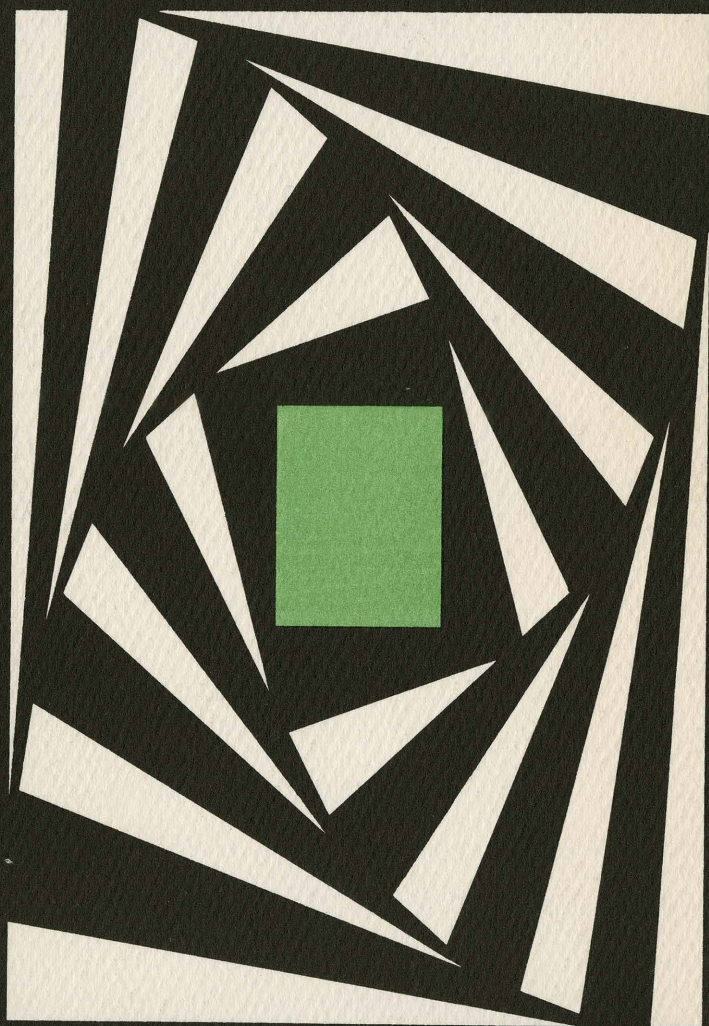


PATTERNS IN READING 1965



REPORT
of the
FOREST HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD
1965



Mr. Albert White — Chairman

Mrs. Charles Purkis

Mrs. Frank Denton

Mr. Sidney Collins

Mr. R. Murray Bell — Treasurer

Mr. Donald M. Baldwin — Secretary

Mr. E. Pivnick — Reeve

Mrs. Muriel E. Morgan — Chief Librarian



"an ideal board for any librarian"

I to r: Mr. Collins, Mrs. Purkis, Mr. White, Mrs. Denton, Mr. Bell,
Mr. Baldwin.

THE CHAIRMAN

This has been another rewarding year for the Village of Forest Hill Public Library, as further progress was made toward our goal of building up our book collection, the number of borrowers increased, the library was used even more extensively by adults and students of many neighbouring communities as well as by our own villagers, and, most important, we continued to initiate new library activities, while maintaining existing ones.

Our affair with the Community was manifested in various ways—in the Children's Department by our regular Saturday morning story-hours, and by special programmes aimed at the children: in the Adult Department, the Fine Arts Committee under Mrs. Leitch worked like Trojans to keep the walls and showcase filled throughout the year, while the Activities Committee under Mrs. Purkis again ventured forth, and drew public appreciation for the programmes presented.

The momentum of activity at the library was stepped up by the initiation of a new teenage programme. This imaginative programme was started by a small group of adults and young people—two mothers, two fathers and two teenagers. After weeks of meetings trying to decide on goals and limitations, the first programme got underway. It consisted of an evening of folksong and was enthusiastically received.

