

Preparatory work for the new library is well advanced. The Advisory Council has been established and the National Librarian and his assistant have been appointed. Work on the National Union Catalogue has progressed to the point where the catalogues of about 30 libraries in Canada have been reproduced to provide a key to some 2,500,000 books. The Canadian Bibliographic Centre issues a bi-monthly publication, *Canadiana*, that is distributed on a national and international scale. The removal of the books from the Parliamentary Library, preparatory to the renovations required following the fire of 1952, provides an opportunity for the discretionary selection of material from this source that eventually will be deposited in the National Library. More recently a site has been reserved, in close proximity to the Parliamentary Library and the Houses of Parliament at Ottawa, for the National Library building.

Regional Library Service.—Second in importance to the National Library is the concerted efforts of the provinces to provide library service for residents in rural areas including the more isolated areas of Canada. Regional library service, or an adaptation thereof, now functions in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. In 1952, New Brunswick and Manitoba each made a survey of existing library facilities and studied the population distribution and the local municipal areas preparatory to the establishment of regional libraries.

1.—Summary Statistics of Libraries Organized for Regional Collaboration, 1951

Regional Organization	Volumes	Circulation	Expenditure		
			Book Stock	Salaries	Total
			\$	\$	\$
Newfoundland Regional Libraries.....	76,000	179,000	29,052	7,135	52,755
Prince Edward Island Libraries.....	77,417	218,635	10,892	17,076	35,033
Nova Scotia Regional Libraries—					
Annapolis Valley.....	16,000	110,170	5,234	8,242	18,769
Cape Breton Island.....	22,160	186,900	17,799	29,779	50,847
Colchester—East Hants.....	26,000	94,261	5,102	9,962	18,419
Pictou County.....	11,951	46,770	10,524	9,666	30,431
Ontario County Library Co-operatives—					
Bruce.....	7,563	55,040	2,824	1,737	5,440
Elgin.....	15,175	89,288	5,551	3,850	10,603
Essex.....	12,003	150,992	4,133	4,777	12,426
Huron.....	14,181	117,275	3,563	5,004	13,481
Kent.....	12,580	136,493	4,133	2,953	11,996
Lambton.....	20,271	168,100	2,897	3,071	13,176
Middlesex.....	16,042	100,019	5,236	5,586	12,565
Oxford.....	7,087	70,924	3,982	3,571	10,030
Peel.....	5,895	32,925	2,479	840	3,934
Simcoe.....	12,325	110,176	2,172	2,800	8,827
Victoria.....	2,773	13,895	4,668	2,068	7,943
Welland.....	9,226	79,329	3,641	3,851	10,919
Wentworth.....	10,493	144,959	3,969	5,831	12,606
Saskatchewan Regional Libraries—					
North-Central Saskatchewan.....	12,378	42,946	15,324	7,373	27,624
Alberta Regional Libraries—					
Barrhead.....	..	..	..	..	..
Lacombe.....	..	..	..	..	..
British Columbia Union Libraries—					
Fraser Valley.....	62,281	393,621	15,093	31,179	56,093
Okanagan Valley.....	50,074	292,393	15,661	16,064	49,886
Vancouver Island.....	29,630	204,529	9,420	23,128	42,082