "wing" chair. They are upholstered in soft green, red and blue shades of cotton tweed from Belgium. The attractive brass reading lamps are reproductions of French tole and are both useful and ornamental. Truly a room to rest, relax and read in.

Euth D. Monk
Medical Librarian.

Post of librarian withdrawn in military hospitals.

This decision on the part of the Department of Veterans' Affairs was discussed at the March meeting of the Manitoba Library Association, and the following resolution presented and passed -

"The Manitoba Library Association has been informed that the Department of Veterans' Affairs has cancelled the post of Librarian in all military hospitals across Canada, with the exception of Sunnybrook in Ontario in which the library is operated and staffed by the Toronto Public Library. This decision affects the operation of the library at Deer Lodge Hospital. The Manitoba Library Association has taken a very great interest in this library for many years and has worked in close cooperation with the librarian to maintain a high standard both in the operation of the library and in the quality of the books and periodicals provided for the patients. The library is now to be operated by part-time volunteer workers. I would like to move that the Manitoba Library Association go on record as disapproving this decision of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. I would like to move further that the Association express its disapproval by taking the matter up with the Executive of the Canadian Library Association, and, if our Executive thinks fit, with the Department of Veterans' Affairs and with the Manitoba members of the House of Commons."

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ATTENTION PLEASE !

Manitoba Library Association Annual Conference will be held in St. Boniface, Manitoba on a date between September 15 and October 15, 1956.

Details later.

* * * * *

MANITOBA SANATORIUM PATIENTS' LIBRARY
Ninette, Man.

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Being repeatedly requested to write an article on our Patients' Library for the Manitoba Library Association Bulletin, I am endeavouring to give a short description of our library and service.

Our library is organized much the same as other libraries only with modifications to suit the needs and services to the patients in compliance with the sanatorium life and rules.

The library is not new, in fact, it is many years old. The books were donated and accumulated throughout the years. At present we have some 5,800 books; approximately 1,300 of them are non-fiction, and about 450 are in languages other than English.

To give better and more efficient service it was necessary to reorganize completely the library; a task I started somewhat over a year ago. I have been on the cure here and was well on my road to recovery. I had not worked in a library before.

The first thing for me to do was to acquire some books and knowledge on libraries. I wrote to Mr. Jamieson, Chief Librarian, Winnipeg Public Library, briefly stated my case and asked him to recommend a suitable manual on organizing a library. He kindly sent me a booklet "How to Organize a Library" by Zana K. Miller, and in a letter also gave me general advice.

After I had studied this booklet, I ordered a copy of it and also some of the books that are recommended in it: Simple Library Cataloging by Akers, Sairs' Subject Headings and a list of the Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index.

I wanted to reorganize our library with the least possible expense, as simply - yet efficiently - as could be done. But I wanted to be sure not to make any basic mistakes. Therefore I went to Winnipeg to see how the Public Library there is organized and to get expert advice. It was evening when I arrived there, a stranger. I took heart and told what I had come for, and I was welcomed and freely and generously given any information I asked for, in fact more than I could digest at the moment. The librarian on duty loaned me two books; one, "Step by Step", by Zelia J. French I later obtained for myself. It was also suggested that I see one or two of the branch libraries, because a smaller library might be more of a model for ours. I was invited also to come back whenever I was in the City or to write if I should need more advice.

Overnight I digested what I had seen and heard, and the next morning went to the Osborne Branch. The librarian there was equally friendly and showed me around and explained everything I wanted to know. She showed me how to do book repairing and also invited me to come back if I should need further particulars.

I have been indeed very favourably impressed by these my first contacts with the library world. The same pleasing impression I felt again when I got to know Mr. Coleman, Librarian, Brandon Public Library, and again at the conference at Brandon on October 1, 1955.

But back to our library. The first step was to close it, collect all books that were out, and paint over with a light yellow water paint the old book numbers on the spines of all the books.

