A Century of Service:

Toronto Public Library 1883 - 1983

Margaret Penman

Front cover: CHILDREN'S ROOM,
DOVERCOURT BRANCH, 1914.
Now Bloor and Gladstone Branch.

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Designed by Joe Trimmeliti,
Publicity and Publications Department
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INTRODUCTION

One hundred years of history is short in the scheme of things, but the Toronto Public Library's century of service spans the history of free public libraries in Ontario. As the library system which serves the people of this province's capital and largest city, we reflect the opportunities for innovation, resourcefulness and leadership which this position affords.

Toronto Public Library's history records with pride our contributions to Canadian bibliography and research, to library education, and to services for children. The record speaks of our efforts in library development, nationally and internationally, and in pioneering citizen involvement. We have embarked upon ambitious programs of building renovation and accessibility to facilities and services. We have served an ever-widening community of users whose interests and backgrounds are rich in their diversity.

We are grateful that our Centennial year has given us the occasion to look back and cherish the events and the people who made them happen. This process is appropriate at this time for in our 101st year we will be able to look even more confidently to our future, building on these solid foundations.

We were fortunate to have recruited the services of Dr. Margaret Penman, who has woven this fabric in a bright and entertaining pattern. The raw material for this work was gathered from previous publications, interviews, articles and such, along with the solid research and unpublished manuscript of our previous Chief Librarian, Harry Campbell. Inestimable assistance was rendered by Barbara Myrvold in her research, additional writing and shepherding of the manuscript through its revisions. Dora Avramis worked enthusiastically to see the manuscript through its revisions, typing, and printing while keeping an eye on the project's clock.

The support and impetus for the research, publication and promotion of this history by our Centennial Committee, with the special efforts of Stephanie Hutcheson, have been central to its accomplishment. The sustained interest and review by the board, represented by Dr. Phyllis Clarke and Ms. Nell Nackoneczny, have ensured its realization.

In this volume we celebrate the outstanding, the inspired, the dedicated and the constant. Our history would be diminished had we not experienced the dynamism of Locke and Bagshaw, Sanderson and Lillian H. Smith. It would be diminished greatly also, had we not been the beneficiaries of the hard work, the good humour, the imagination, and the perserverance of the many, past and present, who are not here recorded by name, but whose contributions, singly and together, have made us proud and thankful.

E. Les Fowlie
Chief Librarian and
Secretary Treasurer

FOREWORD

During the research and writing of this book, I have relied on the annual reports of the Toronto Public Library, 1883-1982 and the manuscript history prepared by H.C. Campbell, "Reading for All - The Origin and Growth of the Toronto Public Library, 1883 - 1968." Unless otherwise indicated, information and statistics are drawn from these sources.

Professor John Marshall of the Faculty of Library and Information Science, University of Toronto, has generously made available to me the text of his forthcoming book, *"Participation Toronto: The Library Experience,"* to be published later this year.

I have also interviewed many former and present TPL staff members, as well as past and present board members. These conversations have afforded valuable insights into the library, TPL "family," and recollections of "the way it was."

Barbara Myrvold, Local History Co-ordinator, has been a constant source of reference, turning up many useful documents, checking facts and details in the Toronto Public Library Archives. Joan Kinsella and Stephanie Hutcheson also kindly read the manuscript and offered helpful suggestions.

The staff of the Publicity and Publications Department - Peggie Forbes, John Phin, Linda Goldman, Cathy Hatanaka, and, above all, Head, Dora Avramis - have done everything possible to make my task pleasurable. Special thanks to Joe Trimmeliti, who designed the centennial leaflet, exhibit, and this book.

Margot Teasdale, Diane Sullivan, Janice Lavery, and Kristin Orts spent many hours gathering newspaper and periodical articles on TPL for which I am most grateful.

The staff of the Metropolitan Toronto Library, many of them former "TPLers" were most helpful in locating TPL material in their collections. Christine Mosser, John Crossthwaite, Donald Watt, and Anne Mack were especially kind and patient with numerous requests for manuscripts, photographs, books, and newspaper clippings.

The City of Toronto Archives staff, especially Elizabeth Cuthbertson and James Fraser; Moira Armour at the Toronto Board of Education Archives; and Ellen Jones at the University of Toronto Faculty of Library & Information Science Library were also most co-operative, willingly answering many queries.

Many years ago, when I was three years old, my parents enrolled me at our local TPL branch on Annette Street. There I met Katie Burkhardt and, later, when I was a little older, I helped her in the library, sorting and putting away books. To these three thanks is not enough. Without them, nought.

Margaret Penman

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TORONTO DOWNTOWN, ca. 1884.
Looking n.e. from the roof of the *Mail* Building,
King & Bay sts., n.w. corner.

1
THE BIRTH OF TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Toronto in 1884 congratulated itself on its fiftieth birthday. "From despised muddy York," crowed the Toronto *Daily News*," we have grown to be the Metropolis of Canada's fairest province. Instead of 9,000 inhabitants we boast a population of 90,000 and our suburbs, which one after another are joining us, will swell the number to something like 115,000. Toronto occupies an area of eight to ten miles, has nearly one hundred and twenty miles of streets, and before many years will be the largest and most beautiful city in the Dominion."[1]

Those 90,000 residents had 70 saloons and grog shops to play in and at least 100 churches to pray in. Mr. Timothy Eaton's shop at 178 Yonge Street, advertised "one price to all and spot cash," and Mr. Robert Simpson's store handily located at Queen and Yonge also flourished. Boxing was becoming a popular spectator sport. The *Week* observed in February 1884 that "Toronto was just becoming large enough to support professional gladiators." And rowing, thanks to Ned Hanlan who kept a tavern at Toronto Island and who had for a number of years beaten all comers in the world at sculling, had become Canada's first mass spectator sport. There were five daily newspapers, scores of weekly and monthly journals, and many well-stocked bookstores. Prohibition and co-education were both debated in the Ontario legislature. But while there may have been disputes about whiskey and admitting women into University College, all the papers agreed that the opening of the free public library was something to celebrate.

JOHN HALLAM 1833-1900.
First chairman of the library board, 1883.

Toronto Public Library officially opened on 6 March 1884. The Ontario government under Premier Oliver Mowat had paved the way with his Free Libraries Act, passed in 1882. The new act embodied four basic principles that were to have a great impact on the development of public libraries in Ontario. The first of these was that public libraries were to be financially supported from public funds and independent of private gifts, subscriptions, or charitable gifts. To finance libraries, local councils were empowered to level a property tax, which was not to exceed half a mill on the dollar of assessment. This method of financing was compulsory and caused much heated debate about proposals to set up free libraries in the province after the legislation had passed. The second principle was that libraries were to be free to include whatever materials readers needed, with no political or religious influence on the choice of books and magazines. Thirdly, all citizens were to be freely admitted to make use of the libraries. Finally, the responsibility for operating libraries was to be held by an independent board of management, which was given the power to pass the necessary by-laws to achieve this. This board was to be composed of the chief magistrate of the municipality, three representatives of the public school board, two of the separate school board, and three members who would be appointed by the council of the municipality.

In Toronto civic leaders had sought for sometime for ways to increase educational opportunities for their public. For more than fifty years the York Mechanics' Institute (after 1834 renamed Toronto

Mechanics' Institute) had been the leading centre for adult education.

Modelled after similar organizations in Great Britain, the institute was established in 1830 to provide for "the mutual improvement of its members in useful Scientific knowledge." The first of many in Ontario, the institute attempted to educate all workingmen (mechanics) by setting up a library and offering classes ranging from philosophy to architecture and mathematics. It met in various locations until 1861, when it moved into its own building on the northeast corner of Adelaide and Church streets. Gaining only moderate support for its teaching programs, the institute concentrated instead on developing its library and organizing educational and recreational activities.

By the 1880s the institute's educational role had declined greatly, however, and it was primarily a recreational centre. In general, library facilities of any kind were lacking in the city as the Toronto *Globe* reported on 27 January 1881:

> There is a Mechanics' Institute with a very poor library and an inadequate reading room accessible only to those who will pay a considerable entrance fee in advance. There is the Parliamentary Library, which is only accessible to a select few and in the daytime. There are also inaccessible libraries in University College, Osgoode Hall, and a few other places, and they might as well be transferred to the moon for all the public ever sees of them.[2]

Thus, the Free Libraries Act coincided with the need for a public library in Toronto.

The chief leader in Toronto of those favouring free public libraries was Alderman John Hallam, who represented St. Lawrence Ward on Toronto City Council. Hallam had been a mill-hand in a cotton factory in Chorley, Lancashire, until the age of twenty. All his schooling had been obtained at a night school in Lancashire and through his own reading. In 1856, when he was twenty-three years old, he had emigrated to Canada and settled in Toronto, eventually becoming a wealthy dealer in wools and leather. He remembered all too well the privations of his own education. A prosperous and civic-minded

CAMPAIGN CARDS FOR THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN TORONTO, ca. 1882.

businessman, he wanted to provide for his fellow Torontonians what had been unavailable to him.

With Alderman John Taylor and the support of prominent individuals in Toronto's academic circles -men such as Sir Daniel Wilson, Dr. William Canniff, and Reverend Henry Scadding - Hallam organized public meetings in 1881 to support the idea of a free public library in the city. Together the two men organized petitions with some 1900 signatures to present to Toronto City Council on 29 May 1882. Their campaign was so successful that the free library by-law was approved at the municipal election held on New Year's Day 1883. The *Globe* reported two days later that "it is a very encouraging fact that the Free Library By-law received the huge majority of 2,500 in a total vote cast of 8,300 - a greater vote than ever before was polled in this city on any by-law."[3] Toronto thus became one of the first municipalities in Ontario (along with Guelph) to pass a local by-law creating a free public library for all.

Nominations for appointment to the nine-person library board began to pour in almost immediately. Toronto City Council received nineteen nominations, and the Toronto Board of Education received an additional twelve nominations. The following trustees were selected to sit on the first library board: A.R. Boswell, the mayor of Toronto; John Hallam, John Taylor, and George D'Arcy Boulton, representing city council; Dr. George Wright, John A. Mills, and Mr. W.H. Knowlton, representing the school board; and James Mason and William Scully, representing the separate school board.

But the new library board came in for considerable criticism. The *Telegram* declared in an editorial on 16 February 1883 that "no sooner was the poll which decided the matter closed, than the ward politicians, wire-pullers, aldermen and school trustees put their heads together and proceeded to create a political machine for the distribution of party pap to the needy ones." On the composition of the board the *Telegram* commented as follows: "There is not a literary man among its members, simply because such men would not condescend to pull the wires necessary to obtain a position in which at the expense of their time and labour they might serve their city gratuitously."[4]

The first meeting of this new library board was held in the Members Room of City Hall on 15 February 1883. And John Hallam, because of his zeal and energy in championing the cause of the library, was unanimously elected its first chairman.

From: *GRIP,* 30 December 1883.

A CHANCE FOR THE SONS OF TOIL.

SANTA CLAUS.—VOTE FOR IT, MY DEARS, AND YOU SHALL HAVE IT.

At this point the library existed in name only. There was no building, no chief librarian, no book collection. Since the free public library was new to Toronto, John Hallam outlined his views concerning its responsibilities at a meeting of the library board on 28 February 1883.

> In accordance with your wishes, I now submit the following scheme for your careful consideration for the establishment of a free public library on the rate-supported principle, and make such limits and suggestions as will be of some practical value in determining what should be done to carry out the project to a speedy success....
>
> Toronto is pre-eminently a city of educational institutions. We all feel a pride in her progress and feel more so now that it is possible to add a free public library to her many noble and useful institutions. I feel sure that the benefit to the people of a reference and lending library of carefully selected books is undisputed by all who are interested in the mental, moral and social advancement of our city. The books in such a library should be as general and as fascinating as possible. I would have this library a representative one, with a grand foundation of solid, standard fact literature, with a choice, clean-minded, finely imaginative superstructure of light reading, and avoid the vulgar, the sensuously sensational, the garbage of the modern press. A rate-supported library should be practical in its aims and not a mere curiosity shop for a collection of curious and rare books - their only merit being their rarity, their peculiar binding, singular type, or quaint illustrations. It is very nice to have these literary rare-bits; but the taxes of the people should not be spent in buying them.

Hallam went on to say that the free public library's purpose was to help in the cause of education among all classes of the population and to promote public virtue. The influence of libraries should be, he said, "on the side of order, self-respect and general enlightenment ... They keep people out of bad company; they direct the rising generation into paths of study; they divert workingmen from the street corner and the low-corrupting dram-shop. ..."

Now that the library board had a chairman, its problem was to find a building. Hallam proposed that Toronto try to find a suitable site for $40,000 and erect a building to cost no more than $70,000, and the board considered a site near Victoria and Richmond streets. City council, however, was not prepared to finance the new modern quarters that Hallam desired. The problem was solved when the Toronto Mechanics' Institute offered Toronto both its property on the northeast corner of Church and Adelaide streets and its library collection for the use of the free library board. The city accepted the assets and liabilities of the Mechanics' Institute on 7 May 1883, and the transfer deed was executed on 30 June 1883. During 1883 interior alterations were made to the twenty-two-year-old building for the library's reading room, and an addition was erected along Adelaide Street to hold 150,000 volumes.

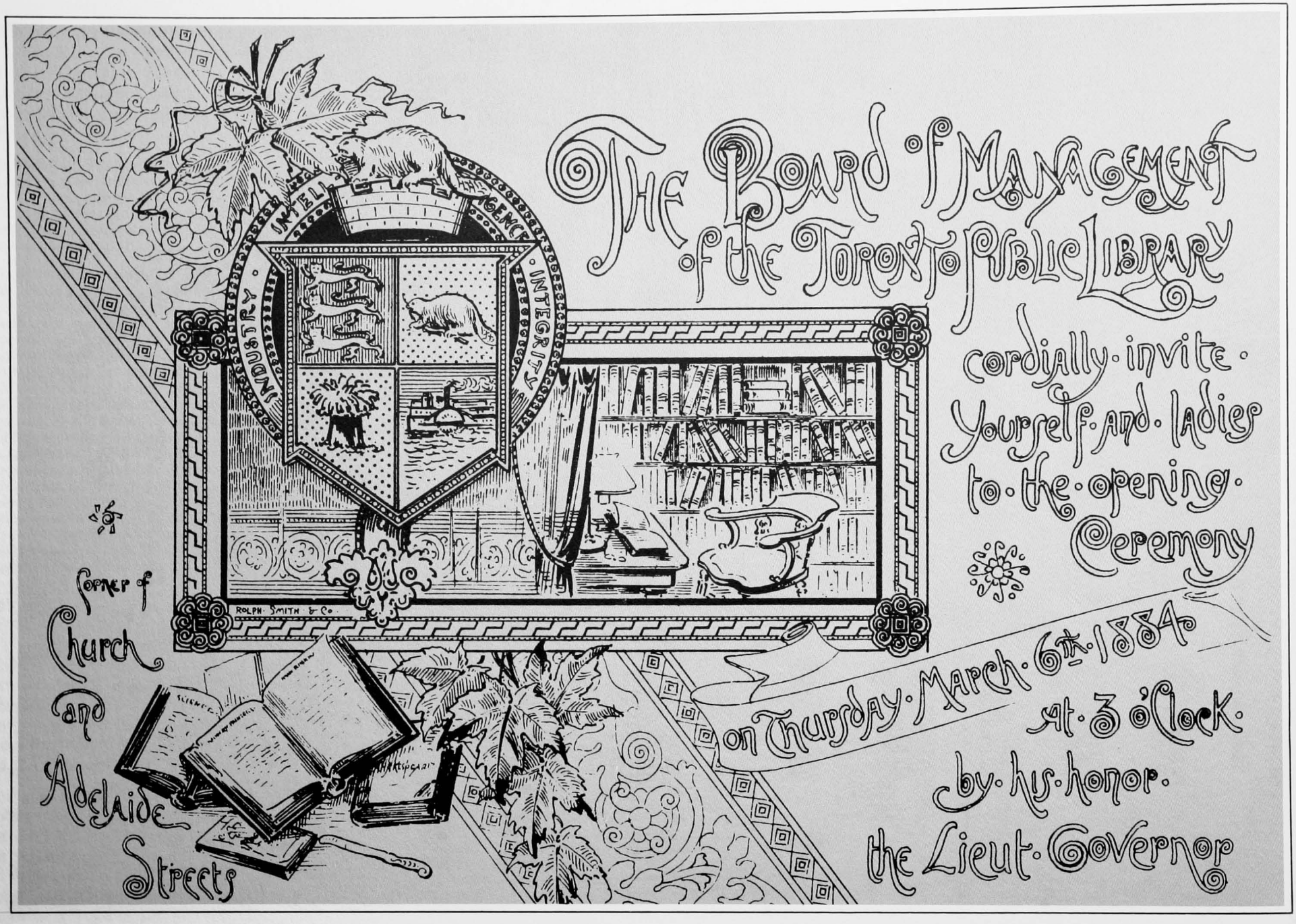
Hallam regarded the selection of the chief librarian as a matter of foremost importance. Hallam's own requirements for a chief librarian were clearly stated in his major address to the board on 28 February 1883.