A questionnaire was drawn up and circulated among the young people to ascertain their interests and preferences, and the Committee, now enlarged by the addition of nine more teenagers, met to consider future programmes based on the information obtained by this means. The results of the questionnaire showed a need for this kind of activity, and a keen desire by the teenager to participate, and we feel that this is going to be a tremendously successful venture.

The youthful committee are now lining up speakers for next year on subjects as diversified as psychology, poetry, art and a number of other subjects, and we adults on the committee just help guide a little. We feel that this is a programme that has tremendous potential, for it fits in well with the library as a resource base.

In connection with this Teenagers' Committee, I want to thank Mr. Geoffrey Hinton particularly for his valuable help to me in getting the Committee going, as well as the 'original' teenagers, Art Steinberg and Frankie Allen, and the two mothers, Mrs. Frank Shuster and Mrs. H. H. Minden.

During the Canadian Library Association Convention in Toronto this year, the Forest Hill Library was singled out as a "must" by the tour committee of the Association. Many of the delegates came, saw and were very impressed. Much credit is due both to members of the board, the chief librarian and staff.

My thanks to the members of the Board who work so hard only "For the love of it," and who have given of their time above the call of duty. Their constant attendance at meetings, their dedication and loyalty to the library and the community are greatly admired. Our library has been very fortunate to have the services of such a librarian as Mrs. Morgan, who, with her capable staff, is doing such outstanding work and achieving unusual results in the furtherance of our services. Board, librarian and staff form a unit which has succeeded in making the library an effective functioning service organization.

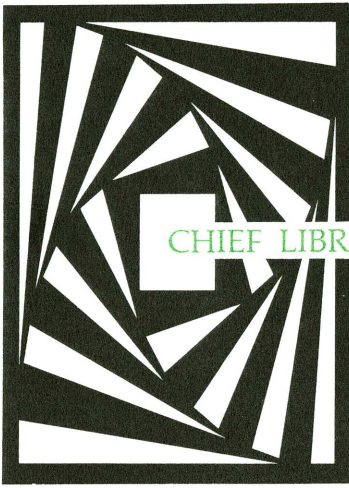
Finally, my thanks to the Council and the Board of Education for their cooperation during the year. The Library is set up to offer you the heart of education through its books: this offer is for all ages in our society, our civilization of leisure. Use it well and wisely. Use it often.

Albert White — chairman



a lively start to the teenagers programme





CHIEF LIBRARIAN

One factor is constant here at the Forest Hill Public Library—that of excitement. There is literally never a dull moment. This aura of excitement stems from a deeper source—the idea of involvement. The library believes in its obligation to be involved in community affairs in an active and positive manner, and the community responds by having a great affinity for the library, evincing a keen interest in its policies and practices.

library involvement —

Much of what the library offers is indicated by what it contains: what it contains is a result of its philosophy, which determines the proportion of the budget to be spent on books, and the nature of its book selection principles. Our philosophy emphasizes the building up of the bookstock as a most important requirement. In order to do this, in 1965 as much as 32% of our budget was spent on books and related materials, and our book selection continued to be geared to suit the particular needs of our community. Some indication of the success of this rationale is shown in our Interloan requirements: we were only compelled to borrow 30 books through Interloan from other libraries, while we were able to loan 62.

The most serious problem during the year was staff shortage, as both our excellent Deputy librarian, Mrs. Hille Sonin, and our Children's Librarian, Mrs. Barbara Silverberg, were unable to continue with us due to domestic circumstances. While part-time professional help in the persons of Mrs. Ellen Sharf and Miss Dorothy Thomas came to the rescue, the shortage of full-time librarians is reflected in the drop in book processing, and in a curtailment of other bibliographic work. Nevertheless, assistance in preparing study programmes was given to three groups during the year. We seem to supply the Library school with student material every year, and 1965 was no exception, as Mrs. Anne Pope, a part-time member of the staff went off to obtain her B.L.S. at the School of Library Science. In the absence of a Children's librarian, one of our assistants, Mrs. Myra Jones, gave sterling help in this department: indeed, the team spirit is strong with every member of the staff.

