

## 11.—Circulations of Public Libraries, by Provinces, 1939

Province	Adult Fiction	Adult Non-Fiction	Juvenile	Not Classified	Total
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Prince Edward Island.....	116,792	41,432	84,527	Nil	242,751
Nova Scotia.....	92,538	32,079	23,172	56,720	204,509
New Brunswick.....	154,592	38,437	33,617	42,013	268,659
Quebec.....	316,252	188,304	84,333	108,551	697,440
Ontario.....	7,023,120	2,528,444	4,206,088	241,762	13,999,414
Manitoba.....	363,546	207,644	217,282	88,632	877,104
Saskatchewan.....	558,992	172,120	291,856	29,589	1,052,557
Alberta.....	576,821	231,846	390,632	165,051	1,364,350
British Columbia.....	1,017,560	556,030	376,341	58,389	2,008,320
Yukon.....	5,600	1,000	100	6,347	13,047
<b>Canada.....</b>	<b>10,225,813</b>	<b>3,997,336</b>	<b>5,767,948</b>	<b>797,054</b>	<b>20,728,151</b>

An analysis of the circulation of non-fiction books indicates that among communities of different size, persons living in the larger communities read more philosophy, and those living in the smaller communities more religion. Sociology and the arts are studied to a greater extent in the larger communities (except where there are regional libraries), while the smaller centres are high in literature, history and travel. Biography is popular everywhere; next to travel books, it is on the whole the most popular class of non-fiction.

**Regional Libraries.**—In the early 1930's, with the assistance of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, several experiments were undertaken with a view to providing more adequate library service to smaller communities and rural districts. These experiments were undertaken in the belief that the county or similar district, rather than the isolated city or town, is the proper unit of library work and administration. The Fraser Valley experiment, the first to be undertaken, has become a permanent regional library, and two other similar libraries have been established in British Columbia. In Prince Edward Island the demonstration included the whole province and it has become a permanent provincial library system. Nova Scotia, in 1938, established the Regional Libraries Commission, which employed a full-time director to assist interested areas of the Province in organization. A small regional library was established in New Brunswick in 1937. In Ontario a number of county library schemes have been established in the southwestern part of the Province where co-operation on a county or township basis has been developing.

**Travelling Libraries.**—The object of travelling libraries is to supplement the book stock of small public and school libraries and to provide free library service in communities where there is no established public library. Such libraries operate in every province. Three universities, Acadia, Dalhousie and St. Francis Xavier, conduct such a service in Nova Scotia, and McGill University circulates libraries in Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. Each of the five most westerly provinces operates a provincial system of travelling libraries with headquarters at the provincial capital. In the Prairie Provinces the provincial service is augmented by libraries sent out by the Saskatoon Public Library and by the Lady Tweedsmuir Libraries. The latter were established in the autumn of 1936 under the personal direction of Her Excellency, Lady Tweedsmuir.

**University and College Libraries.**—The statistics summarized below are for 175 institutions of higher education. They include classical colleges, preparatory schools and theological seminaries but are exclusive of normal schools which were included in the similar table of previous surveys.