

Bulletin



Miss Nettie Siemens, President of the Manitoba Library Association, looks on as the Honourable Stewart McLean signs the Proclamation declaring Canadian Library Week in Manitoba.



Manitoba Library Association

MANITOBA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

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CANADIAN LIBRARY WEEK - April 2nd - 9th

PROCLAMATION

The following proclamation has been issued by the Honourable Stewart E. McLean, Minister i-c of Libraries and Historical Research in the Province of Manitoba:-

WHEREAS the week of April 2 to 9, has been designated as Canadian Library Week;

AND WHEREAS Manitoba's concern must be the development of every individual to his highest capacity, for the Province's vitality and existence is dependent on the ability of its people to find out, to judge, and to accept new ideas and viewpoints;

AND WHEREAS limited horizons are dangerous to a free people;

AND WHEREAS the printed word is the basis of education and continuous self-education, through reading, is an important means whereby Manitobans may exercise responsible citizenship;

THEREFORE he, the Minister, recommends:

THAT a proclamation be issued stressing the importance of reading in Canadian life and the importance of libraries of all kinds, and that the proclamation support the Canadian Library Association and other interested bodies in the celebration of Canadian Library Week, and that it commend observance to all citizens of the Province of Manitoba as being worthy of their enthusiastic support.

CANADIAN LIBRARY WEEK IN MANITOBA

Manitoba is joining the rest of Canada in observing Canadian Library Week, April 3rd to 9th. The Executive of the Manitoba Library Association is acting as Library Week Committee for this province, with Dr. Hugh H. Saunderson, President of the University of Manitoba, as chairman, and your President, as vice-chairman.

This Committee has sent out circulars to all libraries in the province urging them to give this Week special recognition. It has also contacted radio and television stations and daily newspapers in Winnipeg in an effort to get the widest publicity possible.

The Honourable Stewart McLean, Minister in charge of Libraries, gave this Week official recognition when he signed a proclamation declaring it Library Week for Manitoba, and when he appeared on "Spot Light" from the new Fort Garry Public Library on April 1st.

Several libraries have already reported on their programs of activities. Brandon reports that its campaign will be largely conducted through the press. The librarian is writing two lead editorials for the Brandon Daily Sun. Six articles written by local citizens on books will appear in the local paper. The women's page is being devoted to Library Week on Saturday, and a picture story is also planned for the Week. St. James Public Library is placing an advertisement in the "Leader", exhibiting original paintings by the Group of Seven from the Winnipeg Art Gallery, arranging class visits from the schools, and having an "Open House" to show the new renovations at that Library. In Winnipeg, the Friends of the Library are sponsoring Library Week. They are making arrangements for displays of books printed in Manitoba in the branch libraries, an exhibit of publications of the Manitoba Historical Society at the Main Library, appropriate window displays in the downtown department and book stores, "Canadian Library Week" in lights at the City Hall, etc.

Other libraries in the province are planning and carrying out similar projects. Your Library Week Committee would be pleased to hear about these and hopes that all participating libraries will send in reports as soon after Canadian Library Week as possible.

Library Week is not an end in itself, but it provides an excellent opportunity for underlining the importance of, and heightening interest in, reading. Activities carried on during this Week cannot but help create an added awareness of books as sources of information, recreation, and education, and thereby bring libraries closer to their goal of a well read and well informed public.

Nettie J. Siemens,
President.

The following address was given by the Honourable Stewart E. McLean on the C.B.W. Provincial Affairs Series, Wednesday, March 23, 1960. -

In previous reports to the people of Manitoba I have discussed the secondary school division plan and the attempts that have been made by the Roblin Government to give an equal educational opportunity to every child in Manitoba.

I know that most of you are aware that attendance in high schools has increased sharply in Manitoba since this program was initiated. The increase is most marked where it is most needed - in the rural high schools. That this is of vital importance to the young people getting the education need hardly be labored; but it is equally important to the welfare of the province of Manitoba as a whole. The level of education of the people and the rate of growth of the province are intimately related.