> for on him more than upon any other factor whatever must the success of the Library depend, and it is absolutely necessary that his appointment should be independent of any political or sectarian influences. Men are often pushed into such positions who have no special aptitude by nature or experience, through these influences and the mistaken zeal of their friends, who, if they had the remotest idea of the special abilities needed for a successful librarian, would not embarrass the Board by their importunities. When such is the case the institution loses much of its usefulness, and drags out a miserable existence.
>
> The requirements of a thoroughly efficient librarian such as we should have in Toronto are almost innumerable, and are such as are seldom to be met with in a country where bibliography is yet in its infancy. He must first of all, be a man of education, with a competent knowledge of English philology. His knowledge of books, more especially of those written in the English language, should be vast and comprehensive. He ought to be at least to some extent familiar with every important work in English literature, and with the chief landmarks in the literary history of Continental Europe. It is, of course, absolutely essential that he should be minutely familiar with the history and literature of our own country. He must be thoroughly acquainted with every book and important bearing upon our history, polity and institutions, and must be able to direct the researches of educated and intelligent persons who frequent the library for purposes of reference. He must be well acquainted with the literature of Lower Canada, which implies that he must be able to read it in the original French. He must be a scholar in whose learning and intelligence the public can repose confidence, and who may be implicitly trusted to keep himself abreast of the literary activity of the times. He should be capable of editing and annotating such manuscripts as may from time to time be consigned to the library archives, and which may be thought suitable for publication.

The board had a special meeting in June 1883 to set the salary scale for the staff it proposed to hire. It settled on $2,000 for the chief librarian, $1,000 for the assistant librarian and secretary, $300 for the junior assistants and $500 a year for the librarian in charge of the proposed branches. This was in the mid-1880s, when a first-class artisan earned $6 to $7 for a sixty hour week. Farm labourers earned $1.25 a week, with room and board, and a school teacher earned $400 a year. Rent for a room might be $1 a week and board $4 a week. A man could rent a house for anywhere from $5 to $20 a month. If he were sufficiently affluent, he could buy a solid-brick, eight-room house with bath and gas for $1,500. Milk cost five cents a quart and ham three cents a pound. Thus, the chief librarian and the staff of the Toronto Public Library were relatively affluent by 1883 standards.

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY CENTRAL LIBRARY, 1884. Formerly Toronto Mechanics' Institute. Church and Adelaide sts., n.e. corner. →

PUBLIC LIBRARY.
PUBLIC LIBRARY


INDUSTRY
INTELLIGENCE
INTEGRITY
ROLPH SMITH & Co.
The Board of Management
of the Toronto Public Library
cordially invite
yourself and ladies
to the opening
Ceremony
on Thursday March 6th 1884
at 3 o'Clock
by his honor
the Lieut Governor
corner of
Church
and
Adelaide
Streets

2
THE FIRST CHIEF LIBRARIAN
JAMES BAIN

The board chose its first chief librarian, James Bain, at its June meeting. Just what the man who gazes out from under the beard was like is not really known. Certainly his eyes seem to have a shrewd twinkle. In his new position, Bain undoubtedly needed both perspicacity and a sense of humour in order to guide TPL during its first quarter century.

James Bain was born in London, England of Scottish parents, on 2 August 1842. He was brought to Toronto at the age of six and attended the Toronto Academy and the Toronto Grammar School. His first job was with his father, a Toronto bookseller and stationer. By 1860 he was working for James Campbell & Son, publishers and booksellers, and in 1870 he went on a buying trip for them to London, England. Between 1874 and 1878 he managed a branch store in London; then he joined John Nimmo & Sons. This firm in turn became Nimmo and Bain. It was dissolved in 1882, and Bain returned to Toronto to manage the Canadian Publishing Company. Then in 1883 he applied for the position of chief librarian. He was one of four candidates considered by the board; the others were John Charles Dent, William Graeme Mercer Adam, and J.T. Bulmer. Opinions and feelings ran high among the board members as to who should get the post. In fact the first vote ended in a draw. On a later ballot, Bain was finally elected by a vote of five to four; even so, one board member resigned in the process. But this discontent was later smoothed over.

JAMES BAIN 1842-1908.
First chief librarian 1883-1908.

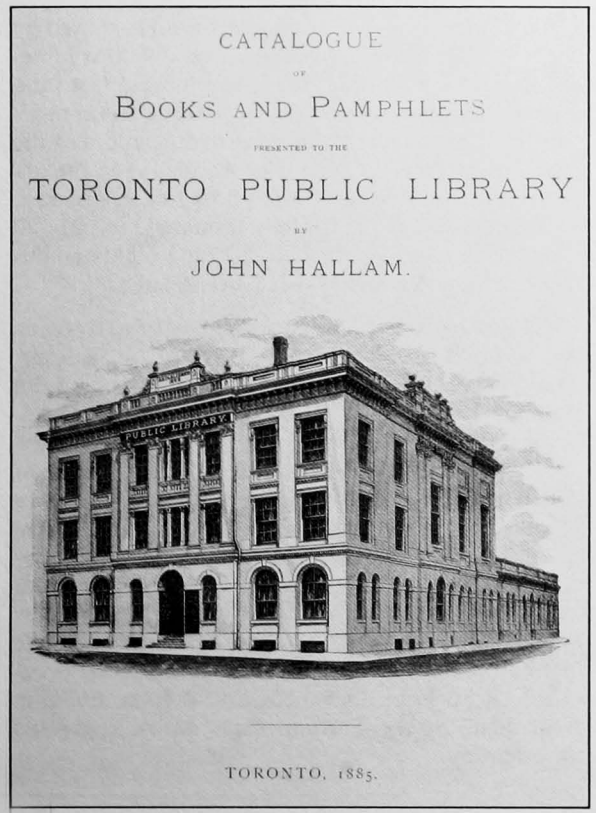
> As things turned out, Bain proved to be a most satisfactory choice. He knew the book trade intimately...He threw himself into library work, becoming an active member of the library profession, a scholar of some distinction, and an enthusiastic collector of Canadiana.[5]

Bain's first task was book selection. He started by choosing 7,434 books from the over 10,000 volumes in the library collection of the Mechanics' Institute. Over the summer a list of needed books was compiled; then Bain and Hallam went to England and the United States on a buying trip. According to the annual report of 1883-4, "their purchases in London, New York, and Toronto amounted to 23,177 volumes costing $24,221.22 including freight and duty, or an average of $1.04-1/2 per volume."

The library was now ready. The official opening was 6 March 1884, the date of Toronto's fiftieth birthday. (The public was admitted on 10 March.) John Hallam presided at the opening. Lieutenant-Governor Sir John Beverly Robinson was on the platform, as was Sir Daniel Wilson, the president of the University of Toronto; Professor Goldwin Smith; and other prominent citizens. The *Globe* devoted four and one half columns to this event, giving an account of the speeches and the dance that took place later that evening "with electric lights thoughtfully provided"; it even published an ode that had been especially commissioned for the occasion.[6] Throughout it all the ladies' dresses, noted in great detail by the Toronto *Daily News*, competed for attention.

Hallam not only gave a banquet in honour of the new free library but also, in a magnificent gesture, presented the library with his own personal collection of books, some 2,000 items in all, approximately a third of which dealt with Canada. These books formed the beginning of the library's Canadiana collection. In 1885 Bain produced the catalogue of Hallam's gift which is now housed in the Metropolitan Toronto Library.

The library also boasted two branches that year. In February 1884 the Northern branch was opened in St. Paul's Hall, Yorkville (the former Yorkville Town Hall), and the Western Branch, at St. Andrew's Market at Richmond and Brant streets. In the first year 179,506 volumes were issued during the 229 days on which the library was open, a daily average of 783. By 1885 readers' tickets had increased from 8,156 to 11,844. But there was some criticism of the library's existence. A letter in the Toronto *World* on 30 January 1884 stated this explicitly:


CATALOGUE

OF

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

PRESENTED TO THE

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

BY

JOHN HALLAM.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

TORONTO, 1885.

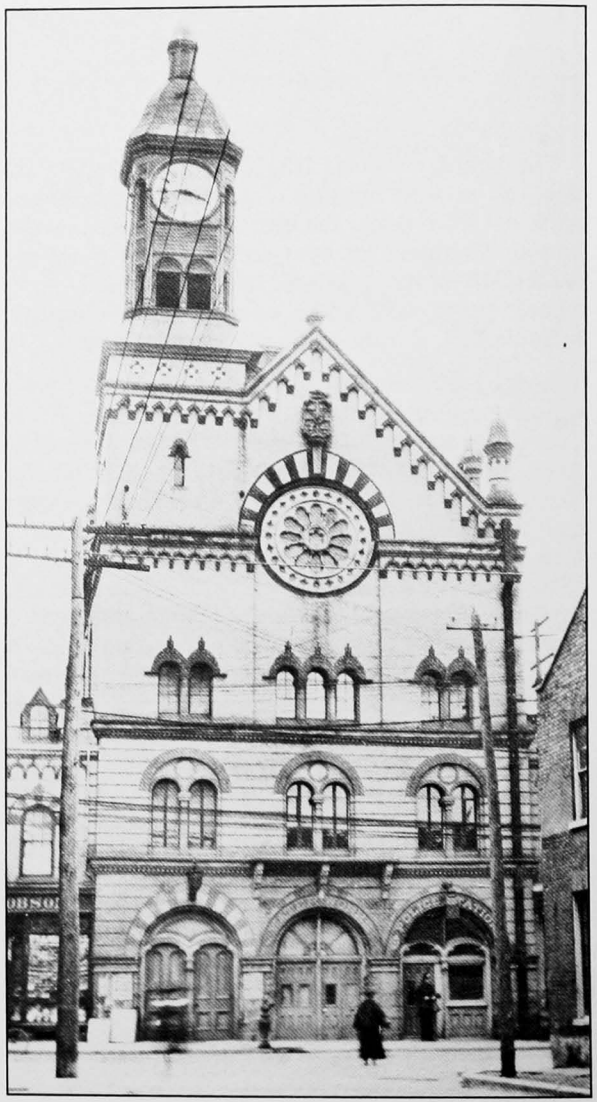
THE FREE LIBRARY

To the Editor of the World

What is this building, father?
This, my son, is the celebrated free library.
Why is it called a free library, father?
Because everybody is compelled to subscribe.
What was the origin of it?
Ex-Ald. Hallam's vanity.
What good is it, father?
To increase the taxes and circulate sensational novels.
What are sensational novels?
Tales where shop-girls marry lords.
What is the use of reading them?
They make people discontented and negligent.
Has the library any other purpose?
Yes, my son, it provides some good fat berths.
Do the subscribers manage it?
Nominally they do, but really they do not.
Who does, then?
Some people who pay very little towards it.
Is it very popular?
Wait until the tax bills come in.
How are the public benefitted by it?
Ask the trustees, my son.

—T.E.[7]

NORTHERN BRANCH IN ST. PAUL'S HALL, 1907. Formerly Yorkville Town Hall. Yonge St., w. side opp. Collier St.



SITE OF WESTERN BRANCH,
ST. ANDREW'S MARKET,
5 January 1932. Richmond St. W.
near Spadina Ave.

DINNER MENU FOR BANQUET GIVEN BY
JOHN HALLAM FOR TPL BOARD, 1883.

Part of the opposition, as always, resulted from a concern regarding the reading of fiction. Critics thought that the collection should concentrate on solid works of reference.

Undoubtedly Bain's most important contribution, one that had been set out in the directives for the new librarian by Hallam and in an important board statement printed in the 1887 annual report, was the building of the Canadiana collection of books, letters, and manuscripts documenting early life in Canada.

> As deep interest is and should be taken by all Canadians in the history and literature of our own country, special efforts are being made to secure for the Library, every work of any consequence bearing upon these subjects, and the gatherings for this year have been numerous and important. This policy, if continued persistently and intelligently from year to year by those in charge of the Library must insure success and result, in the Toronto Public Library, being some day in possession of a Canadian section unsurpassed by any other Library, in the country. There are many books and documents connected with the history of Canada in the possession of private persons which it is highly desirable should be in the safe custody of some Library, and it is hoped that the Toronto Public Library will be given an opportunity of acquiring some of them.

One of the first manuscripts to be acquired was the diary of a British officer, detailing his activities in North America between 1757 and 1759. The officer had been present at the siege of Louisbourg as well as at other battles between the French and the English during the Seven Years' War in America. One of the most sizable manuscript collections was the papers of Sir George Arthur, last lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada (1838 to 1841). Arthur chronicled the aftermath of the 1837 rebellion, Lord Durham's report, and the union of Upper and Lower Canada into the Province of Canada. Bain also acquired papers that not only provided an insight into the military and political history of Canada but also afforded portraits of the daily lives of ordinary citizens. Such were the papers of Alexander Wood, which covered the years 1797 to 1837 and contained over 180 pieces relating to his life as a York merchant. They afford a unique glimpse into the lives and habits of early York and Ontario residents.

READERS' TICKETS, 1884.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1884.

LIBRARY AND READING ROOMS.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

1. The Reference and Circulating Library shall be open every week day from 9 a.m. to 9.30 p.m., except Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Dominion Day, any day appointed by Government or by Civic Proclamation as a public holiday, and such other days as the Board of Management may direct, for the closing of the whole or of any portion of the Library

2. No person who is in an intoxicated, disorderly, or uncleanly condition shall be admitted. No audible conversation will be permitted, and no person will be allowed to smoke, to partake of refreshments, to spit, to ramble about the room, or to bring any dog into the building.

