

produced in Canada, works by Canadians and material on Canada published abroad. More than 30,000 titles were included in 1974, slightly fewer in 1975. Retrospective bibliographies are planned or in progress.

The National Library maintains the Canadian Union Catalogue, which provides a key to the main library resources of the country. This catalogue lists about 4 million volumes in about 340 government, university, public and special libraries in all provinces. New accessions are reported regularly; these numbered over 1.4 million cards in 1975-76. The Public Service Branch uses this catalogue to help it meet the requests sent in by Canadian libraries for location of materials. During the year ended March 31, 1976, the branch was asked to locate nearly 149,000 titles; it found about 78% of them to be held in Canadian libraries. Automation of the Union Catalogue is now under study.

The National Library provides for Canadian subscribers a computerized literature search in the fields of the social and behavioural sciences and the humanities. This encompasses both a current awareness service and retrospective bibliographies prepared from various machine-readable data bases. In early 1974 the library began publishing a series of periodicals lists which would complement the computerized search service by providing library locations for journals indexed in specific data bases. These specialized lists will eventually be consolidated to form a full-scale union list of social science and humanities serials.

In addition, the National Library offers reference service on these subjects, and consultative services in such fields as library automation, Canadian library developments and rare books. It is developing a children's literature consultant service and a library service for the visually and physically handicapped. It provides to provincial library agencies loan collections of books in languages other than English and French, and assists Canadian libraries to develop their collections by redistributing library materials through the Canadian Book Exchange Centre. It also plays an active coordinating role in attempts to develop national library and information networks, and is contributing to international efforts at universal bibliographic control.

A list of books about Canada, prepared by the National Library, is published in Appendix 6.

7.11.3 Public libraries

Public libraries in Canada are organized under provincial legislation which specifies the method of establishment, the services to be provided and the means of support. Municipalities may organize and maintain public libraries or join together to form regional libraries according to provincial legislation. Provincial public library agencies advise local and regional libraries and distribute grants.

Table 7.12 gives summary statistics on nearly 700 public libraries providing over 2,000 service points. Book circulation was 101.0 million or 4.5 per capita in 1974. The operating payments of all public libraries amounted to \$107.9 million or \$4.81 per capita compared with \$4.02 in 1973. The full-time staff numbered 5,735 in 1974.

7.12 Book publishing

Books hold a prominent place in the realm of communication. They are a major tool in education and as a means of spreading knowledge are both the keeper and the messenger of a culture. Book importing and production in Canada in 1974 are summarized in the following paragraphs.

Book imports. Calculations based on figures received from Customs sources show that Canada imported books and pamphlets valued at \$170 million in 1974. These books came mainly from the United States, 76%, with 10.5% from France, 8.3% from the United Kingdom, 1.1% from Italy, 1.0% from Belgium-Luxembourg and the remaining 3.1% from about 20 other countries.

Canadian publishing. In 1974, Canadian publishers issued 3,519 new titles and reprinted 2,241 others. Sales resulting from this production were estimated at some