community response —

While circulation and registration figures cannot tell the extent of borrower response, they provide some index of use. Again, in 1965, in spite of the static nature of the population served, we were pleasantly surprised at the increase in book issues. This was 224,733 as compared with 215,055 for 1964. The figures reassure us of the steady growth in library use. Registration was also steadily maintained with 3,021 new borrowers or re-registrants during the year—2,826 adults and 195 juveniles. Our membership now stands at 15,545.

Thinking ultimately is that which moves and develops society: with every stimulus to thought which good books bring, and with every development in the organized bodies of students, the well-being of the community is surely and steadily secured.

In addition to the increased adult general usage of our facilities, this year a larger number of high school students also availed themselves of the library services, and we catered a great deal to university students—both full-time and part-time. Schools give advance notice of class projects, thus enabling us to serve more of the junior students fairly by temporarily holding books on current projects for use in the library only. Added to circulation issues for home use, more than 12,000 volumes were consulted in the library. Reference queries sometimes number 30/40 per hour, and may range from a request for the anatomical structure of an elephant to a hunt for the detailed physical layout and organizational structure of a shopping centre.

shared interests —

Traditionally, the public library is associated with serving the individual needs of the single enquirer. There is an increasing degree to which the efforts of adults to inform themselves and to achieve aesthetic satisfaction are being institutionalized in group activities of one form or other. The Activities Committee of this Library attempts to integrate the library with this spirit of group activity.

The efforts of the Committee resulted in two highly successful evenings. John Hirsch, Artistic Director of the Manitoba Theatre Centre, was dramatic in a pre-Stratford evening when he discussed Tchekov and Tchekovian drama, and David Silcox of the Canada Council gave a receptive audience his views on contemporary forces in the world of art.

Our Fine Arts Committee accomplished another yearly feat as they planned and presented twenty exhibits which were remarkable for the variety of media. Again this year, a representative showing of the work of the Adult and Children Art classes of the Recreation Commission was held.

In keeping with our overall plan of total community involvement, this year yet another section of our borrowers was drawn into our activities programming. The Teenagers' programme, which promises to be a lively affair, got underway with an evening of folksong and folklore.

The library is a necessary complement to all education services, providing essential material for the using of the capacities developed by education and giving opportunity for their further development by the individual. A very real link exists between the Education Department and the Library. Cooperation begins with the Director, Mr. D. Graham, and continues throughout the schools—principals, school librarians and teachers are always ready to publicize the library's activities, and to assist in every possible way.

Cooperation goes beyond the schools and extends to the Home and School Association, whose Library Chairmen act as liaison officers between the Library and the Association. Through the interest and devotion of these ladies, the Library sponsored six exhibitions of books in connection with the various Home and School programmes.

support of library rationale —

As indicated, the library could not be the success it is without the support of the community. Here it might be fitting to say thank you to all persons who donated books throughout the year, and a special thank-you to the Board of Education and the Home and School Association for their continued support and cooperation.