3. No person will be allowed to pass within the enclosure, or to take any books from the shelves.

4. No person under the age of 14 will be admitted to the Reading Room or to the Reference Library.

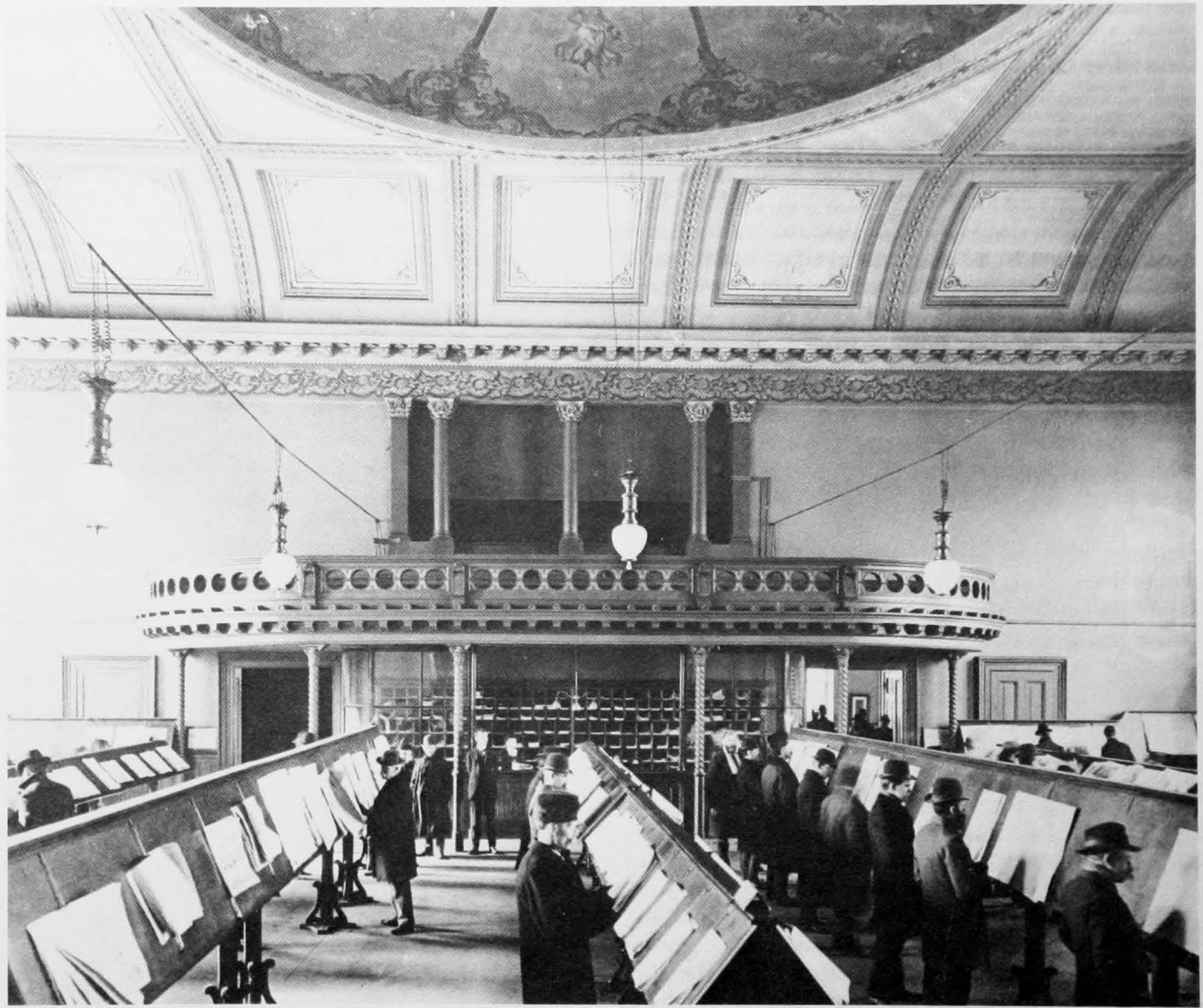
Some papers, such as those of William Warren Baldwin and his son Robert, after whom the Baldwin Room at the Metropolitan Toronto Library is named, came to the library as gifts. Certainly the most important citizens of Toronto, such as William Dummer Powell, William Jarvis, Samuel Peters Jarvis, William Allan and his son George W. Allan, and Henry Scadding, donated or bequeathed their own private collections to the library. And John Hallam, who resigned from the board in 1888 to resume his political career, continued to make donations until his death in 1900. (Hallam's other major gift to Toronto was his country estate, Chorley Park, in Rosedale.)

Bain also watched auctions both in the United States and abroad and acquired many valuable collections that way. Nor did he neglect French Canada. He acquired 351 books, pamphlets, and manuscripts from the sale of the library of Louis Masson in Montreal in 1904 for a total cost of $261.18 or $.62 a volume. He had a reputation for being an aggressive collector:

> When the D.W. Smith manuscripts were offered for sale in London some years ago several bids were put in. The Ontario Government was among the bidders. A member of the Ministry[8] happened to be in London at the time, and sallied forth to get the prize. But he and other eager seekers were met with: "You are too late. The mss. are now the property of the Toronto Library. Mr. Bain ordered them by cable."[9]

Bain was always inhibited in purchasing books for his collection by the precarious financial position of the library. Throughout the 1890s he had only about $6,000 a year to spend on books for both the library's circulating and reference collections. As a result, the library could not make several significant purchases; for example, the collection of Dr. John Neilson, which included the papers of William Brown, Canada's first printer, had to be turned down by the board in 1895 for financial reasons. Payment of $2,000 for the double-elephant folio of John Audubon's *Birds of America* had to be extended over five annual instalments by very special arrangements with its owners, the Allan family.

NEWSPAPER READING ROOM, CENTRAL LIBRARY, ca. 1900. Formerly Mechanics' Institute Music Hall. Church and Adelaide sts., n.e. corner.



Indeed during his twenty-five years in office all Bain's efforts to build up the library both in terms of its holdings and its buildings were hampered by a lack of funds. Toronto in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries grew phenomenally. Between 1883 and 1912 large areas of York Township were absorbed, and six major municipalities - Yorkville, Brockton, Parkdale, East Toronto, West Toronto, and North Toronto - were annexed after varying periods of separate existence. The annexed areas made the city about 70 percent larger than it was originally and brought in an additional 34,000 people.

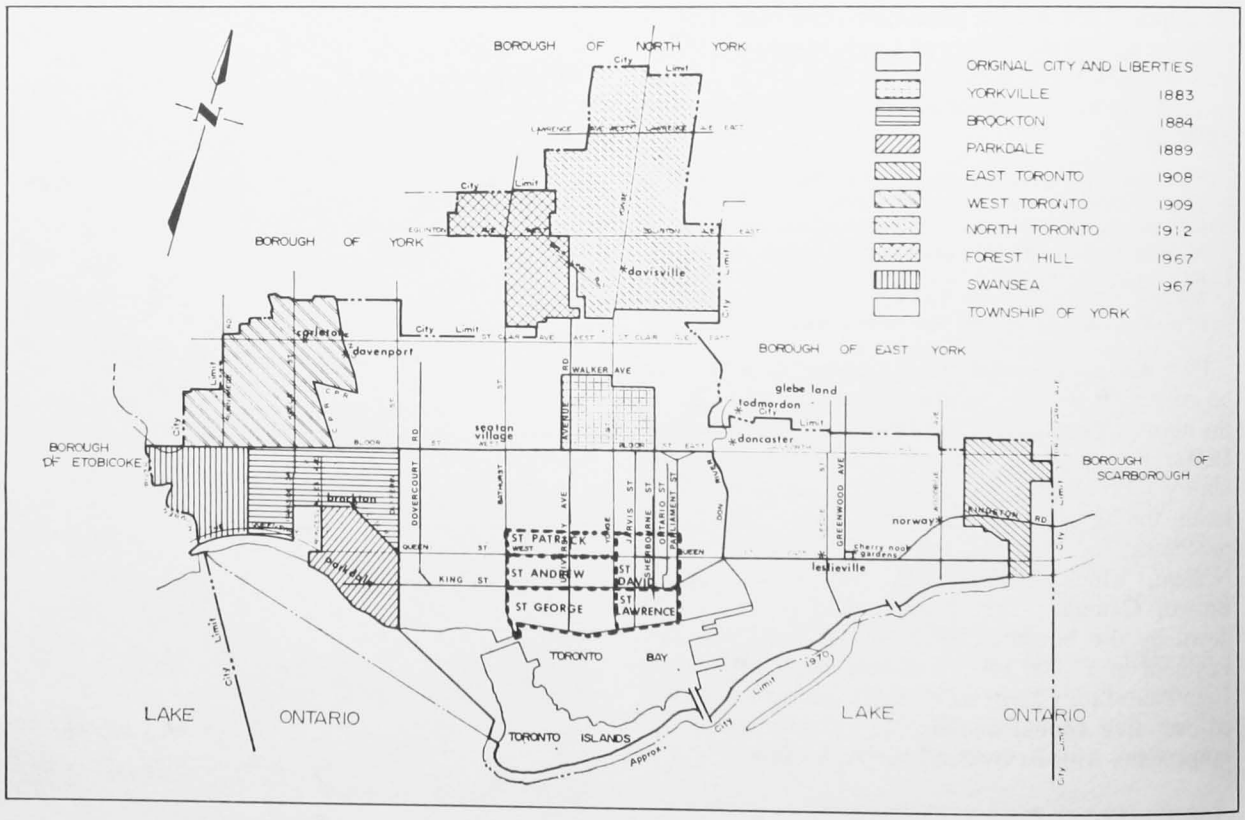
Bain wanted to build more branches to serve these areas and to provide better facilities for the central library. Some alterations to the central building were made in 1892: the Mechanics' Institute's Music Hall was converted to a newspaper reading room, and a circulating library was created from the former ground-floor reading room. The basement was fitted up for the use of the unemployed.

The demand for a library service in the more distant parts of the city led to the opening of several new branches. North Western in Worm's Hall (once also Brockton's Town Hall) at the corner of Dundas and Brock streets operated from December 1888 to July 1891. The Eastern Branch at 4-6 Bolton Avenue, near Queen Street East, opened on 31 October 1888 to serve the former villages of Riverside and Leslieville. The annexation of Parkdale led to the opening in 1889 of the Dundas Street Branch on present-day Ossington Avenue near Queen Street West. The Parkdale Library Association and Mechanics' Institute transferred the whole of its library and furniture to this branch.

The College Street Branch opened in June 1900 at the corner of Brunswick Avenue and College Street. W.T.J. Lee, the chairman of the board, wrote in his report for 1900: "... a lease was entered into for two years at a rental of $40 per month for the first year, and $45 per month for the second year, and arrangements have been so carried out that the staff has not been increased, the hours during which the Northern and Eastern Branches were open having been reduced."

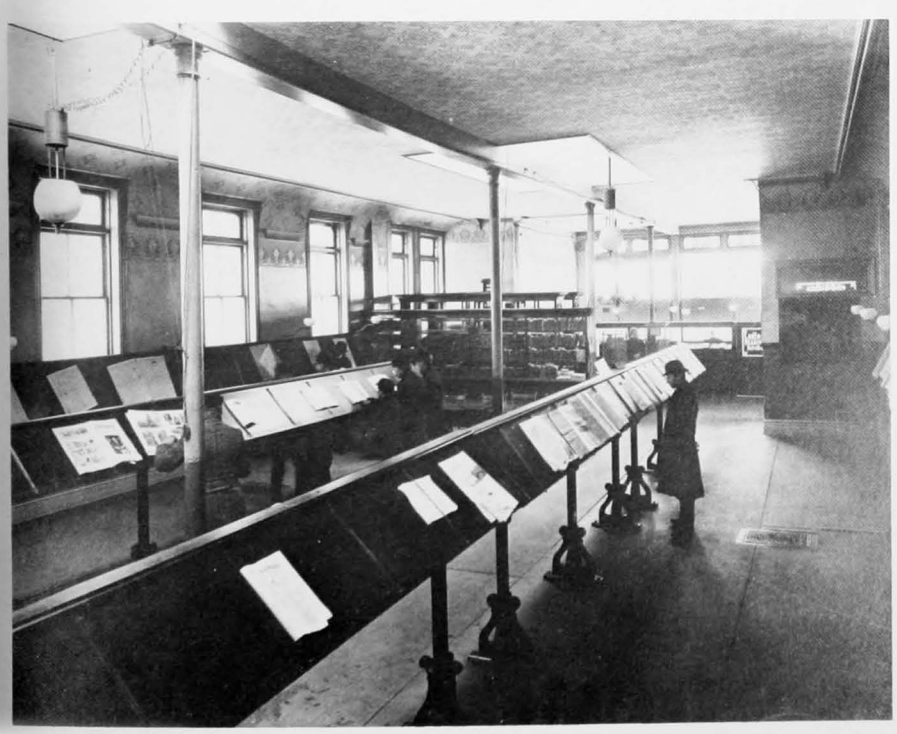
In 1900, however, the library board, in spite of all its efforts to expand, was still confined to a cramped central building and five small branches in rented quarters. Throughout the 1890s Toronto city council repeatedly refused to provide the full yearly grant requested by the library board. Year after year the library board threatened to close its branches in protest. Year after year it did not. In 1900, city council, as it had done in the past, cut the library board's estimates, this time by $2,089. Relations between the library board and city council had deteriorated to such a point that in September the library sued the city to obtain its money. The library won the suit as Board Chairman W.T.J. Lee reported: "On December 13, the Honourable Chancellor Boyd delivered judgement upholding the position of the Library Board and directing the City to furnish the

GROWTH OF TORONTO



balance of the money asked for ... I greatly regret the action of the Council but as the position of the Board is now clearly defined, I do not anticipate any further trouble...'' Indeed, throughout Ontario, funding for public libraries was highly unsatisfactory. Most of the libraries were financially starved and unable to serve their communities effectively.

DUNDAS STREET BRANCH, 1901.
Ossington Ave., w. side, n. of Queen St. W.



EASTERN BRANCH, ca. 1900.
Bolton Ave. near Queen St. E.

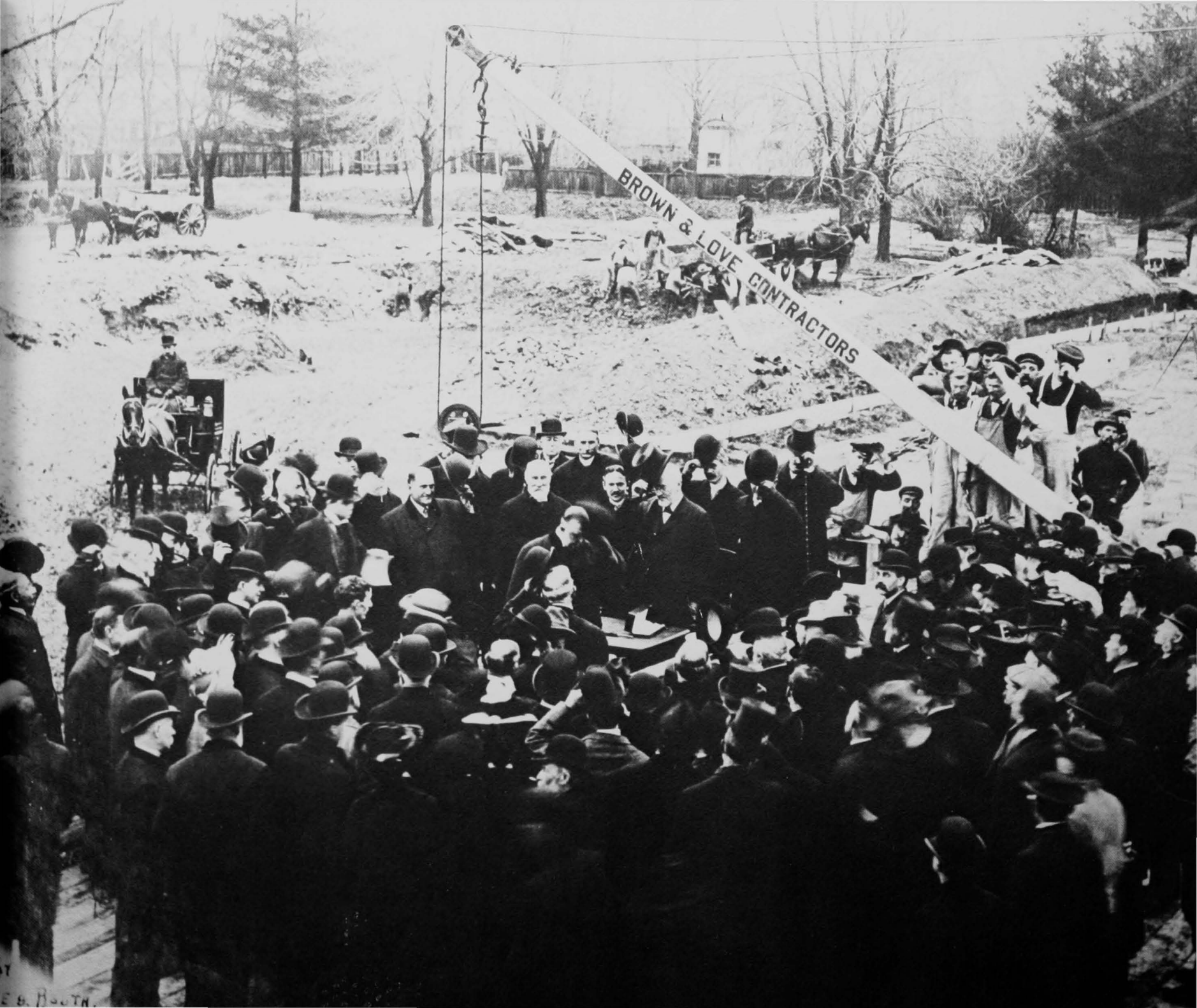
Help finally came in 1903 from United States Steel magnate Andrew Carnegie. He offered $350,000 for the building of a new central library and three branches on the condition that Toronto City Council support the library with $35,000 a year and also provide the land. The Carnegie grant was significant; it enabled TPL to build its own branches for the first time, so that it did not have to rely, as in the past, on donated or rented quarters. City council agreed to the terms of the offer in 1903. In late 1904 a site for the new reference library at the corner of College and St. George streets was selected and purchased for $75,000. The following year, Bain, Hugh T. Kelly, the chairman of the Building Committee, and Robert McCallum, the city architect, visited libraries in the eastern United States. They submitted to city council a program of requirements for the building of the new reference library. Associated architects Wickson & Gregg and A.H. Chapman were chosen, and contracts totalling $230,981 were awarded for construction. The cornerstone for the new central reference library was laid on 27 November 1906 by Chief Justice Falconbridge, the chairman of the library board. Lieutenant-Governor Mortimer Clarke and many prominent Toronto citizens attended. No ode was composed for this occasion, but Chief Justice Falconbridge was able to pronounce proudly in his speech on the progress of the library.

