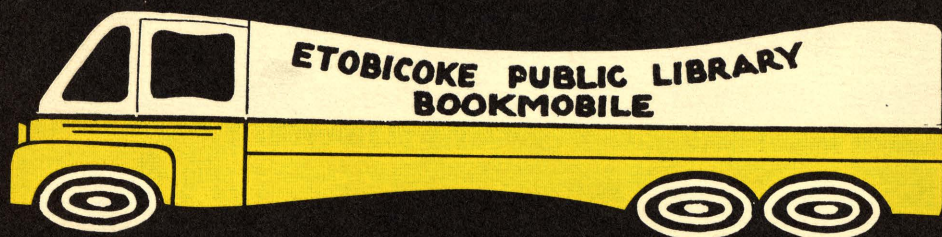


STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT



ETOBICOKE PUBLIC LIBRARY
1951

ETOBICOKE
P U B L I C
L I B R A R Y



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BOARD MEMBERS

Appointed by Council 1951

MR. G. C. MAINPRIZE, Chairman

MR. T. MELADY

MR. H. STONEHOUSE

MR. C. C. REID

MR. C. SINCLAIR, Reeve, member ex-officio

MR. H. WARD ALLEN, Council member represented the
Reeve at Library Board meetings

MR. F. WHELAN, Treasurer

MISS B. HARDIE, Secretary

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MR. C. C. REID

MR. B. LEWIS, Reeve, member ex-officio

MR. H. WARD ALLEN, Honorary solicitor to the Board

MR. T. ROBINSON, Treasurer

MISS B. HARDIE, Secretary

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In December 1949, the electors of Etobicoke voted in favor of a Township Public Library. The new board, on which I still enjoy the privilege of membership, took office during the early part of 1950. The Board's first duty was to accept all assets, both material and those in the form of building plans, from the Humber Bay School Section Library Board.

The plans, as prepared by The Humber Bay Board were proceeded with and tenders were let for the erection of the Humber Bay branch of the Etobicoke Public Library. The fine building, located at 200 Park Lawn Road, was completed and opened in January 1951. I wish at this time to point out that the Board was most fortunate in securing as one of its members, Mr. Charles C. Reid, a former member of the Humber Bay Board. Mr. Reid had done a great deal toward the planning of the new library building. His experience and keen interest proved to be invaluable in the actual execution of the plans. The plaque within the front entrance of the Humber Bay building, which bears the names of the Humber Bay School Section Library Board is the gift of the Canadian Name Plate Company. The clock which hangs on the library wall was donated by the Ingraham Clock Company. On behalf of the citizens of Humber Bay, the board acknowledges the generosity of both the above mentioned firms.

While the Humber Bay building is an asset to the community immediately surrounding it, it is true, nevertheless, that it is able to serve merely a small portion of the township. A large part, made up of both urban and rural sections, has, since December 1950, been receiving the benefits of bookmobile service. During the early summer of 1950, a used vehicle was purchased at a cost of three thousand dollars. At a further cost of between twenty-five hundred and three thousand dollars the vehicle was converted into a bookmobile. While repairs have been rather high during the past year, it is the feeling of the Board that some saving has been effected by the procedure followed. The cost of a new unit would have been between 10 and 12 thousand dollars.

A deposit station has been set up in the Thistle town school to service the Thistle town area. About 500 books are on deposit at all times. This method of service appears to be proving satisfactory for

the present. It is the aim and desire of the Board to provide more adequate service for the area as soon as conditions permit.

A land site has been purchased on the south-west corner of Brentwood Road and Birchview Boulevard. It is the intention of the Board that a main library will be erected on that corner whenever conditions seem to be most favourable. This building when completed should serve Kingsway, Sunnylea, Silverbirches, Lambton Mills and a part of Islington. This building will serve as a main library for the Township and the Board considers that its erection is of prime importance.