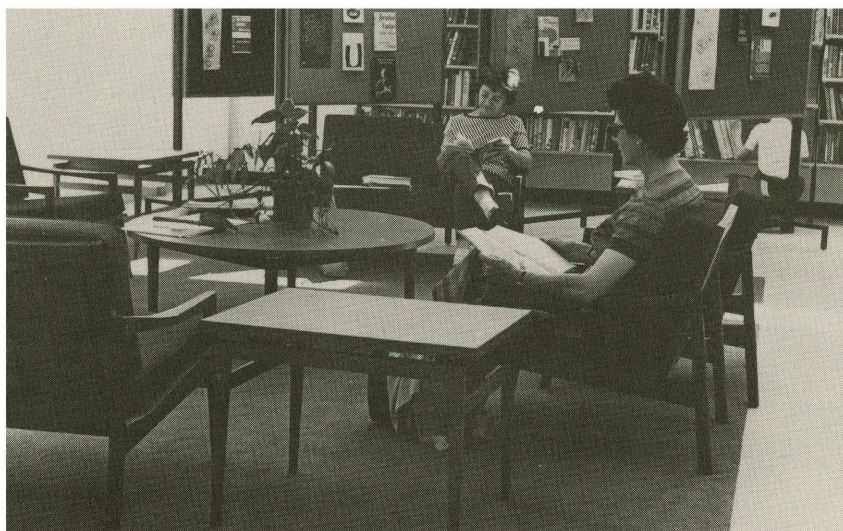
More practical support is provided by the Municipal Council which provides the bulk of the funds necessary for the maintenance of the service. Of \$88,210 received in 1965, the Council provided \$73,566, the Provincial Government supplied \$6,694 and fines and fees contributed to the remainder. A brief analysis of expenditure shows approximately \$28,000 spent on books and related materials, \$40,000 on salaries, \$10,500 paid to the Municipal Council for building maintenance, and the balance on general expenditures.

Most important in the library organization is the Board. This year brought a shuffling of board members, when the vacancy caused by the departure of Mr. C. O. Bick was eventually filled by Mr. Sidney Collins. Mr. Bick was a member of the board since its inception, and his worth cannot easily be expressed in mere words.

As with Mr. Bick, so with all the other board members: together they constitute the ideal board for any librarian. I can only think myself extremely lucky to be associated with all its members.

In another year Forest Hill Public Library as a separate entity will cease to exist. It is not without pride that we can quietly assert that in the years of its existence the library has fulfilled the role for which it was created—a 'Pavilion of Local and Universal interests' and the repository of 'knowledge open to all.'