Then arose the question of how to do the accessioning. As I mentioned before our books are donated. We did not consider it essential that our library keep special detailed accession record books. We simply mark the accession number in each book and keep a record of the number of books we have, and of the books that are coming in as well as of the books we discard, so that at any time we know how many books we have.

The next problem was the cataloguing. Besides the usual card catalogue we had to make as quickly as possible a catalogue in book form, i.e., on loose-leaf sheets in a ring binder, one copy for each flat. This catalogue is especially necessary for the infirmity patients who cannot go to the library. They choose the books they want from the catalogue, list them on a slip of paper, and hand it to the librarian when he makes his regular rounds on the flats. The librarian then delivers the books right to their bedsides.

But besides selecting their books from the catalogue many patients also like to see the books and rummage through them. The librarian, therefore, when on his rounds, has a cart full of selected books, from which the patients may choose what they want.

We started the catalogue with the fiction which was arranged on the shelves in one group alphabetically by author. It was impossible for us to type the author, title and shelf list cards at the same time. Therefore, because of the loose leaf catalogue in which the books were to be arranged in the same order as they stand on the shelves, I decided to have the shelf list cards done first, and regard them, so to speak, as main cards from which the author and title cards were to be made later when we would have time for it. This may be contrary to the general practice of doing the author cards with the main entries first, and then copy from them the other cards. But I had no choice, and it worked out all right.

We use blank cards. The typing has been done by patients who volunteered for it, and had doctor's permission to work one hour daily. I worked four hours daily, though "not with my eyes on the clock."

As soon as some fiction was catalogued I began circulating these books; many patients were eagerly waiting for books - and, after all, the circulating of the books is the purpose of the library.

Besides the ordinary book cards with date and names of the borrowers to be noted on them, we keep a larger card for each customer, a "current account", on which all books he borrows are recorded, and when returned checked off.

The patients may borrow as many books as they like, without a time limit. All services are, of course, free.

When the fiction was catalogued I classified the non-fiction. With some of the books it was not easy to decide in what class to put them. Nevertheless I liked classifying best of all the library work. As an aid and guide I had the books I mentioned before and some others: Simple Library Cataloguing by Akers, fourth edition; Sears List of Subject Headings, 7th edition, Dewey Decimal Classification & Relative Index, abridged (7th);

Wilson's Standard Catalog for Public Libraries 1949 edition with latest supplements; an encyclopaedia; a biographical dictionary; and that handy little booklet "Step by Step", by Selia J. French, which is "for libraries with book collections of 5,000 or less." I found it very useful, but I think the claim for 5,000 books is a little high; I would put the emphasis on the last two words "or less."

When the non-fiction cards were typed and filed our shelf list was complete and all books could now be circulated.

But a new problem emerged. On my rounds with books - so far, every second week - I soon found out that it was often wearisome and taking much of my time - which I had not to spare - to find the fiction the patients were asking for out of the one large grouping. The majority of my borrowers said they don't know much about books and authors; but they wanted such and such a book, for instance, a western story, a cowboy story, a mystery, a story about dogs or horses, etc. Therefore, I came to the conclusion that it would be of great advantage to the patients as well as to the librarian to have the fiction separated into groups or classes.

I consulted Mr. Coleman, Librarian of the Brandon Public Library. He strongly recommended the separation of the fiction into groups; this is the practice in the Brandon library. But to divide all the fiction would have taken a long time. We could not have waited that long for our loose-leaf catalogue. So I decided to separate for the time being only part of them, and get this part listed in its diverse groups in the loose-leaf catalogue, and the remaining fiction in a group as "Unclassified."

I separated about one-third of our fiction with the help of Wilson's Fiction Catalog, 1950 edition plus latest supplements, by sorting and marking the cards accordingly; for instance, adventures - F-a; mysteries - F-m, etc. In this way, I got most of our books that are contained in Wilson's Fiction Catalog - and some others - quickly separated.

With the help of the marked and grouped cards I am gradually sorting, marking and shifting the books around into their respective groups on the shelves whenever I have a little time to spare. The remaining two-thirds of the fiction, mostly romances and various novels, will also be separated as time permits.

