

In accordance with Order in Council dated June 14, 1957, the Council established the National Commission for UNESCO and named 26 members and 30 organizations with "co-operating body status".

Section 5.—Library Services

The National Library.—The National Library of Canada, authorized by the National Library Act of June 18, 1952 (1 Eliz. II, c. 330), came into existence formally on Jan. 1, 1953. The Act provides for the establishment of an Advisory Council consisting of 15 members, including at least one representative from each of the ten provinces; the appointment of a National Librarian, an Assistant Librarian and other personnel. The duties of the National Librarian include the establishment of a National Union Catalogue listing the books in every important collection in Canada; the purchasing of book stock; and the publication of a National Bibliography listing books published in Canada, written by Canadians, or of special interest to Canadians.

Since its establishment, the Library has continued to expand its activities in temporary quarters while awaiting the erection of a new building. The first stage of the *National Union Catalogue*, which lists the holdings of larger public reference, government, university and special libraries, was completed in November 1958. Included were data for two libraries in Newfoundland, two in Prince Edward Island, 19 in Nova Scotia, five in New Brunswick, 14 in Quebec, 73 in Ontario, four in Manitoba, three in Saskatchewan, four in Alberta and 10 in British Columbia.

Statistics on interlibrary loans facilitated by the Catalogue demonstrate its usefulness to scholars and research workers across the country. An average of more than 700 requests a month are being filled, about half of which are dealt with by university libraries, one-quarter by public libraries and the remainder by special libraries and through other sources.

Canadiana, issued monthly, provides an up-to-date inclusive bibliography of materials of Canadian origin and interest for the use of libraries, the publishing trade and others. Altogether, 8,271 items were listed in 1956.

In addition to Canadian books, the National Library is acquiring material in other subject fields, especially in the humanities, music and the social sciences.

Public Libraries.—Library service is provided for the Canadian public by several types of library organization. Free, tax-supported libraries, some with extensive branch systems, serve most of the larger centres of over 10,000 population and about half of the smaller centres served. Non-profit association public libraries, privately controlled and operated, serve a few of the larger centres and the remainder of the smaller centres. Regional libraries, including a number of municipalities and rural areas within each unit, supplement or take the place of independent libraries in smaller centres and are developing rapidly in almost every province. Travelling and open-shelf libraries operated by provincial government agencies and universities serve more remote areas in most provinces by sending out boxes of books by rail, mail, aircraft or boat, and by supplying books to individuals on request.

All types of public libraries are experiencing substantial increases in most forms of activity, particularly in the expansion of services to boys and girls, regional library development and the planning and construction of library buildings—despite the fact that the number of trained librarians available to staff library services remains about the same. The many new library buildings being erected in communities where there were previously