Muriel E. Morgan — chief librarian



pavilion of local and universal interests

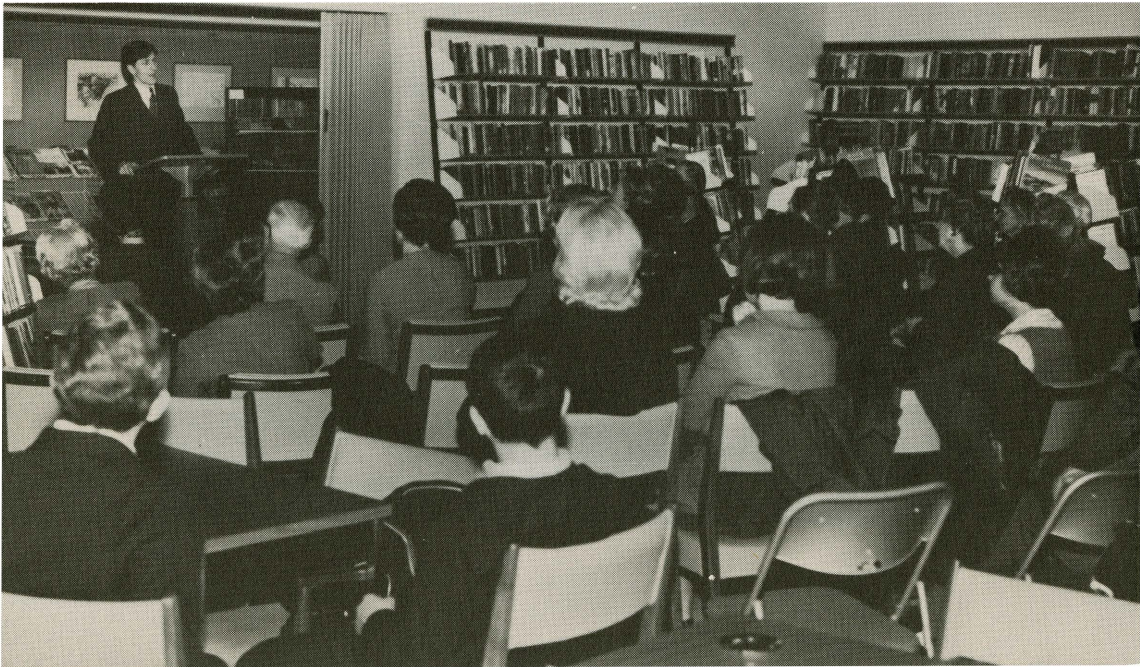


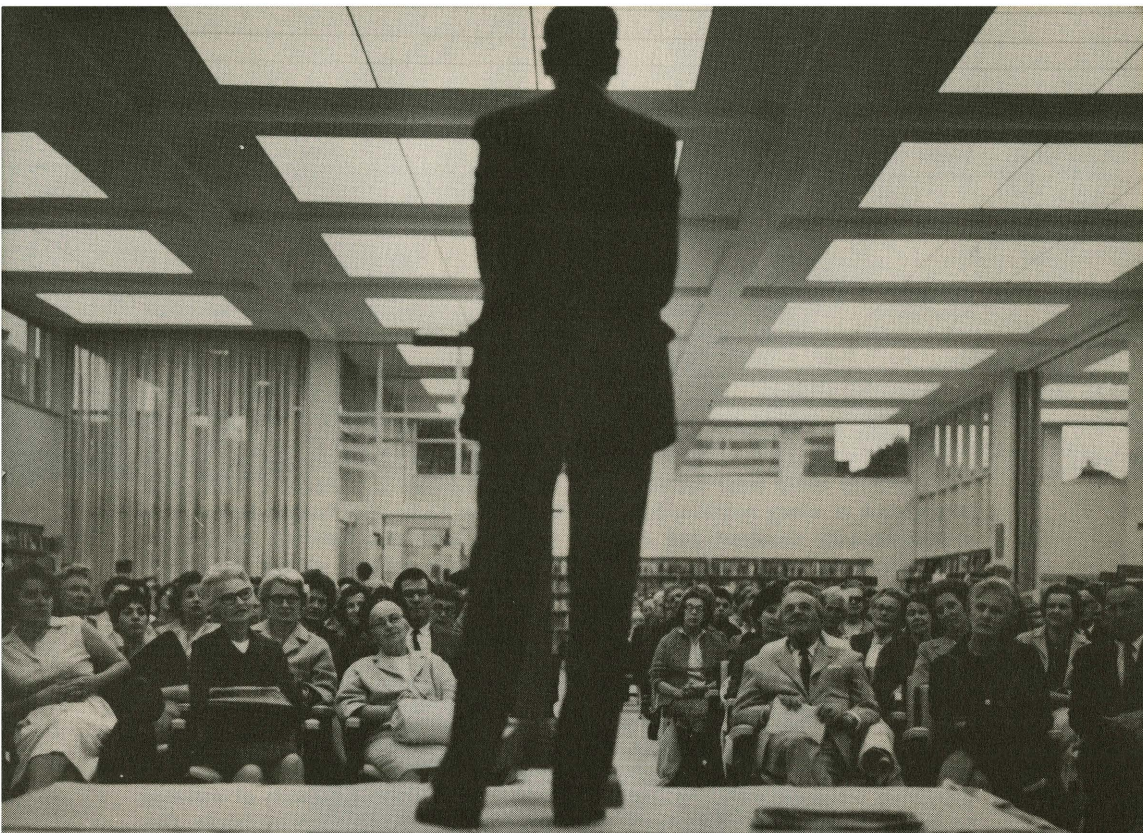


*standing l to r: Mrs. Purkis, Mrs. Keenleyside, Mrs. Draimin
seated l to r: Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Levenstein, Mrs. Denton*

SOME MEMBERS OF ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
WHO PRESENTED . . .