We were now ready to work on our loose-leaf catalogue. Our typists copied the cards on stencils. From the stencils we mimeographed 25 copies on loose-leaf sheets, reinforced the ring holes with gummed stickers, put the sheets in the binders and placed the catalogues on the flats.

For all books received in the library since the stencils were cut, we keep - on scrap paper cards - a carbon copy of the shelf list cards. Thus we shall have for a later supplement a list of all accumulated books that are not in the loose-leaf catalogue.

After the stencils were cut our typists had another big job to do, the copying of the author and title cards from the shelf list. When all cards were typed and filed our card catalogue was ready.

We did not make subject cards. With the loose-leaf catalogue we can manage - at least for the time being - without them. In it the subject headings are typed in capital letters above each class of the non-fiction, and a list of the subject headings in alphabetical order is also given.

All our books are shellacked. Several patients, young men who had the doctor's permission to work one or two hours daily volunteered for this big job. Many of our books need repairing. This will be done as time permits. We hope to have book supports shortly. This will not only give our library a better appearance, but will also prevent many broken hinges, spines and covers, and this will save much repairing.

So, we shall soon have our patients' library organized, though there remains a great deal to do. Looking back, I frankly admit that it was more work than I expected. But I enjoyed it very much; and I had full cooperation and moral support from our entire management. All necessary supplies were readily granted, for which I am very thankful.

I express my sincere thanks also to the patients who so willingly assisted me. I had a good few of them throughout the year, because when a patient "graduated", i.e., finished the cure and went home, I had to have another one in his or her place. It has been a pleasure to work with them. Without the typists, and the help in filing, and the young men doing the shellacking, I don't know when the work would have been accomplished.

We are satisfied with what has been achieved so far. At least our library is in a workable condition and can be kept in order. But there remains still a cardinal problem. Our library has outgrown its quarters. We can't expand for lack of space. Moreover our library is in the wrong place; it is located in the basement of the Main Building. This is a great handicap, and makes the task of supplying the infirmary patients with books, and all work connected with it, exceedingly complex. A really satisfactory service can only be given if the library is located in the Infirmary Building or connected with it. This problem is, of course, a financial one, and is up to the proper authorities. We have been informed that it is under consideration. So we are hoping and striving for, and visualizing the day when we shall have a roomy library in the right place.

In closing this description of our library, I want - last but not least - to thank the librarians, ladies and gentlemen of the Winnipeg and Brandon libraries, who have given me advice. Their friendly and warm interest in my work has been indeed very gratifying and encouraging.

John Mahr

News, views, ideas!

This year the editors have "requisitioned" contributions from several persons. We appreciate the cooperation received! The Bulletin could be a clearing-house for ideas, comments (on any library developments or problems), news, and contributions of this type would be welcomed.

Don't wait for a request from the editor - send your note, letter or article or enquiry to the editors, c-o the Provincial Library, or to the Secretary of the Manitoba Library Association, Reference Librarian, University of Manitoba.

HOW RADIO PUBLICITY WORKS FOR THE DAUPHIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

by

Mrs. B. C. Goodhand

Radio publicity, in the form of weekly book reviews and children's stories, as been used, with the exception of one year, by the Dauphin Public Library Board since the local station opened in 1950. Since I have had charge of the book reviews for the past three seasons, may I tell you about it? Our experience may not be of any help to other library boards but it works for us and doesn't cost anything - an item in library finance!

Apparently a local station's policy is to give free time to public service programs. The Board arranged for weekly book reviews by library members on Sunday afternoons, and also for a children's story, both fifteen minutes in length, to run from late fall to early spring.

This appeared to work well except for some dissatisfaction with the time. Tuesday at 9 p.m. was tried. The next season the board members in charge both felt they could not devote the necessary time in arranging for the volunteer reviewers and story tellers and for a season the project was dropped.