In improving education, even at some extra cost, we are laying a foundation for a greater Manitoba.

In pressing forward the growth of the economic resources of Manitoba the Roblin Government is not forgetting the vital human resources. New programs have been undertaken, new policies initiated and new efforts made toward improving education at the elementary, high school and University level in Manitoba.

But tonight I do not wish to discuss with you the school program as such: I propose to discuss the library services in Manitoba - the books that are being made available to the people of this province. And, in doing so, I propose to go back to the early days of library service in Manitoba.

Prior to the passage of the Public Libraries Act in 1948 there were only two library systems serving urban areas in Manitoba. The Winnipeg Public Library had been established in 1906 and the Brandon Public Library followed forty years later, in 1946. Not until 1948 was the Public Libraries Act passed. It provided an establishment grant and an annual grant to municipal or city libraries.

But aid is not limited to the large urban areas. It is important that good libraries should reach into some of the smaller towns and rural communities. This is being accomplished through the program on regional libraries.

The establishment grant from the Government of Manitoba for a regional library is \$10,000. The annual maintenance grant is now \$2,000 per municipality and as a minimum of two municipalities are required in the formation of a region for a regional library, this means the annual grant is at least \$4,000.

I do not wish to leave the impression with my listeners that the initiation of this program was one of the accomplishments of the Roblin Government. Libraries in Manitoba had been neglected for decades but this neglect had become less marked prior to the election of the Conservative administration.

Indeed, one of the early municipal libraries was established in my own town of Dauphin a little over ten years ago. It opened in 1949. It was followed by a library in St. Vital in 1954; in St. James in 1955; Fort Garry in 1956; Flin Flon in 1958 and Franscona in 1958.

It is worth noting that the libraries in Dauphin, St. James and Fort Garry were initially housed in cramped and inadequate quarters but, as local interest grew, all three moved into modern library buildings constructed for that purpose. This illustrates how interest in a library will grow when a start is made.

The start must be locally inspired. In Dauphin, for example, a group of public spirited citizens took the initiative in creating the library and deserve the credit for the existence of the library. In areas that today do not have adequate libraries, service clubs, Chambers of Commerce and Women's groups might well serve as the driving force.

But the libraries that I have discussed are city and municipal. In the last three years no less than six regional libraries have been formed in Manitoba.

I earlier referred to the fact that two municipalities must combine to form a region for library purposes. Under the act a municipality is any incorporated city, town, village or rural municipality. Any two can combine to form a library region and so earn the \$10,000 library establishment grant and the annual aid.

The first two regional libraries opened in 1958. Glenwood - Souris co-operating to open their library at Souris and Russell and District opening theirs in Russell.

In 1959 four more regional libraries opened to the public. These included Boissevain and Morton; Lakeland, at Killarney; Southwestern, with the library in Melita and Virden-Elkhorn.

It is our hope and, indeed, our expectation that more regions will be formed and that districts that presently lack good library facilities will, in co-operation with their provincial Government, see that they are established.

In the meantime, library facilities do exist for districts that are not otherwise served. The open shelf and travelling library services have been transferred to the adult education department of the University of Manitoba. Through this service books are made available to other areas that are not otherwise served.

But the most effective library system for rural areas and for towns and villages is the regional library. Under the act it permits a local levy to supplement the provincial grants and it is possible to adequately finance the library, and satisfy the tastes of various readers. It is possible to afford the services of professionally trained librarians. Further, regions can co-operate and economies can be effected. One of these is the discount available on group purchases of books, supplies and equipment. Another is the possibility

of an inter-library book loan system. Technical and highly specialized books can be borrowed from other libraries anywhere in Canada. Regional libraries now rotate books: fiction, including westerns, mystery stories and science fiction, are purchased and retained for four months and then sent on to another regional library. Economy results.

Certainly the facilities and the legislation exists for further improving the library services throughout Manitoba. Libraries are an important aspect of education - for adults as well as young people.

