

Section 6.—Library Services

The National Library.—The National Library of Canada came into existence formally on Jan. 1, 1953 by the proclamation of the National Library Act (RSC 1952, c. 330). On the same date it absorbed the Canadian Bibliographic Centre, which had been engaged in preliminary work and planning since 1950. The Act established a National Library Advisory Council, consisting of the National Librarian, who serves as Chairman, the Parliamentary Librarian, and twelve appointed members, at least one of whom must be from each of the ten provinces.

By 1964, although the Library was still housed in temporary quarters and only a limited purchasing program could be undertaken, the book collection consisted of over 250,000 volumes, supplemented by microcopies of more than 100,000 additional titles. Under the terms of the Copyright Act and the Library's own Book Deposit Regulations, 7,273 titles were received in the year ended Mar. 31, 1965, 5,204 of which were related in some direct way to Canada.

Canadiana, the Library's monthly catalogue of new books and pamphlets relating to Canada, described over 12,000 items in 1964; these included trade and general publications, and official publications of the federal and provincial governments. *Canadiana* has been published since 1950 and is cumulated annually; a cumulated index is in preparation.*

The National Union Catalogue lists 9,500,000 volumes in 224 government, university, public and special libraries in all provinces. New accessions are reported regularly by these libraries, and the Union Catalogue thus forms a continuously up-to-date key to the main book resources of the country. During the year ended Mar. 31, 1964, the Reference Division was asked to locate nearly 30,000 titles and it is noteworthy that copies of 80 p.c. of them were found in Canadian libraries. About one third of the requests were for books in the field of science and technology and 80 p.c. were for books published since 1925.

In addition to *Canadiana*, the National Library publishes bibliographies and the annual cumulation of the *Canadian Index to Periodicals*.

A permanent National Library and Archives Building is under construction on Wellington Street west of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa; the \$10,000,000 building will be ready for occupancy late in 1966.

The National Science Library.—The National Research Council Library serves as the library for the Council and as the National Science Library of Canada. Plans for developing a central scientific library were proposed as early as 1924 by the Honorary Advisory Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, established in 1916 and now known as the National Research Council (see pp. 390-397). The Library grew slowly until 1928 when the Council's first research laboratories were set up. Since then it has been developed to parallel the growth and expansion of the laboratories and the national interests and activities of the Council with the result that in 1953, under an agreement with the more recently established National Library, the National Research Council Library formally assumed responsibility for national library services in the fields of science and technology. By 1964, the Library's collection, comprising over 560,000 volumes, was growing at the rate of 130,000 items a year and included journals and other serial publications, books, pamphlets and technical and research reports. The bulk of this material is housed in the main Library with smaller and more specialized collections in six branch Libraries.

The resources of the Library are made available by means of an extensive inter-library loan and photocopying service. For purposes of current awareness, the Library issues twice a month its *Recent Additions to the Library*, and a list of *Serial Publications in the Library* is also issued at frequent intervals through the use of data processing equipment.

*A list of 400 selected titles of "Books About Canada", prepared by the National Library, appears in Chapter XXVII of this volume.