As a culmination of his career, Bain supervised the start of the new northern branch, called Yorkville, at 22 Yorkville Avenue and attended the opening ceremonies on 14 June 1907. On that occasion, Hugh T. Kelly conducted the ceremony and the mayor of Toronto, Emerson Coatsworth, and others gave addresses.

Bain also saw the start of plans for the new library branch at Queen and Lisgar, where the city had provided a site. Robert McCallum was authorized to prepare plans in December 1907, and the library hoped to be able to open for service by October 1908. But James Bain died on 22 May 1908. He had earned a considerable reputation as a librarian and a scholar. He had become a respected authority on Canadian bibliography and history and in 1902 had received an honorary doctorate from Trinity College, University of Toronto. In 1905 he had founded the Champlain Society. A regular contributor of articles to library journals, he was first president of the Ontario Library Association. His major scholarly work was an edition of Alexander Henry's *Travels*. His most lasting contribution was the development of the Canadiana collection. Certainly, by the time Bain died, he had laid the groundwork for the largest public library system in Canada. The Yorkville Branch had opened, the cornerstone of the new reference library had been laid, the Queen and Lisgar Branch was well under way, and at least five more new branches were under discussion. It fell to his successor, George Herbert Locke, to bring all these plans to fruition and to introduce many of the services and features that made TPL the leading public library service in Canada.

YORKVILLE BRANCH, ca. 1907.
Yorkville Ave., n. side, w. of Yonge St.

LAYING CORNERSTONE, REFERENCE LIBRARY, 27 November 1906.
College and St. George sts., n.w. corner. →


BROWN & LOVE CONTRACTORS

REFERENCE LIBRARY, ca. 1909.
College and St. George sts., n.w. corner.

3
TPL UNDER GEORGE HERBERT LOCKE

George Herbert Locke was in his late thirties when he took over as chief librarian. Locke was born in the village of Beamsville on 29 March 1870, the son of a Methodist minister. He attended Victoria College in Toronto, graduating with honours in 1893. After further study at the University of Toronto, he emerged in 1896 with an M.A. in classics and a Bachelor of Pedagogy. He "then began what is still considered an astonishing career".[10] After graduate study and teaching in the field of education, first at the University of Chicago and then at Harvard, he returned to Chicago in 1899 as associate professor of education, becoming dean of the College of Education in 1903. He also edited the prestigious *School Review*, using the skills he had acquired in his year with the Boston publishers Ginn & Co. In 1906 he returned to Canada as dean of education at the newly founded Macdonald College at McGill University. He seemed destined to become president of a university at some future date. But in 1909 he was approached by a group of Toronto officials and accepted the post of chief librarian of the Toronto Public Library. At first glance, Locke's training may seem curious and inconsistent for one who was to spend nearly thirty years of his life as a librarian. But as Malcolm W. Wallace of the University of Toronto pointed out Locke's "interest was in education in the broadest sense of the word, and specialized training in cataloguing or general administration would have seemed to him merely incidental."[11] George Locke chose to make "knowledge attractive."

GEORGE HERBERT LOCKE 1870-1937.
Chief librarian 1908-1937.

A tall, handsome man, "possessing the indescribable asset of a great personality," in his lapel Locke sported a scarlet geranium, which he jokingly called "the white flower of a blameless life." William Perkins Bull, the lawyer and author, was a personal friend of George Locke. He recalled the librarian's appearance and character in the 1936 annual report:

> George Locke, a stong, straight-grained, sinewy Irish-Canadian, six feet three inches tall, two hundred and sixty pounds - a heart, a head and a spirit commensurate with his body. He was an outstanding example of manhood at his best ... head erect, with the shoulders of an Atlas to carry the burdens of his associates. He was not a weakling, who needed to stoop to accomplish his ends, nor was he a Napoleon who dominated by crushing others.

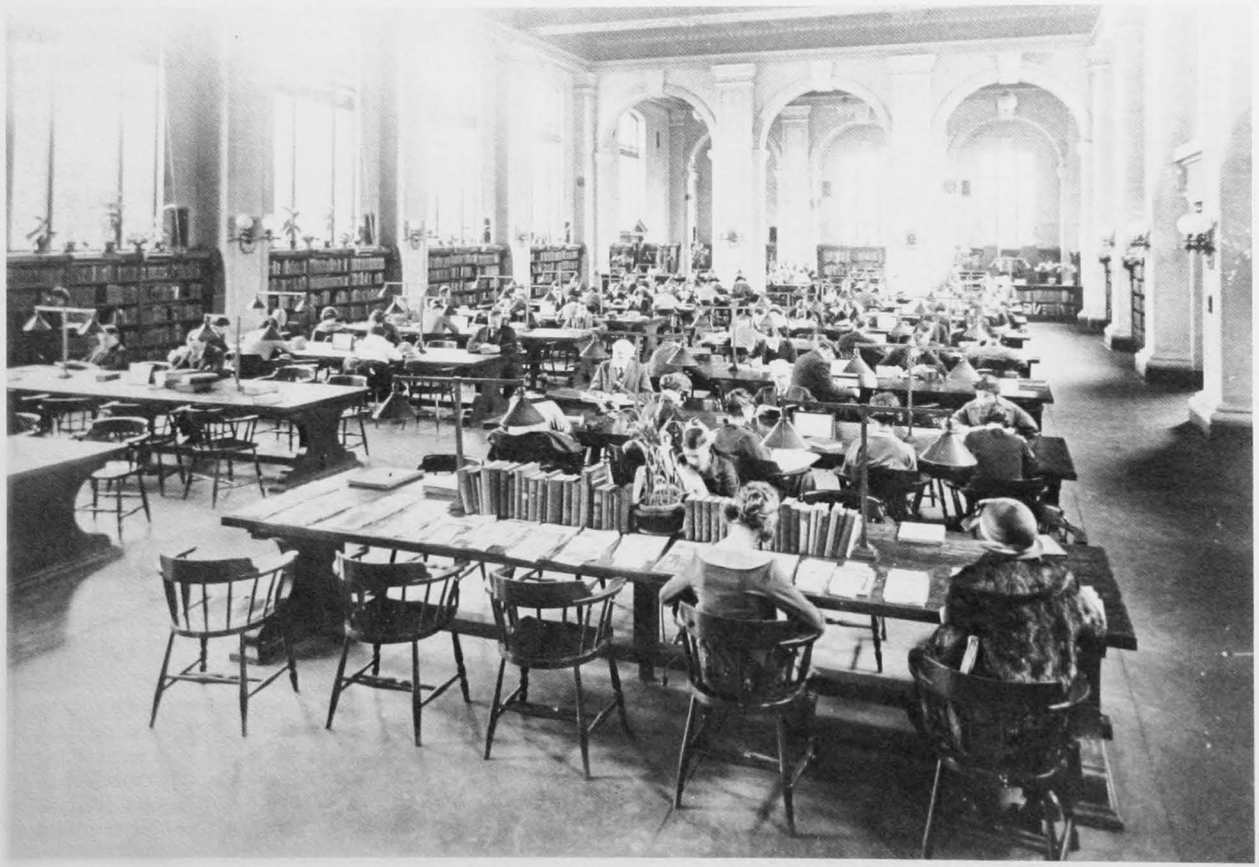
Charles Sanderson, who was Locke's deputy from 1929 and his successor in 1937 also recalled Locke's appearance and personality:

> He was tall, over six feet in height, handsome - just about as handsome as he was tall; fair in colouring; with a moustache that had a slight upward curl at the corners. His hat was a fedora which he loved to keep out of shape and pushed on his head slightly tilted to one side so that it looked a bit rakish; his overcoat was generally unbuttoned and blowing in the wind; and he carried a cane which he swung in his hand as he walked along.
>
> You will remember, too, his greeting as he passed people he knew, - and he knew almost everyone. It was not a mere gesture of his hand, it was a warm and wide upward and outward sweep of his arm which was exactly expressive of himself. In his later years his hair was thinning a little and going grey, but his genial spirit and his kind heart remained unchanged. He was the kind of man that you meet perhaps

> once in a lifetime, who by his quick wit, his overflowing kindness, and his outstanding personality could make you smile away your worries and troubles. He gave of himself generously to everyone whom he could help, and he was a source of encouragement and inspiration to hundreds and hundreds of people.[12]

Toronto, growing rapidly as it was, offered irresistible challenges and opportunities to George Locke. At that time, TPL still had only its inadequate main building at Church and Adelaide and five branches. Certainly 1909, his first year in office, got off to an auspicious start with the opening of the new reference library at College and St. George streets. That occasion brought together some of the founders of TPL, such as A.R. Boswell, who had been mayor of Toronto in 1883 and had presided at the first library board meeting, and James Mason, a member of the first board in 1883. The 1909 chairman of the board, Hugh T. Kelly, who was to serve on TPL's board for a record fifty continuous years, presided. At the close of his address, George Locke unveiled a

REFERENCE LIBRARY READING ROOM, ca. 1920. College and St. George sts.



QUEEN AND LISGAR BRANCH, ca. 1908. Queen St. W. and Lisgar St., s.e. corner.

portrait of James Bain, which had been commissioned by the library board and painted by E. Wylie Grier. The new reference library also contained an art gallery operated by the Art Museum of Toronto. The College Street Branch relocated to the lower story of the reference library building and it circulated books to adults and children.

It also fell to Locke to open other Carnegie-financed libraries planned during the Bain era. The Queen and Lisgar Branch opened in 1909, incorporating into its collection the books previously housed in the Dundas Street Branch (funded in 1889) and those from the first Western Branch (opened in St. Andrew's Market in 1884). The second Western Branch (now the Annette Branch) was acquired by the City of Toronto through its annexation of the Town of West Toronto. The building was designed by E.J. Lennox, constructed in 1908 as a result of a grant given to West Toronto by Andrew Carnegie, and opened in September 1909 as a branch of TPL.

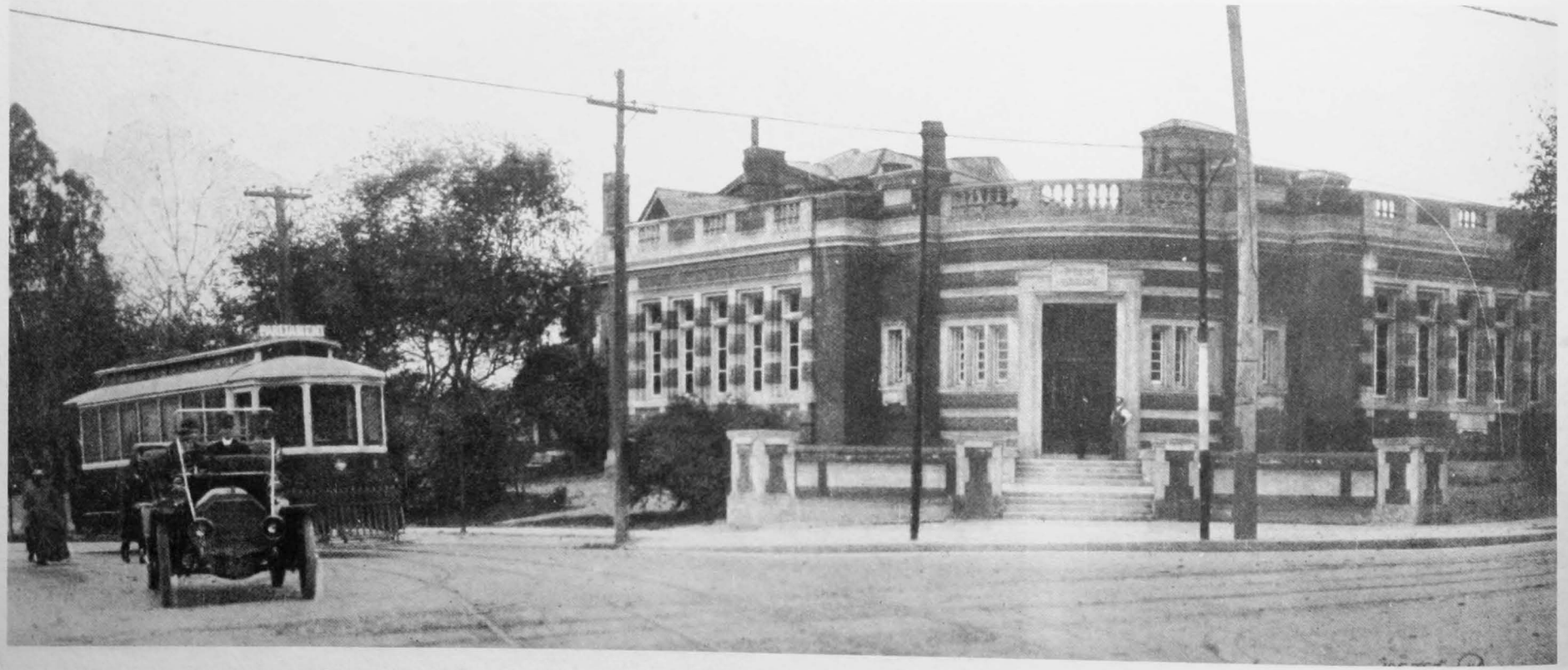
WESTERN BRANCH, ca. 1915.
Now Annette St. Branch. Annette and Medland sts., s.w. corner.

Work also began in 1909 on the third Carnegie branch, at Gerrard Street and Broadview Avenue. The plans were prepared by Robert McCallum, and the site, part of the Don Jail property, was provided by the City of Toronto. This branch, named Riverdale, rounded off a corner, a Toronto version of London's Piccadilly Circus.

Locke quickly stamped his own powerful personality on the Toronto library system. Knowledge, if it were to be made attractive, also had to be accessible to everyone. One of the first changes that the new chief librarian introduced was the "open shelf" system. From 1 January 1909 borrowers in the branches could retrieve books themselves instead of having to ask library staff for them. Locke also abolished in 1910 the rigorous requirements for library membership: books could now be borrowed by anyone whose name was listed in the city directory.

Innovations were an important part of the period around the First World War. In September 1911 a municipal reference library opened on the second floor of the then eleven-year-old City Hall - the start of special services for civic officials and businessmen. Braille books were purchased for the Canadian Free Library for the Blind housed in a room at the Western Branch. The Music library was established in 1915 with 1,500 volumes. In March 1916 a telephone was installed for the Reference Department, and the department head, Frances Staton, reported: "We have answered innumerable calls for information on all sorts of subjects." TPL's special wartime contribution was its establishment of a branch library in the military camp at the Exhibition grounds, the first such public library in North

RIVERDALE BRANCH, ca. 1910.
Broadview Ave. and Gerrard St. E., n.w. corner.