When I was appointed to the Board three years ago I agreed to have a try at the project and not it appears to be going smoothly, probably due to the groundwork laid earlier. Another member has the story periods running smoothly - Mondays at 5.15 p.m. She has three friends with good story voices alternating with her from week to week telling stories from the junior library.

With the reviews, Mondays at 7.15 p.m., we use library members - approximately 30 to 35 according to the length of the season. "Would you care to help publicize the library by reviewing a book on CKDM?" The response is gratifying. If the person asked does not happen to belong we have a good talking point...."You are paying for the library in taxes, why not use it?"

If the prospective reviewer does not have a book from the shelves he or she is particularly interested in the librarian, Mr. K. Everall, always has a list of books for suggestions.

I try to arrange for all the reviewers early in the season and surprisingly few ask to be put on at a later date (which means some juggling, and if no one can be found who is ready to go on, even scratching up something to fill in myself!) Not one has fallen down on a promise. I check with each month's reviewers well before the first of the month and give the list to the local paper and to the radio station. CKDM receives speakers courteously and helps first-time reviewers. A speaker is expected to have two copies of the talk.

Now, the subject matter. Usually the season opens with an actuality broadcast from the library, but from then on the subjects are as varied as the reviewers. Non-fiction leads. A professional critical review is not expected - in fact is not to be desired in our district where a book review seldom takes precedence to western music or popular tunes. Mostly they are interestingly done, and to my mind, on a par with many the CBC pays to have produced.

The head of the DCTI agriculture course reviewed "The Sodbusters" and "We Found the Peace." Two or more books on one subject or by the same author are encouraged. The DCTI librarian always uses Young Canada Book Week to have four students give thumbnail reviews. A former nurse did "Northward

"My Calling" and another book by a nurse. She used the review later at her nurses' association. The public school art teacher told about the fine art books on the library shelves. "These Make Music" a story of band instruments, was reviewed just before the Music Festival. The same reviewer is doing "Brown Gold" (coffee) next month. A former teacher reviewed "Why Johnny Can't Read" and was asked to give it again at Home and School. A church worker gave a biography of Schweitzer and it was used again at a group program.

A Council of Women member is going to do a biography of Elizabeth Fry. Four books with a Borneo background by Agnes Newton Keith were reviewed last month. A woman interested in theatre did Mary Pickford's biography, and the story of Gertrude Lawrence. "Prairie Portraits", "Anna and the Indians", "Alberta Anthology" were popular. Usually we have new books but one of the best responses came from Ernest Thompson Seton's "Wild Animals I have Known." The wife of a leader in local Conservative circles is going to do the books on Sir John A. McDonald in May - if she cannot persuade her husband to do it. Twice this season we used original stories by local authors, Mrs. K. Overall and Eva Ferguson.

This will give an idea of the subjects.

What of results? That is the question. The board has considered a project to get listener re-action, but so far has not hit on any suitable (and inexpensive) plan. In this as in everything else people tend to sit on their hands...until they can point out a mistake. So far we've had no brickbats...except once when a reviewer had "hell" in the script. Whether the membership increase, slight but steady, is due to publicity or to natural increase in the population, we have not determined.

But we do feel that the publicity lets those who are interested enough to listen know what they may have for their 1 mill tax. The variety in reviewers is all to the good, too, because each has relatives and friends and a little of the enthusiasm carries over to them!

* * * * *

HAVE YOU HEARD?

That - "Friends of Libraries" groups seem to be very active these days. The St. Boniface group held a tea in the City Hall in aid of their library. The St. James Public Library received support from a coffee party in Beaver Hall which was sponsored by the Lionelles of St. James. A "Friends of Libraries" group was formed in Fort Garry recently?

That - At the next meeting of the Association there will be a panel discussion on Regional Libraries. This should be of special interest to the members in view of the Manitoba Government's recent announcement of grants for the establishment of regional libraries?

That - The membership is now 82? Let's make it at least 100?

That - Mrs. Edythe Stephens has joined the staff of the Free Press Library.