It is the hope of the Manitoba Government that communities that feel they do not presently have adequate libraries will examine the opportunities that now exist to improve this situation and so strengthen education in the local community.

REGIONAL LIBRARIES

Some interesting statistics are available for the regional libraries of Manitoba. Boissevain, Lakeland, Southwestern and Virden-Elkhorn operated for four months of 1959 and each of these centers report gratifying utilization of the new facilities.

In Boissevain with a population of 2,826 (1956 Census) and a book stock of 2,440 volumes the circulation was 7,569. Lakeland with a population of 3,619 and a book stock of 2,105 circulated 4,000 volumes. A circulation figure of 3,226 was reported from Southwestern whose book stock of 2,075 volumes serves 2,122 persons, and Virden-Elkhorn, population 6,446 made 11,247 loans using its book stock of 2,919 volumes.

The circulation figures for the two regional libraries, Russell and Glenwood-Souris, which were open during the entire 1959 period, indicate that interest in reading did not fall off when the library was no longer a novelty. In 1959, Russell with a population of 2,115 and a book stock of 3,125 volumes had a 16,802 circulation, while Glenwood-Souris with a population of 2,748 and a book stock of 3,816 circulated 16,222 volumes.

REPORT ON THE PROPOSED COURSE FOR LIBRARY ASSISTANTS

Early this year your President, Miss Siemens, and the Chairman of the Education Committee of the Manitoba Library Association conferred with Professor A. S. R. Tweedie, Director of University Extension and Adult Education of the University of Manitoba in regard to the possibility of the University establishing a course which would train people in clerical library routines.

We emphasized to Professor Tweedie that this Course should not in any way be construed by anyone as being equal to the course of training already established in recognized Library Schools for professional librarians. Further, such a Course should not be regarded as a substitute for the professional librarian and the work which the professional librarian performs but would be a Course that would in many respects be a formalization of in-service training already undergone by clerical employees in many libraries. The Course is for the purpose of aiding clerical personnel and those who find themselves in charge of libraries and who consequently have need of greater knowledge of the philosophy underlying the practice of librarianship as well as training in the clerical routines necessary to having books reach readers.

A long discussion on all aspects of such a Course from content to cost was had with Professor Tweedie and it was generally agreed that any course which was to have value for the student should last approximately six weeks.

The following were the subjects of instruction which it was thought wise to include in such a Course and here again only the most basic and elementary aspects of such Subjects would be able to be offered in the short space of six weeks:

1. Cataloguing
2. Classification
3. Reference
4. Library Methods
5. Book Selection
6. Philosophy of Librarianship

Daily attendance at Class would of course be necessary with the bulk of the instruction being offered in the morning. In the afternoon the student would be assigned to a specific library where he could see the theoretical aspects of instruction applied in practice and where also assignments could be satisfactorily attended to. Reading assignments would be able to be carried during the evening hours.

It was thought that with the number of subjects offered that possibly three instructors would have to be employed by the University. These instructors would of course be fully qualified librarians and librarians with experience. One of the instructors could co-ordinate the work of the entire Course so that the Course would proceed satisfactorily.

The cost of any Course is naturally an important factor. Particularly is this so when a Course in library work is being offered because of the number of students undertaking the Course of instruction would have a big bearing on the cost for each student. It was thought that a figure of slightly over \$100.00 per student would do, if there were fifteen students enrolled. If more students enrolled the costs would be adjusted downwards accordingly.

This is the essence of the discussion which took place and your Committee is to have a further meeting and then any recommendations which it may have will be submitted to the Executive of the Association and to the Membership.

John S. Russell,
Chairman,
Education Committee,
Manitoba Library Association.

NEW PERSONNEL

Mrs. Oriole McLean Anderson has joined the staff at St. John's Branch, Winnipeg Public Library. Mrs. Anderson, a former St. John's staff member took her library training at the University of Toronto, after which she spent two years in the Etobicoke Public Library.

Mrs. Ruth Sinnema has joined the staff at the Legislative Library after nine years spent at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library.