America. Books were also provided for other camps and military convalescent hospitals.

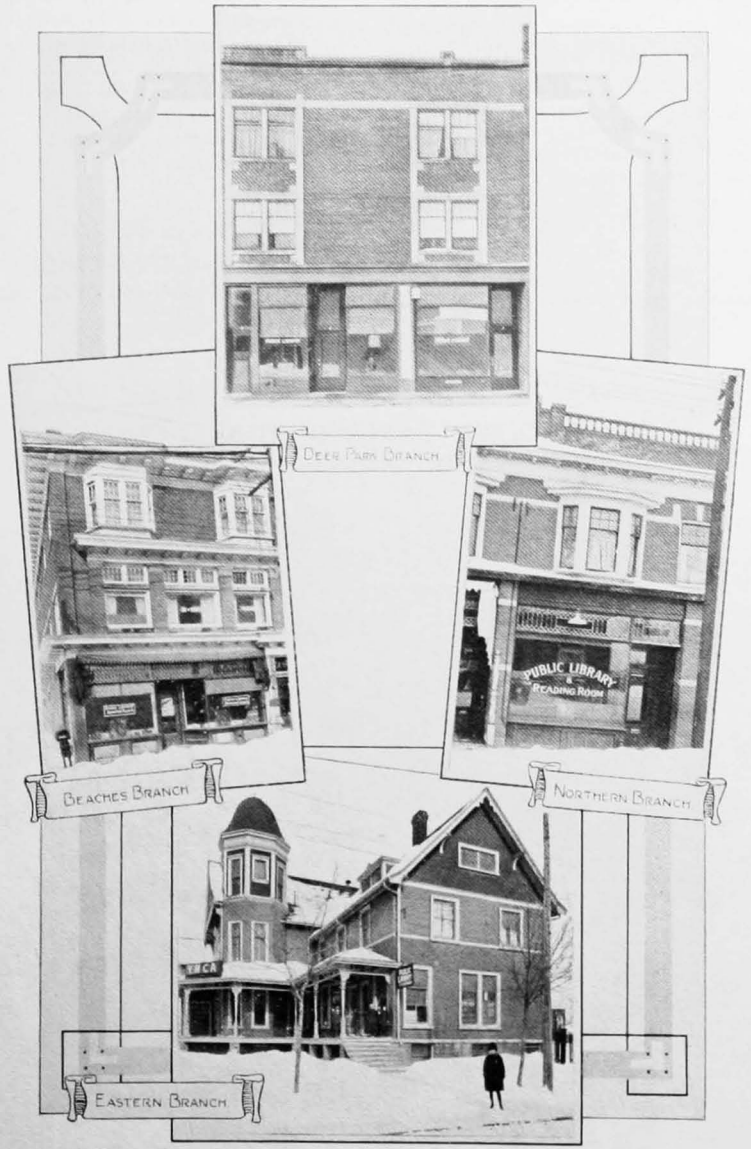
When faced with the criticism that had plagued his predecessor, that too many books in the library were fiction, Locke simply asked what was wrong with fiction. He also started to stock libraries with works in Russian, Yiddish, Italian, and Lithuanian for the first immigrants arriving from Central and Eastern Europe. Locke had written several books on Canadian history, including *When Canada Was New France* and *Builders of the Canadian Commonwealth*. Dismayed by Canadians' ignorance of their history, he decided to start with children and establish storytelling classes on Saturday mornings. In his 1916 annual report Locke wrote of:

> ... the great National Movement which we have undertaken in our Children's Department in what are known as our National Story Hours, where to 15,000 children during the past year our story-telling staff told of the early history of our country, of its discoveries, its explorers, its settlers, its early rulers, its inhabitants; indeed, during a period of now three years, it has been conducting a "Bonne Entente" with boys and girls of the City to whom the names and work of Cartier, Champlain, Frontenac, Radisson, LaSalle and their compatriots have taken on a new significance, and the result of which is that the new generation will have the Canadian historical background which has been so sadly lacking in the generation of today. This is real national service, the results of which are not so obvious, apparent, or socially distinctive as they are far-reaching, deep and abiding.

By the 1920s more than 20,000 young children were flocking into the libraries to hear these stories of early Canada and other adventure tales.

MUNICIPAL REFERENCE BRANCH, 1911.

STORY HOUR IN EARLSCOURT BRANCH,
ca. 1920. Now Dufferin/St. Clair Branch.



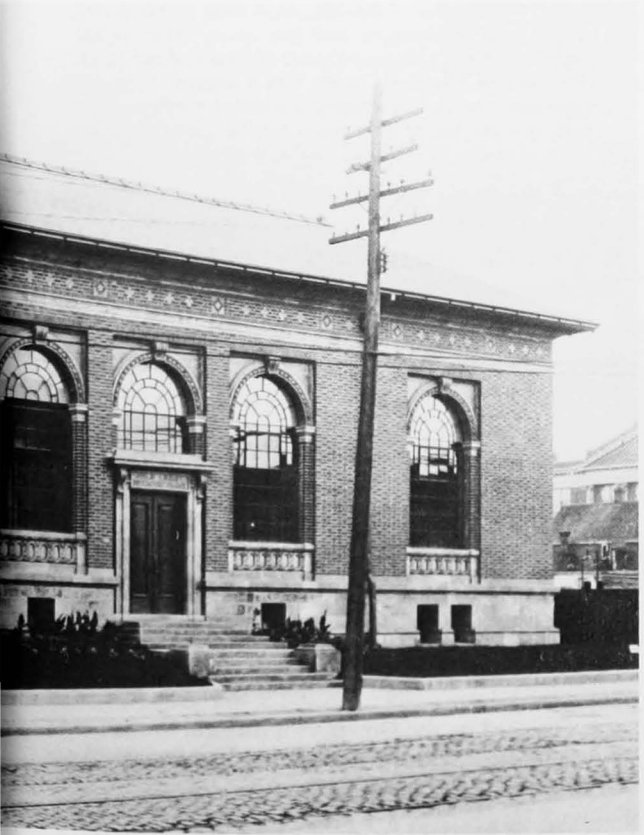
BRANCH LIBRARIES IN RENTED PREMISES, 1914.

George Locke's most enduring innovation for TPL was the establishment of an integrated branch system with an overall philosophy of organization and management that provided for interrelated service in all parts of the city of Toronto, rather than simply a series of separate library buildings, each serving its own neighbourhood. The unifying factors in the branch system included central book ordering and cataloguing and centralized staff training and supervision.

DOVERCOURT BRANCH, ca. 1913.
Now Bloor and Gladstone Branch. Bloor St. W. and Gladstone Ave., s.w. corner.

As soon as he assumed office, Locke made plans for a dozen more branches of TPL to keep up with the needs of the rapidly growing city. The recently annexed areas demanded library service, and Locke and the library board worked at ways to provide it as soon as it was financially possible. Storefronts and other rental premises were used as interim measures to house libraries in a number of districts. In 1911 TPL opened the Deer Park Branch in a rented store at 1324 Yonge Street, north of St. Clair Avenue, but moved it first to 4-6 St. Clair Avenue West in 1914 and then to the Murray Block, 5-7 St. Clair Avenue East, three years later. The Wychwood Branch began in 1912 as a deposit collection in Hillcrest Public School and was known as the Bracondale Library. A TPL branch opened in 1913 at 2239 Yonge Street near Eglinton Avenue in the recently annexed North Toronto; in 1915 the Northern Branch moved a few blocks north to a former YMCA building at Yonge Street and Albertus Avenue. Late in 1913 a library was started in a leased building at Boon and Ascot streets to serve the Earlscourt district. Two branches opened in the east end of the city in 1914, both in rented quarters: Beaches in a storefront at the corner of Queen Street and Hambly Avenue, and Eastern in a room at the old railwaymen's YMCA at Gerrard and Main streets.

HIGH PARK BRANCH, ca. 1916.
Roncesvalles Ave., w. side, s. of Wright Ave.



When it came to designing new branch libraries, Locke chose architectural styles that made them among the most interesting and attractive buildings in the city. And he wanted the libraries given the old geographic names of Toronto to preserve the heritage of the neighbourhood. The first library to be financed wholly by the city was Dovercourt at Bloor Street and Gladstone Avenue, officially opened on 23 October 1913. The architects were Chapman and McGiffin, the former having worked on the new reference library. At that time Dovercourt was the largest branch library in Toronto and in Canada. Its general design was to be copied in several small cities.

The Carnegie Foundation contributed $50,000 to the building of three new branches in the Beaches, High Park, and Wychwood areas of the city, all of which opened in 1916. George Locke wrote proudly of the three identical buildings, which were designed by architect Eden Smith. Each struck,

> ... a new note, so to speak, in library architecture, following as it does the English grammar school type of the time of Shakespeare. That was just what was in my mind for these three Branches were planned in the year in which was celebrated the tercentenary of Shakespeare. Not designedly, but appropriately there were three.[13]

The City of Toronto provided $100,000 for two new branches in Earlscourt (now Dufferin/St. Clair Library) and East Toronto (now Main Street Library) and both branches opened in 1921. Again George Locke was proud of his unusual buildings:

> East Toronto was a little village community with the traditional school houses of durable, substantial, economic and recognizable architecture, and just as an offset to the logical buildings, I planned a house of English domestic architecture on a business street, with a spacious lawn and curtained windows, combining a pleasing exterior with a home like interior, as different as possible from the institutional character of the other public buildings.[14]

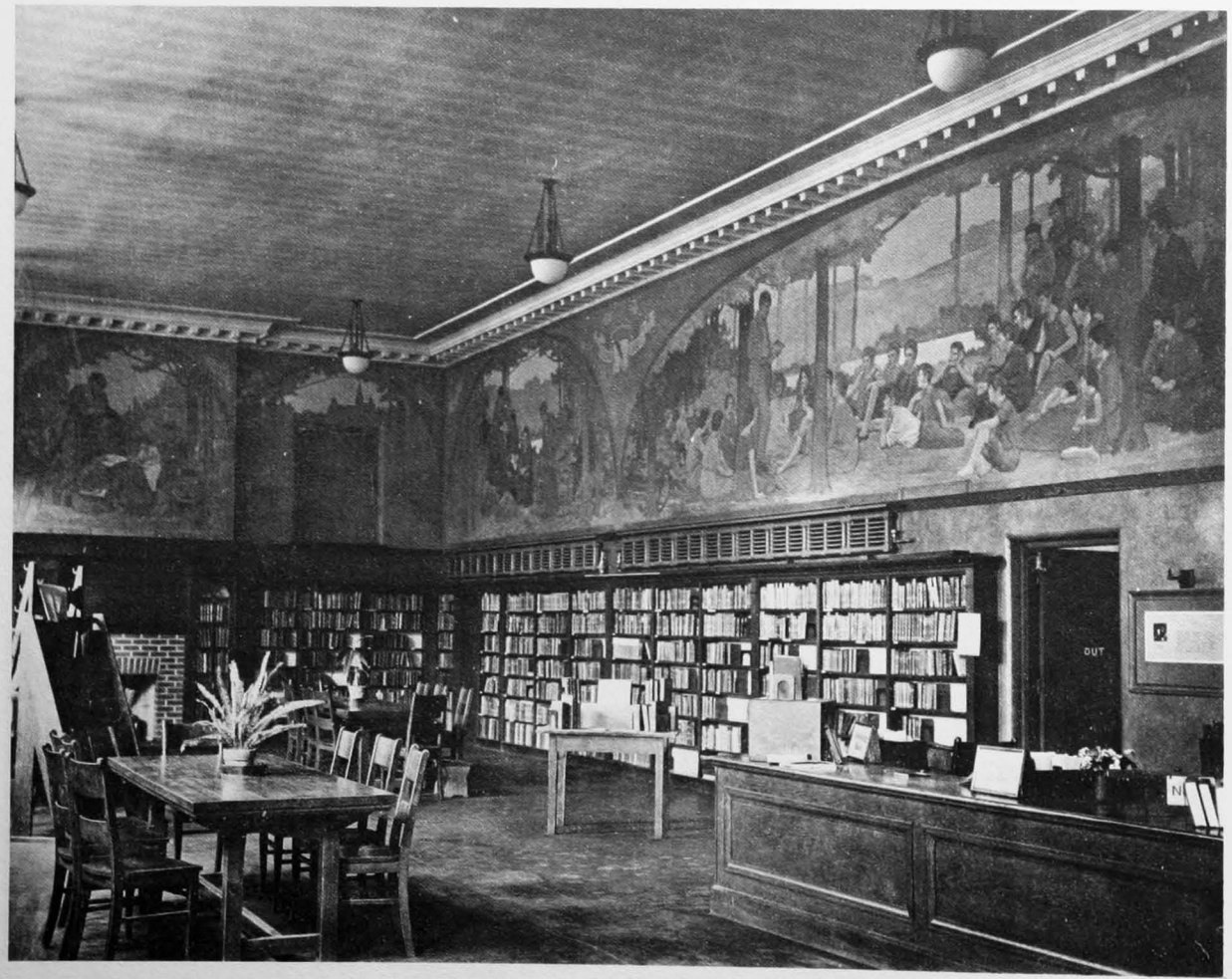
The Northern Branch also found a new home: Eglinton Presbyterian Church at Yonge Street and St. Clement's Avenue was taken over and renovated. The branch opened on 15 January 1923.