David Silcox discussing modern art

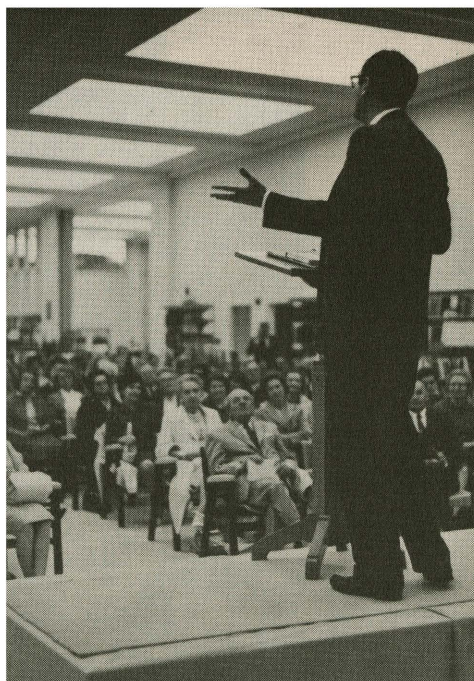




a dramatic evening with John Hirsch

and

TCHEKOV



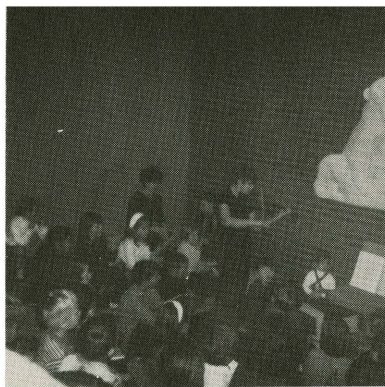
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

In the children's department there has been a steady increase in the number of registered borrowers. The children reaching the grade 7 level and re-registering in the adult division have been replaced immediately by new young applicants, and circulation figures have risen at a corresponding rate.

For our juvenile borrowers the regular Saturday morning Story Hour continued to be a never-failing attraction, with good attendance at every session. Both the Christmas Party and Puppet Show were enthusiastically received and enjoyed by more than one hundred youngsters. Throughout the year junior classes from the Village schools visited the library regularly. They were given a tour of the library and the arrangement of the Children's Department was explained to them; they were instructed in the use of the card catalogue and the classification system, and acquainted with reference books available for their use.

Our Children's Department is at all times a hive of activity. It is used extensively by both pre-schoolers in search of attractive picture books, and elementary school children in search of material to help with their assignments, as well as relaxed reading for leisure hours. Our juvenile book collection is carefully selected with these various needs in mind and a librarian is available to assist, advise and guide the young borrowers.

Anne Pope





waiting



for

*Santa
Claus*



who

comes



and goes



MEMBERS OF ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE (1965)

Mrs. C. Purkis (Chairman & Library Board Member)

Miss O. Clarke

Mrs. F. Denton (Library Board)

Mrs. E. A. Keenleyside

Mrs. J. Levenstein

Mrs. P. Draimin

Mrs. H. Wolfson

Mrs. M. E. Morgan (Chief Librarian)

FINE ARTS COMMITTEE (1965)

Mrs. J. Leitch (Chairman)

Mrs. H. Jordan

Mrs. D. H. Milnes

Mrs. I. MacMahon

Mrs. N. Rogers

Mr. A. White (Library Board)

TEENAGERS COMMITTEE

ADULT MEMBERS

Mrs. F. Shuster

Mr. G. Hinton

Mrs. H. H. Minden

Mr. Albert White (Library Board)

TEENAGERS

Debbie Aaron

Owen Grey

Frankie Allen

Richard Kenney

Ashley Blackman

Brian Pearl

Janice Gershman

Art Steinberg

Marilyn Glick

Ruth Stern

	1963	1964	1965
BOOKSTOCK	30,431	36,385	41,831
BORROWERS	9,744	11,803	15,545
CIRCULATION	190,192	215,055	224,733
POPULATION	20,677	22,106	22,383

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10:00 A.M. — 8:00 P.M.

Wednesday and Saturday

10:00 A.M. — 6:00 P.M.

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VILLAGE OF FOREST HILL PUBLIC LIBRARY

700 Eglinton Avenue West, Toronto

Telephone: 787-6181

Saturdays and evenings: 787-6633

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