NEW LIBRARIES IN MANITOBATHE DENTAL LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

In 1956 Dr. K. J. Faynter, of the University of Toronto Dental Faculty, was appointed by the government to conduct a survey on the establishment of a dental school in Manitoba. His report stated the need for such a school and its estimated cost. The University appointed Dr. J. I. Neilson as Dean of the new school in 1957, and the first class of students was enrolled in 1958. The school is planned to accommodate an enrollment of 30 students a year of a four year course. With the formal opening of the Faculty of Dentistry building on March 18, this has become the sixth dental school in Canada, and the first new school to be established in 44 years.

The Dean appointed the librarian on June 1, 1958, and had arranged for her a tour of several dental school libraries, as well as the libraries of the American and Canadian Dental Associations. It was fortunate that the Medical Library Association was holding a conference during that first week in June. My personal contact with members of the association brought to their attention the fact that we were starting a Dental School library and that any help they could give would be greatly appreciated. The month's tour of dental libraries after the conference served a threefold purpose: I was able to get a hasty appraisal of the literature in the dental field; it was an opportunity to get promises of aid in supplying duplicate journals; and I was looking for ideas to help in the planning of the library.

To start a library from its very beginning is both a challenge and a responsibility. I was fortunate in what I would consider the two most important factors in such an undertaking. The Dean has a real interest in the library and recognizes its value, and because he realized that to build a good library would take money, we were granted a generous budget.

The lines of authority are simple, as the librarian is responsible directly to the Dean. At present there is no library committee, the librarian selects the books that are ordered and accepts suggestions for purchase from faculty members.

Actually, we have two budgets. There is the capital grant which is to be used over a five year period. This is for the acquisition of older books and journals and for binding. The current account is budgeted for each year and is broken down roughly into $\frac{2}{3}$ for journals, $\frac{1}{3}$ for books. Dental libraries, like medical and scientific libraries, count most of their worth in the extent and completeness of their journal collections.

After we moved from our temporary quarters into the new library in December we unpacked the many boxes that had been accumulating over the past 18 months. We now have about 1,000 books and 1,600 journals. To start the collection we tapped all sources we could think of: the faculty, local practitioners, the provincial association, editors and publishers for both current issues and back volumes of journals. We are on the mailing list of quite a number of antiquarian book and periodical dealers, as some dental journals are very hard to acquire. The response to want lists we circulated was gratifying. Of course the dental libraries provided the greatest amount of material. There are also the U.S. Book Exchange and the Medical Library Association Exchange to help fill our needs.

We currently receive about 120 dental journals. Because dental research has been going on since the school started, our aim has been to build a special library that will be capable of helping with research problems, as well as one that will teach students, and help to graduate dentists who will continue to use it when they are established in practice.

It was exciting to be given a free hand to plan the library. Designing the furniture to suit our needs, and arranging it to get the most out of the space allotted took many hours of poring over journals and catalogues and consultation with librarians more experienced in planning than I.

The Library has a reading room on the main floor, with a stack room in the basement. The reading room has a seating capacity for 24 students. There are five study carrels in the stack room as well. In the reading room there is shelving for about 1,000 volumes. The periodical display rack is in a small alcove. Facing it are easy chairs and a low table which comprises our "browsing area". The stack room has steel shelving for about 5,000 volumes.

Some of the features of the library that we like are: the periodical display rack has sloping shelves that are hinged, behind which we have adequate room to shelve the back numbers of the current journals; a book drop opens into the corridor so that books may be returned when the library is closed; the telephone is recessed and enclosed at the circulation desk; the book lift is large enough to wheel a book truck into it; the reference unit has a shelf extended at sitting height so that reference books may be consulted with convenience.

The furniture is a light brown birch. The reading room chairs have upholstered leather seats in brown and cream. In the work room with its light yellow walls, and work tables with blue arborite tops, one does not notice the absence of windows. With air conditioning, excellent lighting, vertical venetian blinds for our southern exposure, and vinyl cork tile on the floor, we have a library that is a pleasant place to work and study.