Gerrard Branch opened at Gerrard Street and Ashdale Avenue in May 1924. Locke chose something different again, explaining:

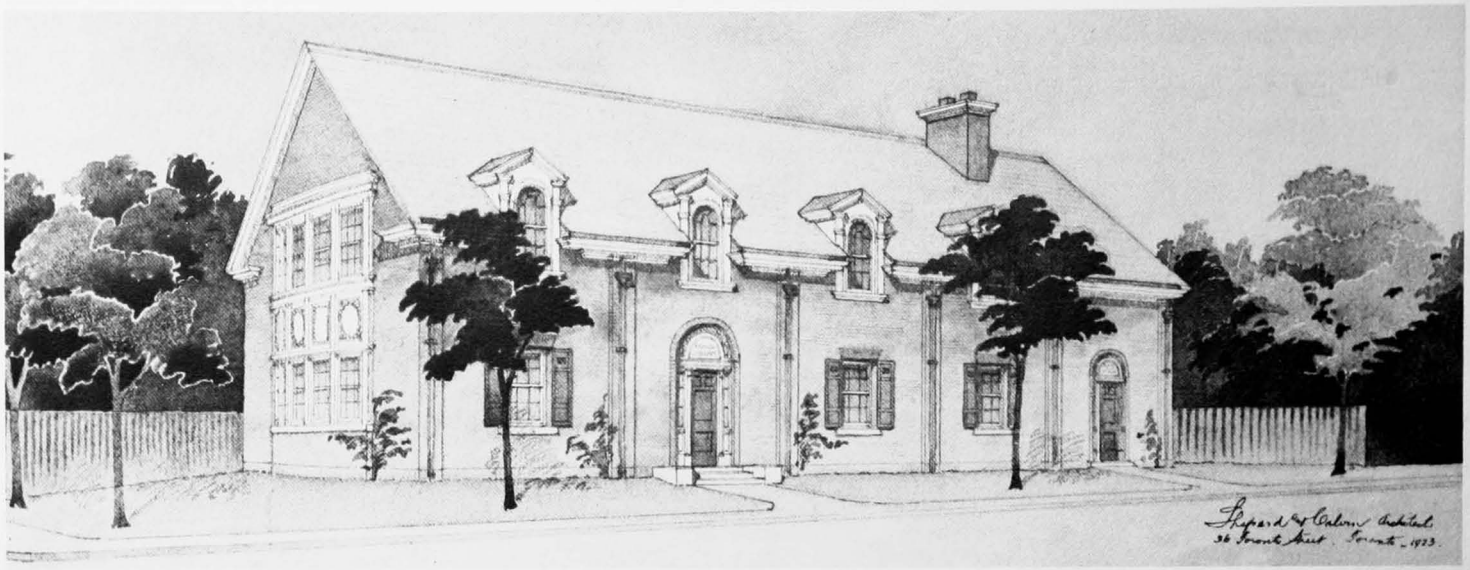
> Gerrard Branch, in the midst of a busy district, with no central theme for the neighbourhood and no very attractive public buildings, was a different problem. I wanted a building with an English atmosphere, but not domestic, so I chose the later Georgian type and evolved a building still different from any other....as my lot was narrow, I placed the end next to the main street with a large bow window facing south with a comfortable window seat.[15]

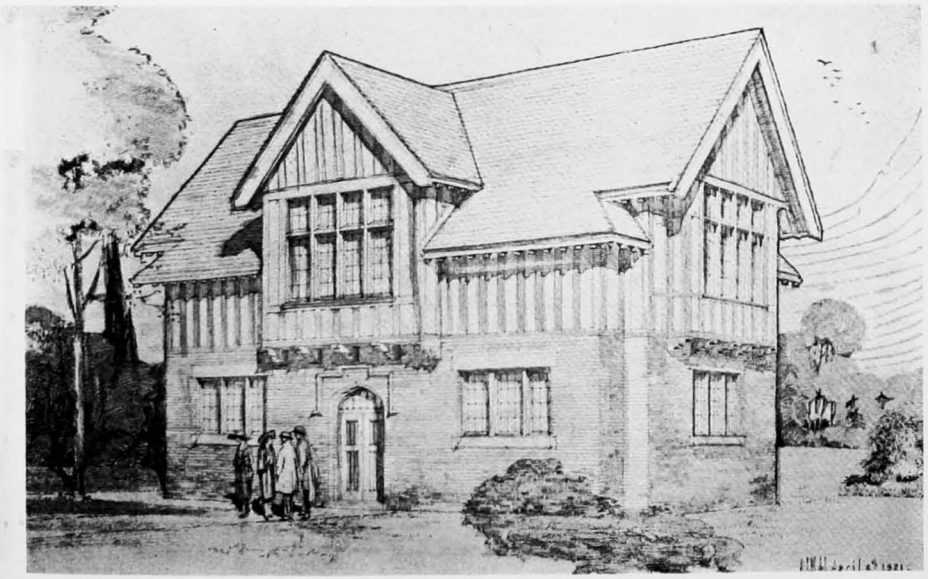
In 1928 TPL's first library in the old Mechanics' Institute building at Church and Adelaide was closed after forty-four years of continuous public service. It was replaced by the Downtown Branch, located at 42 Adelaide Street West, a more modern facility closer to the downtown core.

EARLSCOURT BRANCH, 1932.
Now Dufferin/St. Clair Branch. Mural by George A. Reid. Dufferin St., e. side btw. Rosemount and St. Clair aves.

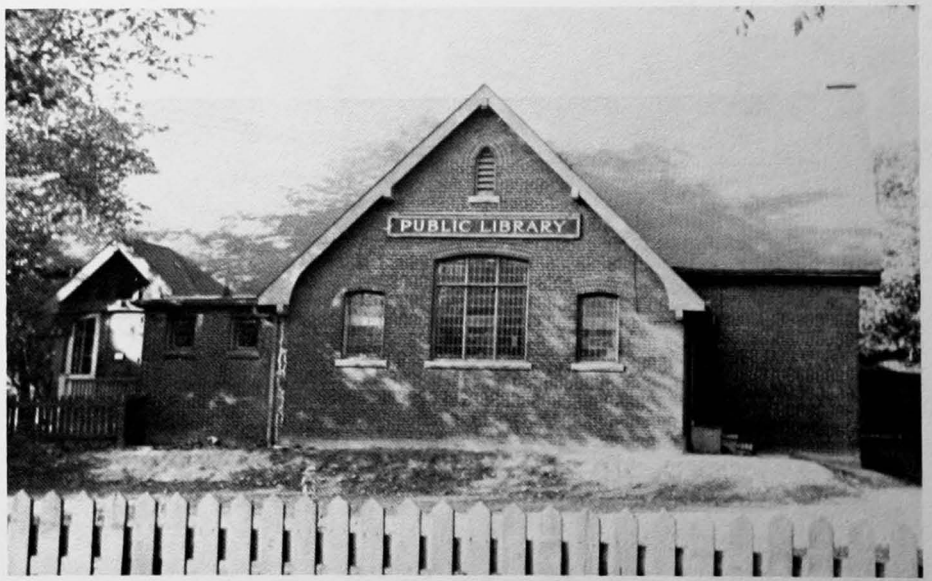


GERRARD BRANCH, 1923.
Now Gerrard/Ashdale Branch. Rendering by R.K. Shepard, architect. Gerrard St. E. and Ashdale Ave., n.w. corner.



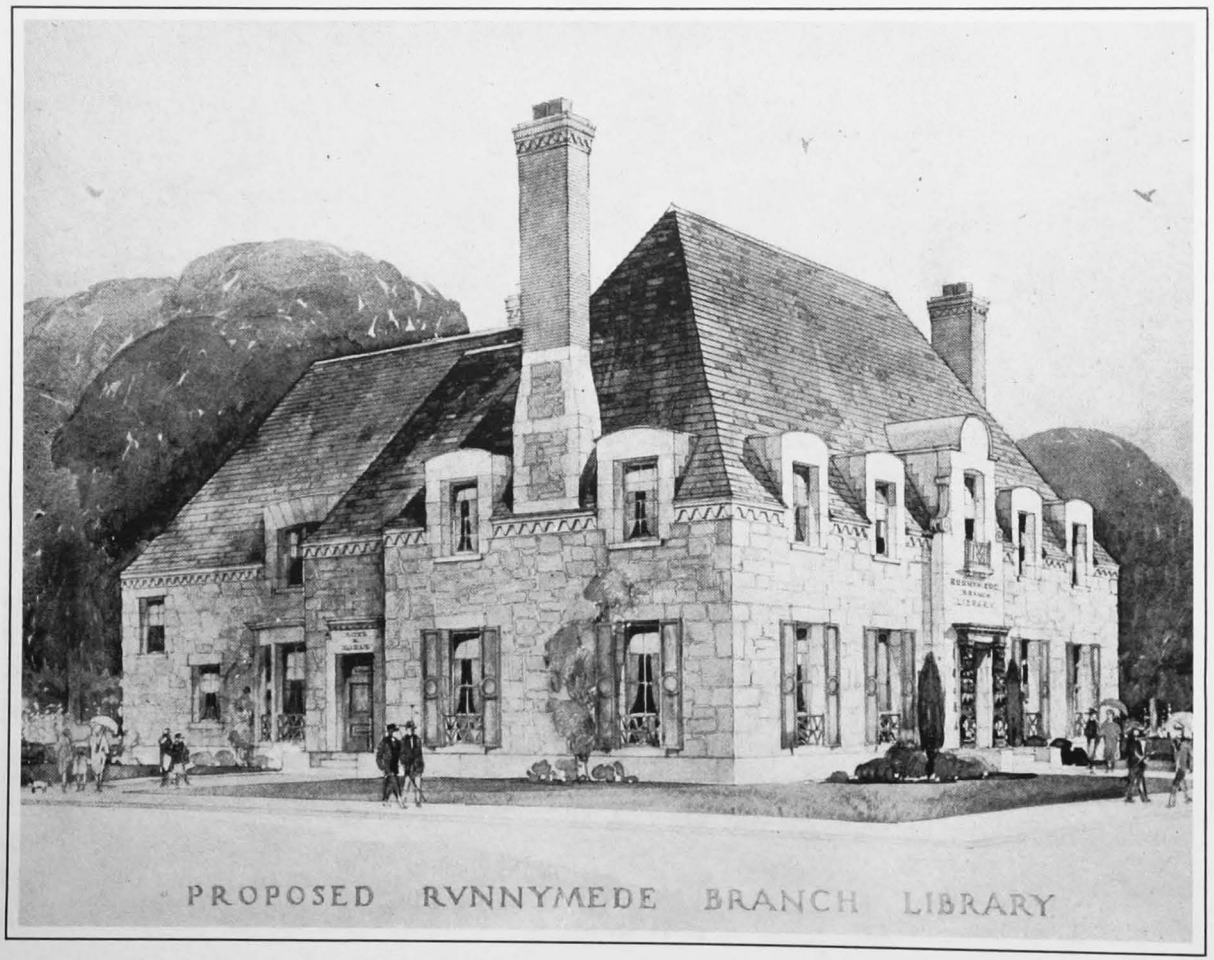


EASTERN BRANCH, 5 April 1921.
Now Main Street Branch. Rendering by J.P. Hynes, architect. Main St. s. of Gerrard St. E.



NORTHERN BRANCH, ca. 1952.
Later renamed St. Clements Branch. St. Clements Ave., n. side w. of Yonge St.

RUNNYMEDE BRANCH, ca. 1929.
Rendering by John Lyle, architect. Bloor St. W. and Glendonwynne Ave., n.e. corner.



The Danforth Branch at 701 Pape Avenue was built as a "shopping centre branch" and opened in November 1929. George Locke wrote in the 1929 annual report of the architectural distinctions of Danforth, which he envisioned in the style of an English shopfront:

> The front facade is decidedly English in character, the lower part being carried out in stone and the upper in half timber work and stucco panels, with projecting bays surmounted by gables, the whole producing a very pleasing effect and worthy of a more favourable setting - the best available at the time.

Runnymede was the last of the branches to open during George Locke's tenure as chief librarian. Architect John M. Lyle described his aim in the 1929 annual report as:

> ... striking a Canadian note in the treatment of this building. The high, pitched roof of French Canada has been used, as it has a particularly northern significance as against the flatter or more southern type of roof. The ordinary small black slate similar to that used in France has been adopted.
>
> "The central entrance motif is Indian in its inspiration, as the totem pole idea has been taken and married to the ordinary Classic lintel treatment. The cornice of this entrance has Indian decorative motifs treated in a naive manner to echo the totem pole motifs which support this cornice. The totem poles have at the top the raven, then the beaver, and at the bottom the bear, significant of Canadian bird and animal life."
>
> "The Boys and Girls entrance is marked by the use of an Indian head at the keystone, and with squirrels at either side of the frieze, suggesting a Canadian note which at the same time would be juvenile in character.
>
> "The cornice under the eaves has the primitive Indian dogtooth motif. The iron grilles on the ground floor have the Indian inverted triangle - implement of progress - and the grille over the main entrance has the Indian flint arrowhead motif.
>
> "Large solid wooden shutters frame the important windows on the ground floor, giving a domestic note and at the same time striking an interesting color note against the grey stone."

DANFORTH BRANCH, 1929.
Now Pape/Danforth Branch. Rendering by George Moorhouse & King, architects. Pape Ave., e. side, s. of Danforth Ave. →

PUBLIC
LIBRARY

With the new reference library and branches, George Locke needed additional personnel to implement the services he envisioned. Locke had the remarkable ability to choose and inspire dedicated innovative staff. Marjorie Bullard, who began 43 years with TPL in 1930, recalls that Dr. Locke's criterion for selection was that "he would risk brains for interest in the work and one who would circulate ideas as well as books, and that, when he appointed a branch head, his directive was 'Experiment. If it works, tell us - if it fails, bury it'."[16] Henry A. Sharpe, former deputy librarian of Croydon Public Library in England, witnessed the amazing relationship during a 1935 Toronto visit:

> Seldom can it be given to a man to be held in such esteem, bordering almost on adoration, as George Locke was held in the hearts of every member of his staff. It was a sight to see him greet one by one the fifty or more who joined us at lunch on that day; he was obviously more of a father to them than just a chief.[17]

Of this "highly trained and intelligent body of public servants," two women, Lillian H. Smith and Winifred Barnstead hired by George Locke are worthy of special mention, not only for their outstanding, decisive contribution to the Toronto system, but also for their significant effect on librarianship across Canada and internationally.

Lillian Helena Smith was born in 1887 in London, Ontario, into a world of books and music. She died on 5 January 1983. Her father, a Methodist minister, gave the youngest of his four children the freedom of his study and library, and there she found and read books that were to become her constant companions. After graduating from Victoria College, University of Toronto, in 1910, Lillian Smith was accepted as a student at the training school for children's librarians located in the Carnegie Library in Pittsburgh.

Towards the end of her course, the school received a request for a promising graduate from Anne Carroll Moore, head of the Children's Department of the New York Public Library. Lillian was offered the job in New York and went there in September 1911. The New York Public Library assigned her to the Central Children's Room for orientation. In only three weeks time she was placed in charge of the children's room of the Washington Heights Branch of the library.

LILLIAN H. SMITH 1887-1983.
First head of children's services, 1912-1952.

During the spring of 1912 Dr. George Locke wrote the New York Public Library stating that TPL was looking for someone to organize the children's department in Toronto and asking whether there were any Canadians on staff in New York who might be considered for the Toronto position. Lillian Smith was immediately approached and she accepted the position, arriving in Toronto in September to become the first trained children's librarian in the British Empire.

Her first task was to transform the rudimentary collection in the College Street Branch located in the basement of the Central Library into a soundly based collection of children's literature. Once she had put together a workable collection of books, she approached the city's schools, talked about books, read aloud to classes, and announced the Saturday story hours. Here was the start of the book talks and storytelling hours that have remained an important part of TPL's role in introducing books to children over its first century. Lillian Smith also used both community meetings and book displays to interest people in children's books. For ten years she carried on this work in an alcove in the College Street Branch. But in 1922 an old house at 40 St. George Street was converted into a separate children's library, Boys and Girls House, and Lillian Smith was put in charge of it. Boys and Girls House was the first library exclusively devoted to children in the British Empire. The library contained, in addition to the lending library, a story-hour and club room, a high school reference library, and a special collection of books for parents.

Lillian Smith personally organized and supervised staff training for children's librarians and services throughout the library system. She chose the librarians herself and gave all of those who worked under her a wide variety of practical experience that broadened their knowledge and understanding of children. She encouraged the librarians to approach their work in their own way and to make their own

individual contributions. She expected her children's librarians "to have a thorough knowledge of the books; to remember that only the best is good enough for children; and to consider that if we limit children to their own taste in reading, we pauperize their minds; and to have a sense of the fitness of things."[18]

Every week she held staff meetings at Boys and Girls House. These were the focal point of all staff training. New books were reviewed, sometimes by herself but mostly by the staff and a lively discussion followed. She invited prominent librarians and editors, writers and illustrators of children's books to many of these meetings. These guests came from the United States, England, Australia, and other parts of the world. The librarians received instruction from specialists in storytelling, epic literature, source material, book presentation, play reading, puppetry, printing, and, not surprisingly considering the wide interests of the staff, in English country dancing. The sessions opened up avenues of interest that let staff members concentrate in areas of their choice.

Lillian Smith started to lecture at the early library school in 1913 and continued to do so until her retirement in 1952. In 1927 she edited *Books for Boys and Girls*, which proved to be a useful and dependable selection guide for libraries across the country. Later, in 1953, she wrote *The Unreluctant Years: A Critical Approach to Children's Literature*, which was commissioned by the American Library Association. Boys and Girls House vividly expressed Lillian Smith's philosophy of reading and her understanding of children and their needs. For many years the Children's Section of the Ontario Library Association held their meetings at Boys and Girls House, and in 1939, at a joint meeting of children's librarians of the Ontario and Quebec library associations held in Montreal, the Canadian Association of Children's Librarians was formed. It was inspired by Lillian H. Smith and was a forerunner of the Canadian Library Association.

