

machine-readable archives division holds selected automated public records and machine-readable archives of permanent value from the private sector.

Documents may not be taken out on personal loan, but may be consulted in the archives building. A 24-hour-a-day service is provided for accredited researchers. Reproductions of material are available for a moderate fee. Many documents on microfilm may be obtained on interlibrary loan. Archival material is also presented on microfilm, slides and microfiche, in publications and in travelling exhibitions.

A records management branch helps federal departments and agencies in their own records management. At records centres in major Canadian cities, it provides storage, reference service and planned and economical disposal of dormant records.

Branch offices of the Public Archives of Canada are in London, England and Paris, France. The archives also administers Laurier House, the former residence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Rt. Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King, in Ottawa as a historical museum.

**The National Library of Canada**, established in 1953, now operates under the National Library Act of 1969 and its amendments. Legal deposit regulations require that two copies of most current Canadian publications be deposited with the library. In 1983 Dr. Guy Sylvestre, director of the library since 1968, retired. Under his leadership the library had made many advances in development of collections, services to users and use of new technology to enhance service and promote interlibrary co-operation.

The national library supports Canadian studies with extensive collections of Canadian books, periodicals, newspapers, government documents, microform and non-book materials. Foreign materials in the humanities and social sciences complement its Canadian holdings. In 1983 the library had more than 900,000 volumes of monographs, microcopies of over 1 million additional titles, including Canadian theses, more than 120,000 issues of periodicals, the largest collection of Canadian newspapers in Canada, close to 2 million official publications, and an extensive collection of Canadian music scores, recordings and manuscripts.

The library issues *Canadiana*, the national bibliography, in microfiche and tape versions as well as in print. It is searchable on-line through the CAN/OLE system of the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information.

The library facilitates the use of the nation's total library resources on interlibrary loan. A Canadian union catalogue, key to the main library resources of the country, lists about 5.5 million volumes in almost 350 university, public, government, and other

special libraries. There were about 430,000 new accessions in 1981-82 and about 700,000 in 1980-81, all of them now entered on the library's automated data base. In 1983 work was begun on a union catalogue of special format materials such as Braille, and talking books for print-handicapped individuals in Canada.

An office of network development promotes the interconnection of data bases for access to resources nationwide. International programs facilitate the exchange of bibliographic data between countries.

The library's reference and consultation services provide back-up to other Canadian libraries in social sciences and the humanities. These services are also available to individual researchers who require access to the library's resources or staff expertise in such areas as music, conservation, Judaica, library science, Indian rights and Canadian children's literature.

The library provides, to provincial library agencies, loan collections of books in languages other than English and French, and assists Canadian libraries to develop their collections through a book exchange centre. For Canadian researchers without access to computerized search services, the library provides, for a minimal charge, both a current awareness service in the social sciences and humanities and retrospective bibliographies prepared from machine-readable data bases. National library services are in both official languages.

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

**Public libraries** 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 15.12 gives preliminary statistics of Canadian public libraries from annual surveys. In 1981 a total of 3,159 public library service points indicated that they held about 48 million books, reported around 132 million direct circulations, employed 1,882 full-time professional librarians, and spent about \$295 million for their total operations.

## 15.8 Canadian films

### 15.8.1 National Film Board (NFB)

The NFB was established by an act of Parliament in 1939 and reconstituted by the National Film Act in 1950 to initiate and promote the production and distribution of films in the national interest.

The NFB has produced over 5,400 films depicting events that shaped history and showing the diversity of Canadian concerns and achievements. The board's films are produced in Canada's two official languages.