That - The Riverside Lions' Club donated a \$1,000 check to St. Vital Public Library for purchasing reference books. This makes a total of \$3,000 the Lions have given to the library fund.

March Meeting - a proposal for Metropolitan library service

In December, 1954, the Manitoba Library Association appointed a special committee, under the chairmanship of Mrs. H. Moore, to study all phases of a metropolitan library plan for Greater Winnipeg and to prepare a brief for presentation to the Metropolitan Planning Commission. The fact that so many people braved the blizzard of March 28 to hear Mrs. Moore and her associates present and explain the main points of their brief is both a tribute to the excellent work of the committee and a measure of the continuing interest of the Association in the problem of providing adequate library service in Manitoba.

The meeting therefore greeted as a step in the right direction the announcement by the President, Miss V. Parker, of the Provincial Government's decision to allot \$30,000 for the purpose of giving an establishment grant of \$10,000 to each of 3 regional libraries which might be formed by at least 2 municipal units. It was felt, however, that the sum suggested seemed inadequate for the purpose but, since the government had not yet made public any further details of its plan for regional libraries, discussion was considered premature.

Mrs. H. Moore then drew the attention of the meeting to the recent decision of the Department of Veterans' Affairs to cancel the post of librarian in military hospitals across Canada. A short discussion crystallized the feeling of the members that, in view of the recent recognition by psychologists of the therapeutic value of books, this backward step was to be deplored. They passed unanimously a motion by Mrs. Moore that the Manitoba Library Association go on record as disapproving this decision and that the Association express its disapproval by taking the matter up with the Executive of the Canadian Library Association, with the Department of Veterans' Affairs and with the Manitoba members in the House of Commons.

These preliminary matters dealt with, the meeting then settled down to hear Mrs. Moore and the members of her committee, Mr. H. Coddington, Mr. H. H. Easton and Mr. George Noble, gave an account of the main features of their Brief.

After sketching the terms of reference of her committee, Mrs. Moore explained that the Metropolitan plan for Winnipeg envisaged the joint operation of the several municipal units comprising Greater Winnipeg under one board for the whole area with a consequent provision of better service for minimum cost.

In their Brief the committee had pointed out that "public libraries are an essential factor in our modern social system"....they "are recognized as part of our system of education and they play an important part in making responsible citizens out of human beings.....the basic purpose of public library service is to provide a sufficient number of books of quality, so housed and organized, and with their use so promoted, that they reach the greatest possible number of people, thus making their local contribution to the education and to the cultural growth of the community."

An adequate library service, within the reach of all, has certain basic requirements: (1) The service must be free, i.e., costs must be paid out of government funds; (2) It must be convenient of access; (3) The technical processes and personnel involved must be adequate to maintain the service - the committee stressed the fact that this was as important as the supply of books; (4) Finally, "there must be access to a large number of books, for the

larger the book collection the closer the service comes to meeting the needs of all."

On the basis of these requirements the Committee then turned to a consideration of the public library situation in the Winnipeg area. Mr. Easton outlined some of the inadequacies of the present library set-up in Winnipeg and considered the advantages and disadvantages of a metropolitan library plan from the point of view of the City proper. He pointed out that certain areas of the city such as Elmwood, now getting little service, could, together with suburban areas like East Kildonan or Transcona, easily support a branch library.

Mr. Noble recalled that 4 public libraries had been established in suburban areas in the last few years. Despite this growth, however, the need for library service was being only partly filled and he foresaw serious difficulties in the way of future growth. In the words of the brief, "in addition to their small book collections and the very limited service they can perform these small, independent libraries have another serious handicap in common. They have all been established in the last five years. Those who have established them have optimistically flouted all the minimum standards for public libraries as approved by the Canadian and American Library Associations - population, financial support, possibility of future development. All these libraries are going to find it increasingly difficult to keep going, for it is easier to start a library than to maintain it adequately. The Canadian Library Association standards for size and area state that public library units should be large enough in population, area and financial support to ensure adequate library service. The minimum annual income for an efficient library unit in terms of these essential services is approximately \$37,500 a year, an amount which would provide minimum service for a population of about 25,000. The most effective units will be considerably larger with a proportionately larger budget." Therefore, the committee believes "that the small libraries already established in several of the municipalities of greater Winnipeg could greatly increase their opportunities for service - not only in books, but also through film and record collections, reference and research facilities - if they became a part of a Metropolitan Library System."