By 1952, when Lillian Smith retired, the Toronto Public Library staff had sixteen branch libraries, as well as thirty public libraries in elementary schools and two settlement houses. A friend and colleague, Margaret Johnston, says: "Seldom has the wisdom and conviction of one quiet woman become a force that would affect the cultural life of children on five continents. The high standard of children's reading that she consistently advanced in the children's libraries of Toronto became known and respected internationally."[19]

THE FAIRY TALE ROOM AND THE DELIVERY ROOM IN THE BOYS AND GIRLS HOUSE

BOYS AND GIRLS HOUSE, ca. 1923. St. George St., w. side btw. College and Russell sts.

The second of Locke's special appointments was that of Winifred Barnstead as head of cataloguing. Winifred Glen Barnstead was born in Halifax in 1884 and graduated in 1906 from Dalhousie University. After a brief teaching career she went to the United States, where she received her grounding in classification and cataloguing at Princeton University Library. Shortly after taking up office, Locke hired her to come to Toronto as joint head of the Cataloguing Department. One of her first tasks was to recatalogue the entire reference collection for the new reference library. Barnstead became head of cataloguing in 1912, and she developed and organized the library's cataloguing system during the period when the whole TPL system was expanding. Freda Waldon, long-time chief librarian at Hamilton Public Library, says that the catalogue at TPL soon became a model for other library systems at a time when "good cataloguing, any cataloguing indeed, was rare and classification in most libraries was a 'scandal'."[20] Her collaboration on *An Extension of the Dewey Decimal Classification Applied to Canada*, first published by TPL in 1912, and on the indispensable *Filing Rules for Dictionary Catalogues* ... made her well known to librarians.

But it was Barnstead's role in training librarians, first as a lecturer and later as the first director of the library school, that gave her a direct contact with and an influence on library school graduates for several decades. Winifred Barnstead retired in 1951, and the University of Toronto awarded her an honourary LL.D. in 1972. In 1983, in her ninety-ninth year, Miss Barnstead was director emeritus of the Faculty of Library and Information Science, University of Toronto (as the library school is now known).

TPL was always concerned with the training of librarians and from the beginning it set examinations for candidates for posts in the library. From the start of his librarianship in 1909, George Locke used his influence to encourage the establishment of a librarians' training course in Ontario, and supported the efforts of Walter R. Nursey, inspector of public libraries for Ontario. In 1911, when the first course was given in Ontario, a four-week summer course,

WINIFRED G. BARNSTEAD, HEAD OF CATALOGUING 1910-1928.

TPL librarians were among the instructors. This course continued to 1914. In 1913 Lillian Smith was appointed to teach children's library work.

In 1916, following the appointment of Mr. W.O. Carson as inspector of libraries, a one-month course was held under the Department of Education in Dovercourt Branch. Winifred Barnstead was the instructor in charge and registrar, Lillian Smith and Gertrude Boyle also taught, and George Locke was a special lecturer. In 1917 and 1918 a two-month course was held in Dovercourt Branch.

In 1918 the school was transferred to quarters in TPL's reference library. The next year this course was extended to three months and from 1919 to 1927 a training school for librarians was held each year from September. Among the regular instructors were TPL staff members: Winifred Barnstead (cataloguing); Lillian Smith (boys and girls work); Lundia MacBeth (circulation work); Frances Staton (reference); Gertrude Boyle (classification); and George Locke (modern prose literature). Practice work facilities were provided by TPL and procedures and methods taught were those used in TPL which was the largest and most developed public library in Ontario.

In September 1928 the University of Toronto inaugurated a one-year academic course for the training of librarians located in the Ontario College of Education. Winifred Barnstead left TPL to become director of the school with the rank of associate professor. TPL staff continued to take part as instructors. The chief librarians, in succession Dr. Locke, Dr. Sanderson and Mr. Campbell, all gave courses. Lillian H. Smith, Jean Thomson and other B & G librarians were regular lecturers in children's work. Librarians from other sections of the library were asked to give lectures in their special subject fields.

Practice work in branch libraries continued, including five Friday afternoons in a different library and two weeks in one library. This practice work was very important, as it consisted of a carefully planned and directed operation that made up two of the fifteen credits of the school's second term. In this way students were introduced to a functioning library service; in addition, the library staff kept in close contact with the school's new graduates. With such close contact with TPL, the library school concentrated on training its students for service in the public library. However, after 1936, there was a growing emphasis on the need for more academic rather than vocational courses. There was also an increased emphasis on the services required to meet other types of library needs, on standards and principles, and on library administration.

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION FOR EMPLOYMENT IN TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1 December 1910. →

Toronto Public Library.

EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 1, 1910.

Neatness, clearness and succinctness are qualities appreciated by those who read examination papers.

1. Explain clearly the difference between a biography and an autobiography. Name a distinguished example of each during the past 50 years.

2. An enquiry is made as to books suitable for a boy of 12 years of age; also a girl of like age. What would you recommend?

3. Name two daily newspapers which might be recommended to persons who desire to know the progress of events in:

(1) Canada.
(2) Great Britain.
(3) United States of America.

4. Name four weekly journals treating of public affairs, one Canadian, one American and two British.

5. What works of fiction would you recommend to persons desiring illustrations of the early life in Canada.

(1) French occupation.
(2) War of 1812.
(3) Rebellion of 1837.
(4) Since 1837.

6. A teacher is preparing for celebration of Empire Day. How would you help her by suggesting books, etc.?

7. Write a business letter applying for a position in the Toronto Public Library; address it to the Chief Librarian and mention among other qualifications,

(1) What educational advantages you have had.
(2) What occupation you have followed up to this time.
(3) Whether you are conversant with languages other than English.
(4) What qualifications you think are necessary and desirable in an assistant in a library.

8. A book is to contain 672 pages, and each page contains 257 words. The printer charges 82 cents per page for type and $1.17 for each 16 pages of printing. What is the cost of the volume, and how many words does it contain?

9. Name the self-governing colonies of the British Empire and one or more important public men in each.

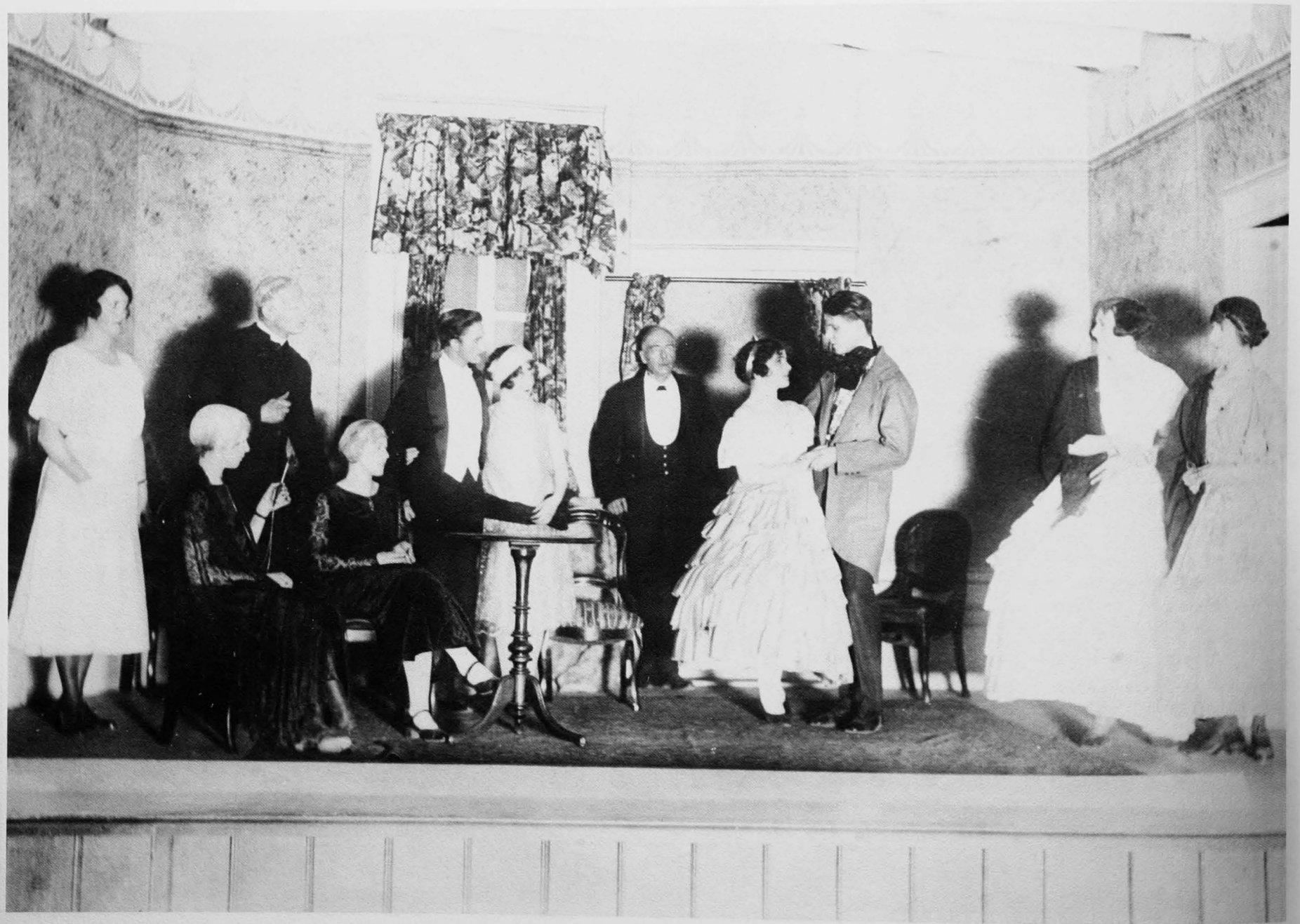
10. Name at least two men who have been distinguished in the United States for their eminence in,

(1) Literature.
(2) Public life.
(3) Art.

11. Name four British novelists, two American novelists and two Canadian novelists, and some of their principal works.

12. What do you consider the best journal on,

(1) Art.
(2) Religion.
(3) Applied science.
(4) Household affairs.
(5) Public affairs.



PLAY PRESENTED BY BEACHES LIBRARY DRAMA LEAGUE, ca. 1924.
←

BOOKLOVERS' EVENING AT BEACHES BRANCH, ca. 1930.
Queen St. E., s. side w. of Lee Ave.

Innovations continued in TPL through the 1920s. Deposit collections were placed in various settlement houses, and adult education lectures and groups were actively and enthusiastically developed. Beaches Branch in particular was a pioneer in community outreach with its "booklovers' " evenings, drama league, picture exhibits, and so on. In 1926 TPL opened its first public library branch in a school (at Queen Victoria in Parkdale), a co-operative effort that continued for more than thirty years. This was not a school library in the usual sense, but a public library branch with a smaller collection than would be found at a regular branch. As well, a new classification scheme for books geared to the reading interests of children was introduced in the 1920s. Special attention was also paid to facilities for teenage youth, and high school rooms were opened in several branches.

REFERENCE LIBRARY STAFF, ca. 1895.

4
STAFF ASSOCIATION

In 1909 when George Locke was appointed chief librarian, TPL had a staff of twenty-six. By the time of his death in 1937, it had 232 employees. "The staff association," says Marjorie Bullard, who was active in it for many years, "sort of bound us together. It was 'family'." The Toronto Public Library Staff Association began in February 1910 with George Locke in the chair. At the first meeting Eva Davis was elected president. The staff association helped librarians to know one another, increase professional knowledge, share their problems, and work together for improvements.

The first meeting was held at the Central Library and was followed by monthly meetings at the branches so that staff might get to know each other. The Misses Barnstead and Poole addressed the meeting on 15 February; their subject was the Dewey decimal classification system. The minutes record that "after a short time of informal and social intercourse and delightful refreshments the meeting adjourned." Succeeding meetings dealt with registration, reference work, rules for book borrowers, and book reviews. This instruction was needed and helpful, for as yet there were few trained librarians on the staff.

During the First World War, the staff association assisted the Canada Registration Board in registering every person sixteen years of age and over. It also had a soldiers' fund, which sent sixty-two boxes overseas. Library staff during the First World War also took part in the Red Cross Volunteers and made 800 surgical compresses for the University of Toronto Base Hospital.

The staff association sponsored many special interest groups for members of the staff, such as the Glee Club, the Art Club, and the Dramatic Club. The highlight of the Musical Club's entertainment was the production in 1926 of *HMS Library*, a musical based on *HMS Pinafore*. The musical honoured George Locke's career and raised questions about librarianship and money. Its plot ran as follows: Toronto, a youth of noble birth is in love with Intelligence, the beautiful daughter of Captain Locke of the good ship *Library*. Economy, the First Lord of the Treasury, is jealous of the captain's good reputation and to spite him tries to win the hand of Intelligence in marriage, knowing that the captain has set his heart on the union of Toronto and Intelligence. A very trying scene follows, and a tragedy is narrowly averted by the disclosure of Popularity, a faithful follower of Captain Locke.

One of the most active groups was the Dramatic Club, which put on plays every year at Central Circulating Library from 1931 to 1938. Marjorie Jarvis was one of the prime movers of the Dramatic Club. She also developed a strong drama collection in the library. Each year from 1933 to 1937, the Dramatic Club entered a play in the Dominion Drama Festival and also performed their festival play in the auditorium of the Central Library. As well, the group invited speakers to address them on the subjects of acting and producing. Among these speakers were professionals such as theatre directors Nancy Pyper and Sterndale L. Bennett and playwright Herman Voaden. In 1935 the club engaged as their first professional director Dora Mavor Moore, who directed them in *Women at War* by Edward Percy. Then, in 1936, Mr. and Mrs. Sterndale L. Bennett were the professional directors engaged for the festival entry for that year - *An Arc of the Circle of Chalk*, which was adapted by Marjorie Jarvis from a thirteenth-century Chinese play.

In 1928 the library board bought and refurbished a ten-room Victorian house on College Street just west of the reference library as a staff clubhouse for the staff association. The clubhouse, which opened in 1930, was managed by a committee, on which TPL staff, administration, and the board were all represented. Lunch, tea, and dinner were served in its large dining room every day but Sunday. It gave the staff, Locke pointed out, "opportunities for tea (but not the all pervasive toast) and rest or recreation that the work of the Library may be conducted with a better feeling and a less tired expression."[21] For the staff, it became a home away from home; in Locke's words, "the Club House is the opportunity for social life on a dignified and attractive scale with but little expense."[22] These arrangements lasted until 1964, when the house was regretfully demolished and the facilities were incorporated into the addition to Boys and Girls House, which was rebuilt at that time.

Throughout its one hundred years TPL's staff has largely consisted of women, working long hours for little pay. Indeed, library work attracted some of the best minds among women of those generations to whom so many doors were as yet closed. From the beginning, upper and middle management has been

exclusively male. There has never been a woman chief librarian. Indeed it was only in 1928, almost fifty years after the first board met, that a woman, Edith Davidson, was named to the board. At least two women librarians who worked with the staff association to try to win wage increases remember Mrs. Davidson's unsympathetic attitude: "The girls don't wear silk drawers do they?"

It was only in the late 1950s that women librarians were allowed to marry. Before that, if they married, they were demoted to temporary status at a beginner's salary. As a result, inevitably, a number married secretly, keeping their new status successfully concealed to all but a few very close associates until pregnancy betrayed them. Marjorie Bullard remembers wondering why one associate chose to wear a smock to work every day. She was pregnant, of course, as became apparent after several months. She then had to resign.

During the Depression, and even after, it was thought unfair for two members of the same family to be bringing in two salaries. Also, a working woman who was married was perceived as taking a job away from a man. The attitude was in line with that for civic employees.

The image persisted, however: lady librarians were a special breed, vestal virgins tending the flame of literature and dancing around the figure of the chief librarian most notably Dr. Locke. Ogreta McNeil, head of the Music Library used to ask Dr. Sanderson, "Why is it that a male librarian resembles a dead fish?"[23] And she supplied the answer herself, "Because he rises so quickly to the top."

On 17 January 1918, at a staff association business meeting, Miss Barnstead made the following motion: "That a vote of thanks be extended to the Board in recognition of their generosity in making provision for a 5 per cent bonus at Christmas. We are very grateful to the Board but in view of the high cost of living we would be very glad if they would raise the schedule of salaries." Loud applause was heard from the eighty-nine members present as the motion was passed unanimously.