The Township is growing rapidly and there is no doubt that library buildings will, in the near future, have to be provided to service other sections which are presently being served by the Bookmobile. The Board is quite conscious of this condition and will make further study as the demands in the particular areas come to light.

Our book stocks have been increased to the utmost, within the limits of our budget. We realize that, now, while our overhead costs are reasonably low, we must utilize all our available financial surplus toward the building of a generous supply of good books.

In closing I should like to mention, and in so doing I am sure I bespeak the thoughts of all the Board members, that the Board is not unmindful of the untiring efforts of our Librarian, Miss B. Hardie, and of the good and conscientious work being done by her efficient staff. Miss Hardie is assisted by two fully trained librarians, a qualified office staff, a full time bookmobile driver and other assistants.

I would, indeed, be remiss if I failed to express my appreciation and thanks to Council for their good judgment in the appointment of board members with whom it has been a real privilege to share the problems and pleasures of developing a library service for Etobicoke.

Respectfully submitted,

G. C. MAINPRIZE, Chairman,

Etobicoke Public Library.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Although the Etobicoke Public Library was established in 1950, its first year was largely devoted to organization, and 1951 represents its first full year of service to the public. The year was marked by continued growth and expansion in keeping with this rapidly growing community. And the reception which this new library has met with indicates that the people of Etobicoke not only want library service but make good use of it when it is provided.

By the end of 1951 almost 6000 people had registered as library borrowers and during the year they borrowed nearly 100,000 books.

The Bookmobile, making fifteen regular weekly stops, varying in length from one hour to two and a half, carries the greatest burden of service, and although its shelves hold only 2000 books, the total of books distributed from it was over 60,000. The Bookmobile is particularly convenient and attractive to children and over half its circulation was in Boys and Girls books. But though the number of adults which used it was proportionately small in the beginning, the proportion has shown a steady increase during the year.

The Humber Bay Branch Library was formally opened on January 6, 1951. Because it is our only library building it rapidly took on some of the functions of a main library, which, in size and location it is not ideally suited for. It serves as temporary headquarters for the Etobicoke Library and the Bookmobile operates from it. Because the book stock was small and it was hard to judge what response this Branch would meet with in Humber Bay—it was open for only three days a week at the beginning of the year. A rapid and steady increase in the number of borrowers and in the circulation made changes necessary until at the end of the year it was decided that the library should be open every day except Wednesday.

It is impossible to arrange Bookmobile stops in every area convenient to everyone, particularly for those who are free only in the evening. Many township residents therefore who do not find the Bookmobile convenient drive several miles to use the Branch Library. Here also they have the advantage of more time and space in which to choose their books, of being able to use the collection of reference books which is being built up, and of borrowing magazines, which cannot be carried on the Bookmobile.

In May of this year through the co-operation of the Board of Education in supplying space, we were able to open a deposit station in Thistletown Public School, serving both adults and children in the village. In September books were made available to the children in the three rural schools by means of bi-monthly visits of the Bookmobile.

Our book stock is being built up for all these outlets to the limit of our resources. We were able to add 5,338 books last year. But like everything else books have steadily increased in price and these books accounted for over \$10,000 of our budget. It is difficult to economize on the book stocks for a new library. The emphasis on paper bound reprints, in recent years, rather than hard cover reprints, means that it is increasingly difficult to purchase current and popular books at anything but the original price—and further that popular books of a few years ago have frequently gone out of print and are available only in paper bound editions. Some titles we have been able to secure through donations and purchase of used books, but some appear to be unobtainable.

Since children form such a large and important part of our borrowing public, the provision of children's books was given major consideration in our book budget. In doing so we have kept in mind the fact that only the best is good enough for children and endeavoured to maintain a high standard in the books selected for them. That children will and do read good books is borne out both by the circulation figures, and by the eager crowds of children waiting for the Bookmobile to arrive at a stop or patiently standing in line to get in when it is particularly crowded. It is hoped that we may soon be able to add a children's librarian to the staff who can take full charge of this most important part of our work.