As part of the healing professions dentistry has an obligation to fulfil to the public. As the library grows and we become more experienced in dealing with the subject matter we hope to do our share in fulfilling that obligation.

Doris Erfle
Librarian
Faculty of Dentistry
University of Manitoba

March 26, 1960.

THE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Although not quite finished, the School of Architecture library was opened with the start of the 1959 fall term. I'm sure this must have been the noisiest library on the campus, with its continual hammering, sawing, whistling, and an occasional snatch of song. Everyone bore up bravely, in spite of the fact that they had to thread their way into the reading room through a maze of lumber, sawhorses, drills, cans of paint, etc., and very soon the work was finished.

The library is a rectangular room about thirty-five by ninety-five feet with stacks and filing cabinets at one end and an office-workroom at the other. Shelves line the south wall while the north wall is full-length windows which face out onto a courtyard. The woodwork is done in a light oak stain while the wooden shelving and stacks are done in a mahogany stain. The chairs give a touch of colour, being red, white and gray moulded plastic. I feel the circulation counter is rather unique as it has a terrazo top (would I be safe in saying this is the only one in Canada?) The reading room seats about eighty people, over one quarter of the total enrolment in Architecture and Interior Design.

As the library is a departmental library, we give circulation and reference services only, while all processing is done at the Main Library. Each architecture book, as it comes to the Main Library, gets a duplicate set of cards, one to remain there and one for the architecture catalogue. Books in the Architecture library are denoted as such by Arch added to the call number. The catalogue here is a dictionary catalogue. The book stock is approximately three thousand. This collection consists largely of books on architectural style, design, mechanics, architecture of various countries, interior decoration, furniture, landscaping, etc., and a few books on art. The entire collection will grow only slightly larger, although we hope to increase the art collection.

The journal titles number approximately seventy and date from 1950. The previous years are kept at the Main library. Only the last ten years of any journal will be kept here, as it is felt that these will provide a good working reference. American, British, Canadian, German, French, Japanese and Italian journals are included in the collection. These are first entered at the Main library and when sent here are entered again. This provides a double check system. Numerous duplicate periodicals are provided by the School of Architecture for circulation.

Vertical files are also kept. The Community Planning file provides planning laws and planning material from various U.S. and Canadian cities, and also a few European centres. There is also an information file. This includes pamphlets from the National Research Council and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Subjects covered range from do-it-yourself home wiring to "Permafrost investigations at Aklavik."

Theses reports are also available for loan. These are fifth year Architecture and fourth year Interior Design theses. Plates and reproductions are also available on request. These consist of architectural design, filed by country and period, sculpture and painting.

As yet there are a few problems. Our book stock is not yet complete, nor is the catalogue. By the start of the fall term both of these will be completed. Our aim is to provide a library with a current and working collection available to students, faculty and anyone interested in the fields of architecture and interior design.

Verona M. Dechene

Architecture Librarian.

FORT GARRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

On February 14, 1960, the Fort Garry Public Library was officially opened by the Honourable Sterling Lyon, Attorney-General of Manitoba and a resident of Fort Garry. This occasion was the realization of the dream which caused this progressive community to establish a Library Board in 1956 and approve in October, 1958, an \$81,000 by-law for the construction of a library building. The library was first housed in the Municipal Hall and the present building was started in 1959 with Mr. George Stewart as architect.

At the present time the librarian, Mrs. Trika Fuerst and her assistant, Mrs. Jean Conelley have a staff of five part-time helpers and eight pages who assist them in circulating approximately 2,500 volumes per month. In the first two weeks following the opening of the new building close to 6,000 books changed hands drawing heavily on the 9,000 volumes which comprise the book stock.

Believing that the Public Library plays an important part in the cultural life of the community, the Fort Garry Public Library hangs paintings which it borrows on a monthly basis from the Winnipeg Art Gallery, thus enriching the patrons visit to the library as well as giving an indication of what is being currently shown at the Gallery.

Plans are being made for the establishment of a film collection by the end of 1960.