In Appendix C of their Brief the committee has suggested amendments to the Libraries Act covering the selection and appointment of a Metropolitan Library Board and an outline of its duties. Appendix B lists the municipalities who might participate in such a plan. Participation would, of course, entail a surrender of their autonomy by local library boards but in practical terms the committee felt that this would mean little and be far outweighed by the advantages gained.

Such a structure then, seems desirable, but as Mr. Coddington pointed out, it could not be set up on present funds. Good service requires a definite minimum amount. This is set by C.L.A. standards at \$1.50 per capita for minimum service, \$2.00 per capita for reasonably good service. As Appendix B of the Brief shows, the maximum revenue which could be raised from equalized assessments under the present law (which limits the amount raised by taxes for libraries to 1 mill) would still be short of the minimum standard of \$1.50 per capita, giving only \$457, 195 for a population of 367,739. Mr. Coddington felt that a metropolitan library system should be set up on a basis enabling it to provide something better than a minimum service. The only way this could be done would be with the aid of grants from the Provincial government and therefore authorities in the municipalities should bring pressure to bear to obtain financial support from the government

As the committee points out in their Brief, "Provincial government grants have been recognized across Canada for many years. The Manitoba government has recognized the services that a public library provides in the community by making grants which are approved annually by order-in-council. The grants made by the Manitoba government are low but the amounts spent by the various municipalities are also low...in order to provide library service even at the lowest level both the municipalities that are now spending nothing and the municipality that is now paying 95 cents per capita must expect to pay \$1.50 per capita. It is to be hoped that the Provincial government will see its way to encourage the development of library service in the Province by providing a more generous schedule of grants to public libraries."

Apropos of this, the Committee has shown in Appendix E of the Brief, the library incomes of the leading cities with Winnipeg the lowest on the list with an income of 95¢ per capita. Appendix F shows the grants to public, regional and association libraries by the provincial governments of Canada in 1954, from Manitoba with \$2,400.00, Saskatchewan next lowest with \$22,418.96, Alberta, \$46,324.81, Prince Edward Island, \$33,613.00, B.C., \$143,000.00 (1953), Ontario, \$751,254 (1955), Nova Scotia, \$69,901, Newfoundland, \$115,900, and figures for New Brunswick and Quebec, not available.

As a basis for consideration of future Provincial grants in Manitoba, the Committee included in Appendix D, 2 schedules of proposed provincial grants as follows:

1. Approved by the Trustees of the Public Libraries of Manitoba at a meeting held in Brandon, May 19, 1954.

The Provincial government shall pay to each public library in Manitoba,
 50% of the first \$10,000 raised by local taxation for library purposes
 40% " " next \$10,000 " " " " " " "
 30% " " " \$10,000 " " " " " " "
 20% " " " \$10,000 " " " " " " "
 10% " any sum in excess of \$40,000

2. Approved by the Public Library Advisory Board (1954)

25% of the first \$10,000 raised by local taxation for library purposes
 20% " " next \$10,000 " " " " " " "
 15% " " " \$10,000 " " " " " " "
 10% " " " \$10,000 " " " " " " "
 5% of any sum raised in excess of \$40,000 raised by local taxation
 for library purposes.

Mrs. Moore concluded the report of her Committee's work by telling the meeting that the Brief had been submitted to the Greater Winnipeg Investigating Committee and that her Committee was to meet with Investigating Committee later to discuss the Brief in detail.

Miss Marjorie Wilson expressed the thanks of the Association to Mrs. Moore and the members of the Special Committee and the meeting was concluded.

Margaret Ashley