In the adult book selection we have tried to build up a collection not only of good books in general demand everywhere, but also of those books which meet the special needs and demands of Etobicoke. There is considerable emphasis therefore, on books on building, gardening, decorating, renovating and all the problems and interests of new home owners; on baby care and child guidance; on sports and hobbies, all of which we have found to be of particular interest to Etobicoke residents. As new demands and interests are uncovered we attempt to meet them.

In addition to adding several thousand new books to the library, a start was made at making a complete record of the books taken over with the Humber Bay Library. By the end of the year we had a record of all the children's books and of the adult non-fiction, and hoped to finish a record of the adult fiction early in 1952.

In this its first year, the library did not make any special effort to publicize its services or create demand for them. Rather we attempted to satisfy the demands that arose through knowledge of the availability of library service. We have been most enthusiastically accepted by the schools in the township. In the fall, at the request of one public school principal, a list of books for Grades 7 and 8 was compiled and later made available to all the public schools. With the co-operation of Miss R. Welsh, Reading Specialist, and three public schools in the

Humber Bay area, a small experiment with Grade IV readers was undertaken at Humber Bay Library. This was not sufficiently advanced at the end of the year to report on, but its initial results were encouraging.

The librarian was invited to address a number of church groups, Home and School Association meetings and other community groups about the library and its services. A talk was given to councillors of the "Y" Day Camps on story telling, a group of suitable books loaned to them for the period of the camps. At the request of the Public Health Nurses a book list was compiled and talks on the books and library service given at the Pre-Natal Clinic.

In 1952 one of our major tasks will be to extend our publicity to make sure that all residents of the township are properly informed of the availability of library service. Since the library was established thousands of newcomers have moved into the township and many have learned of the library only by accident.

The benefits of library service to a community are frequently intangible and difficult to assess. We are confident that the many thousands of books borrowed from the library in the past year have contributed richly to the lives of those who have read them. Small children have made their first acquaintance with a whole new world through their first picture books. Older readers have found pleasure, excitement and mental stimulus in the volumes they read.

We are, however, frequently made aware of some very tangible benefits obtained from library books. One lady brought her spaniel to show us how well she had trained him, through knowledge gained from a library book; a small girl received a doll's house for Christmas, which father made from instructions in a library book; a group of school children obtained information on N.A.T.O. for a school project, from reference books, and these are only random examples of the many concrete types of assistance that the library has been able to give in a short space of time. As more and more people learn of the library, more demands are made upon it—and as we become better acquainted with the needs and interests of our borrowing public, the better we are able to serve them.

The library is grateful to many people for assistance during the past year—the local newspapers for news stories, the Board of Education for space at Thistleton public school, members of the Alderwood Ratepayers' Association for help at a very crowded Bookmobile stop, and to all who so kindly donated books to the library.

I would also add a special word of thanks to the staff that in such a short space of time has proven so co-operative, efficient and hard-working and particularly so adaptable to the many special situations incident to the organization and establishment of a new library.

And finally my deep appreciation to a library board that has given their librarian encouragement, support and direction, and with whom it has been a pleasure to share the problems and rewards of our united effort to provide Etobicoke with the best possible library service.

Respectfully submitted,

BETTY D. HARDIE,

Librarian.

STATISTICAL REPORT

Book Circulation 1951

	Adult fiction	Adult non-fiction	Boys & Girls	Total
Bookmobile	17,632	5,054	37,639	60,325
Humber Bay	14,701	5,510	15,996	36,207
Thistle town	359	196	1,649	2,204
	<hr/> 32,692	<hr/> 10,760	<hr/> 55,284	<hr/> 98,736

Books Added to Library, 1951:

BOOKMOBILE		HUMBER BAY	
Adult	1,575	Adult	974
B & G	1,579	B & G	1,210
	<hr/> Total 3,154		<hr/> Total 2,184

Present Book Stock:

BOOKMOBILE		HUMBER BAY	
Adult	2,944	Adult	3,966
B & G	3,324	B & G	1,984
	<hr/> Total 6,268		<hr/> Total 5,950 (approx.)

Registered borrowers:

Adult	2,281
B & G	3,638
	<hr/> 5,919

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Receipts:

Taxes	\$33,703.35
Fines, etc.	537.15
Provincial grants	2,097.00
Balance from 1950	1,784.23
	<hr/>
	\$38,121.73

Expenditures:

Books	\$10,840.68
Maintenance and repairs	152.24
Insurance	318.54
Light, heat, water, telephone	420.09
Cards, stationery	422.24
Cartage, express	40.75
Salaries (including treasurer, janitor and car allowance)	13,018.79
Advertising	43.22
Bookmobile operation	2,264.93
Landscaping	82.21
Periodicals	154.25
Sundries	61.88
Bookbinding repairs	273.54
Building (garage)	1,363.36
Equipment and furniture	458.83
Balance on site	6,515.30
Debenture payment	1,525.00
	<hr/>
	\$37,955.85
Balance, December 31, 1951	165.88
	<hr/>
	\$38,121.73

LIBRARY STAFF

MISS B. HARDIE, B.A., B.L.S.....Chief Librarian
MR. R. T. BRADLEY, A.L.A.....Bookmobile Librarian
MRS. R. KRAULIS, Mag. Phil., B.L.S.....Cataloguer
MRS. D. EGLES.....Library Assistant—Humber Bay
MISS H. MILES.....Stenographer
MR. M. BENTALL.....Bookmobile Driver
*MRS. G. CAMERON.....Custodian, Thistletown Deposit Station
*MR. R. J. BROWN.....Caretaker—Humber Bay
* Part-time employees.

LIBRARY HOURS

HUMBER BAY BRANCH LIBRARY —

200 Park Lawn Road.....Phone RO. 1489

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

3-6 p.m. 7-9 p.m.

Saturday: 10-12 a.m. 2-5 p.m.

Closed all day Wednesday

THISTLETOWN DEPOSIT STATION —

Tuesday and Thursday 3-5 p.m.

Friday 7-9 p.m.

BOOKMOBILE —

See enclosed time table.

Cover design by R. T. Bradley

ETOBICOKE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bookmobile

Weekly Timetable, beginning April 2nd, 1951

*Albright and No. 27 Highway	Tuesday, 7.00 to 8.30 p.m.
Bloor and Poplar	Saturday, 11.00 to 12.30 a.m.
Brentwood and Birchview	Saturday, 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.
Burnhamthorpe and Meadowbank	Friday, 10.30 to 11.30 a.m.
Burnhamthorpe (Islington United Church)	Monday, 11.00 to 1.30 p.m.
Dixon Side Road and Concession 1 (Kipling Avenue)	Saturday, 9.30 to 10.30 a.m.
Earlington (South of Dundas)	Tuesday, 3.30 to 5.30 p.m.
Grenview and Glenaden	Monday, 3.00 to 5.00 p.m.
*Lawrence Ave. (Humber Heights School)	Thursday, 7.00 to 8.30 p.m.
Queensway and Alexander	Friday, 2.00 to 3.00 p.m.
Queensway and Stock	Thursday, 2.00 to 3.00 p.m.
Royal York and Colwood	Tuesday, 2.00 to 3.00 p.m.
Rosethorne and Islington	Thursday, 3.30 to 5.30 p.m.
* For adult readers. Children in these areas will use the following stops:	
Humber Heights	Friday, 12.00 to 1.15 p.m.
Broadmoor — 1 Block West of Scarlett Road	
Alderwood	Friday, 3.30 to 5.30 p.m.

For those living east of No. 27 Highway, the bookmobile will stop from 3.30 to 4.25 one block east of No. 27 on Horner Avenue. For those living west of No. 27, the bookmobile will move to the usual stop at Albright and No. 27 from 4.30 to 5.30.