This meeting seems to have changed the direction of the association. While still enjoying the social aspect of the meetings, the members were becoming more businesslike. The constitution was revised to include everyone from board members and the chief librarian to the lowliest employee, "since it is a democratic institution." The annual fee was still fifty cents.

On 14 April 1920, a special meeting was called to discuss TPL salaries in comparison to those of teachers, civic employees, and employees of other libraries. A deputation was sent to the library board to request a 10 per cent increase in salaries, a new salary schedule, and, rather naively, a continuance of the Christmas bonus. This deputation so impressed the chairman of finance that he went to the board of control, which voted more than the association requested.

Through the 1920s and 1930s the association was still a small, close-knit group, with common interests. In the early years, until after the Second World War, there was little to attract one to the profession. The hours were long - a five-and-a-half day, thirty-nine hour week. Libraries were understaffed and open until 9:00 p.m. including Saturdays. Transportation was slow and could easily add another two hours to an employee's day. Josephine Phelan said she wrote her biography *The Ardent Exile*, which won the Governor General's Award, on the streetcar during the months she travelled from her home in High Park to the Danforth Branch. Most people who joined the staff were motivated by a love of books, a liking for people, and a desire to serve the community — certainly not by the salaries, which were a pittance. In spite of its disadvantages, the work was enjoyable. Dr. Locke had the gift of making the staff feel that he was interested in them individually. They were, as he often said, "My girls." Fellow workers were congenial, and, in a way, it was like being a member of a family firm.

STAFF HOUSE.
College St., n. side w. of St. George St. →

CENTRAL CIRCULATING LIBRARY MAIN ROOM, 1930.
College St., w. side at St. George St.

5
THE GROWTH OF TPL COLLECTIONS

During the 1910s and 1920s TPL's collections, especially those in the Central Library, were growing rapidly. Central held the books withdrawn from the sixteen branches as well as the reserve book collection of over 3,000 volumes. A book bindery and repair department handled 21,000 volumes a year, and the growing music collection was circulating 8,000 items annually. John Ross Robertson, publisher of the *Telegram*, presented the library board with the first instalment of his large and valuable collection of paintings, engravings, and early Canadian prints in 1911. These works were put on view in the Historical Room of the Central Reference Library in January 1912. Over the years Mr. Robertson added to this collection until eventually there was not sufficient space for all the pictures. Moreover, a large circulating picture collection had been developed for teachers. Space was needed for a public assembly room, a young people's section, and a fireproof security area for rare materials. The new wing, the Central Circulating Library, which was opened in 1930, was a milestone achievement. Canada, like most of the world, was in the depths of a depression. Nonetheless, Toronto City Council provided $430,000 for the new wing. Wickson & Gregg and Chapman & Oxley, the same associated architects who had designed the 1909 reference library, attempted to synchronize the new design with the old without repeating it. Floor levels varied, and a separate new stack unit was created with a mechanical book conveyor for the circulating library. This carried books from the circulation counter to the open-stack room, the Kipling Room (the library for teenagers), and the five floors of the closed stacks. At the special opening ceremony on 21 April 1930, Professor Andrew Keogh, librarian at Yale University and president of the American Library Association, was the keynote speaker.

JOHN ROSS ROBERTSON, 1841-1918.

But even while the Central Circulation Library was in the planning stage, the stock market crash of 1929 brought with it new problems. The library, like the rest of the world, was subject not only to difficult economic conditions but also to other drastic social changes during the thirties. In looking back on that period, H.C. Campbell, chief librarian from 1956 to 1978, found that the most significant factor was "the core of people who maintained this amazing civic institution through the Depression at a time when other library systems were really just refugee camps."[24]

The library, under Locke's leadership, set itself an ideal of self-education for its patrons. In 1931 the chief librarian wrote in the annual report:

> The place of the Library in such times is to provide a solace through books for the loneliness and the friendlessness of the unemployed in this seemingly busy and unthinking world. If it did only this it would amply justify its presence in the community, for it is a work of the highest importance, inasmuch as it helps to dissipate the depression that is within, and this in turn helps to colour with a more rosy hue the world which has seemed so dull and cold and dead. And is there a greater work in the world than this?
>
> But the Library — this Library — has been able to do much more. Not content with making everything about our libraries attractive for the lonely citizen, it has gone after the man without a job, and has, by means of a series of

carefully selected and attractive books, said to the unemployed man, "If you would make yourself more efficient in your trade or profession, or if you would seek what you think may be a more attractive trade or profession, the Public Library will provide the books which are recognized as being the best authorities and make them accessible to you." This has been decidedly successful, even though we have been able to do it only in a limited way as yet. If we had special funds for this educational work we could make our Library the greatest force for self-education in the country — and, after all, is there any education to compare with self-education?

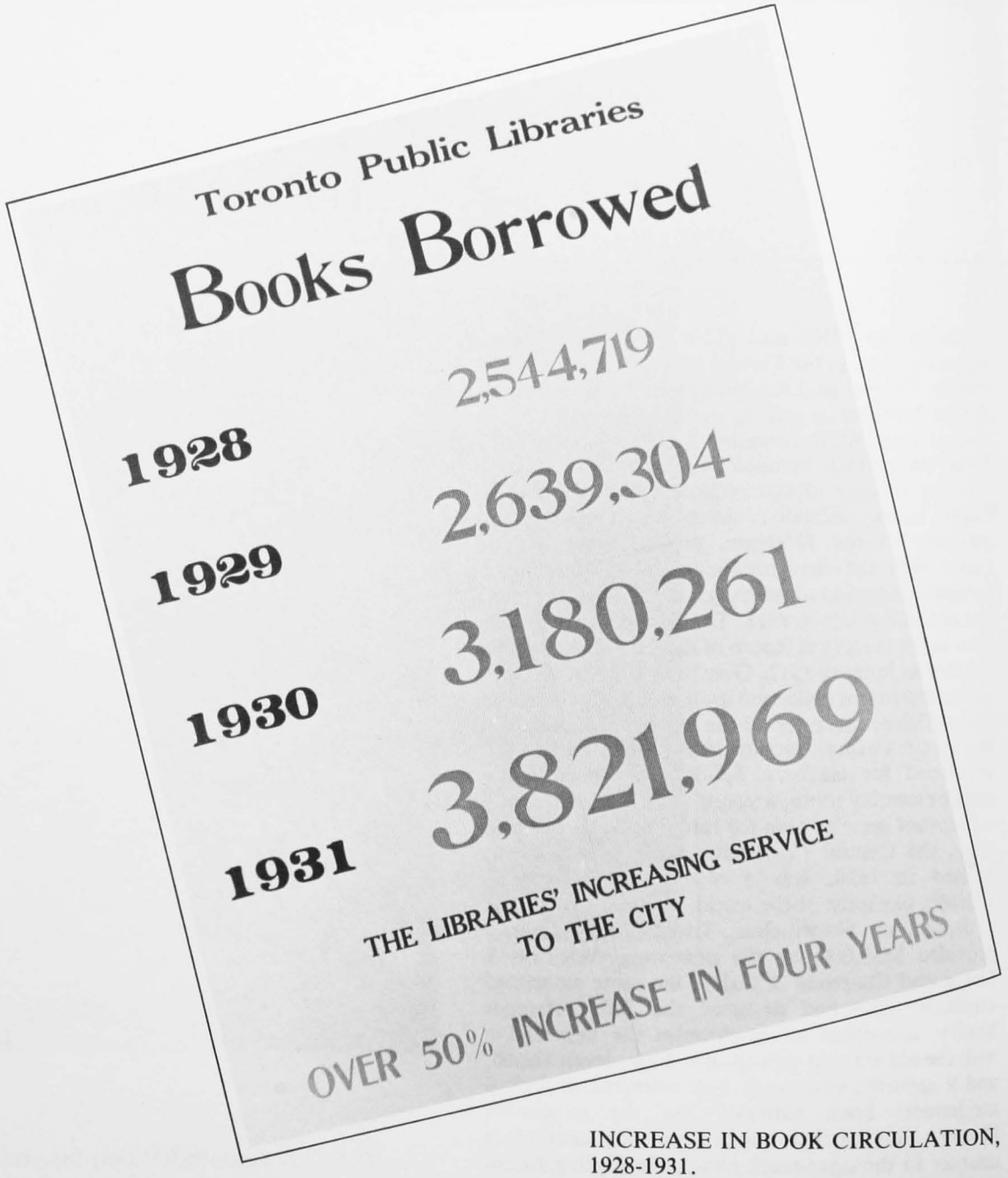
These have been the ideals of this year, based upon the social conditions and wants of our community, and the result may be surmised, or suspected, or at least partially understood, by using a statistical method — that 3,821,969 copies of books were used in our Libraries during the past year.

Mary Finch, the first branch head at Runnymede, recalls that decade.

"I was paid $1,800 a year because I was a branch head. Even then that was low. But of course during the depression we were just glad to have a job. The libraries were filled with people. Central was packed. We were very fortunate at Runnymede. Lots of our people had work. Anyone who was unemployed was given a card free. A library card cost ten cents. That wasn't very much. But it was a lot if you did not have a job. At High Park, afterwards, a woman came up to me and asked where she could buy a book on how to make dolls. She said "I kept myself and my children during the Depression, making dolls out of that book. I got that book at High Park". One man had started up a business on car repairs. He had borrowed a book on car repairs."[25]

Unemployed readers coming into the library in the thirties had many requests. Usually they would find that there were no empty seats. Certainly, the reference library was full to overflowing, and queues formed for admission to the Central and branch circulating libraries. The unemployed reader did not have to pay the ten cents for a library card. George Locke even hoped to be able to issue certificates that job seekers could present to potential employers verifying their use of the library while unemployed.

Technical books were in great demand: the libraries needed additional books on diesel engines, electrical engineering, air conditioning, refrigeration, welding, mining, radio and automotive mechanics.



INCREASE IN BOOK CIRCULATION, 1928-1931.

In 1931 the reference library opened a technical and commercial section, fittingly named the Hallam Room, to meet those informational demands. To guide patrons, librarians prepared lists on such subjects as retailing, real estate, banking, credit, the stock exchange, instalment buying, and secretarial practice.

During the 1930s the circulation of library materials increased dramatically. In 1930 the library issued over three million volumes to its patrons; three years later circulation reached almost 4.5 million, an increase of nearly 40 per cent. Contrary to what one might expect in a time of declining assessment, the city tried to keep library appropriations in pace with library needs. At a time when a municipality was obliged to give its library only fifty cents per capita, Toronto was allocating eighty cents to TPL. And this was in 1932 and 1933, the darkest days of the Depression. However, the unprecedented use of library materials led Locke to lament as early as 1930, "We cannot keep enough goods on the shelves to satisfy our thronging patrons." Indeed, the book stock increased only 8 per cent between 1930 and 1933.

The many books that were available could be brought much more speedily to the reader, however. Interloan, which had been introduced in 1887, was improved, making it possible for a book from any library in the system to be made available within forty-eight hours at any other library where it had been requested.

George Locke's hopes for the library's role in the 1930s seemed to have been fulfilled. In the 1933 annual report one branch reported:

> "An unemployed weaver made his own handloom, obtained books on design and rug-making, exhibited at handicraft festivals and developed a unique process which has resulted, not only in financial gain, but also in the introduction of a new Canadian handicraft. To quote his own words when he brought in a sample rug for us to see, "I couldn't have done it without the Library!"

Other branches told of the library helping unemployed people getting jobs;

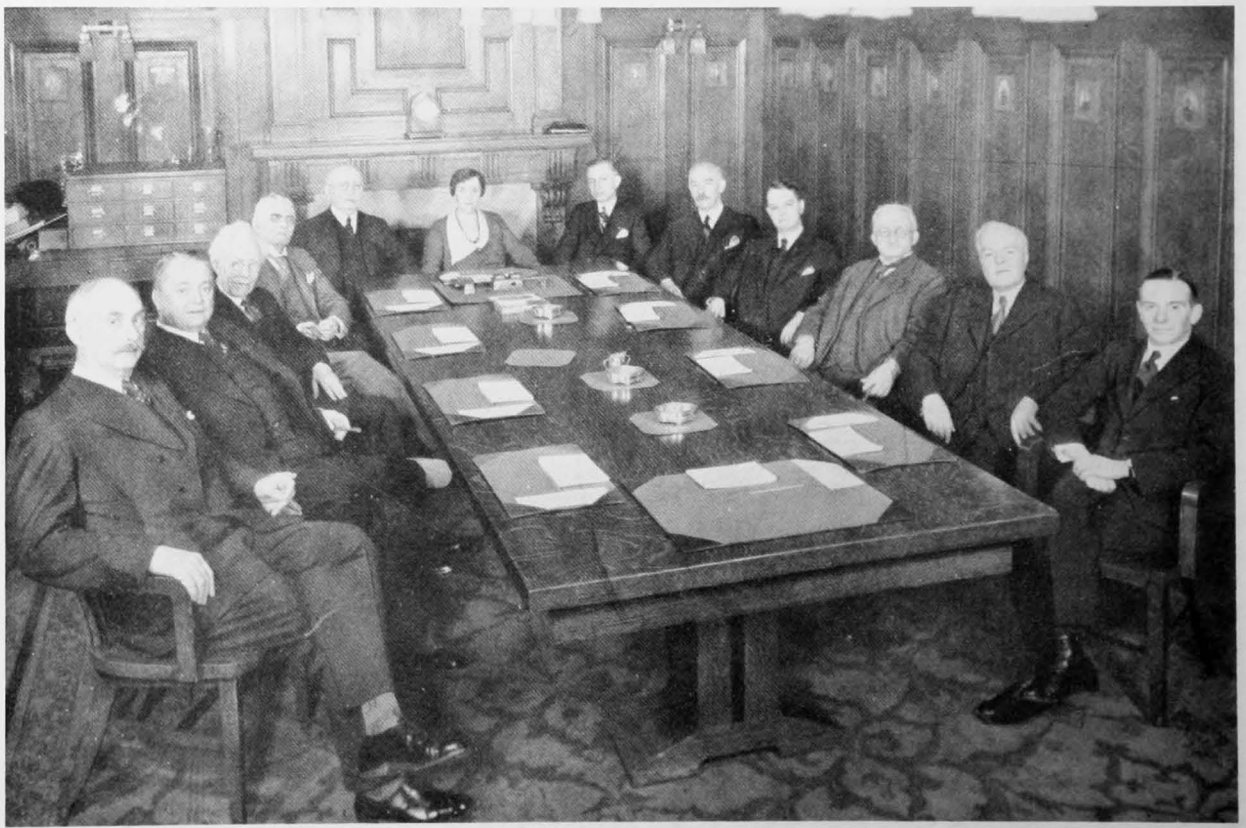
> One was a janitor wanting books on heating in order to make sure he understood a complicated system; another was a man wanting a book on welding, saying "I'm not going to have the first job in two years fall down on it"; another was a "graduate chemist, destroyed professionally by the depression, educating himself as a salesman from the books borrowed from the Library, and becoming a successful advertiser and still using books on his job."

From another branch comes this story, printed in the 1937 annual report, which could compete with the best of modern advertising!

> A borrower who has been experimenting with chickens and ducks reports that after she followed the methods of feeding, etc., suggested in our poultry books, the hens began to lay double-yolked eggs, and a duck took first prize at a fall fair.

Library patrons also participated in numerous activities, such as stamp clubs, travel clubs, drama groups, and a world-affairs group, and attended art exhibitions put on in the libraries — all in the interest of alleviating the "depression within" and in the spirit of "adult education."

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD, 1931. From Left to Right: George H. Locke, Chief Librarian; John Turnbull, Thos. W. Banton; His Honor Judge W.T.J. Lee, Hon. Mr. Justice H.T. Kelly, LL.D.; Mrs. Richard Davidson, Chairman; His Worship Mayor Wm. J. Stewart; N.B. Gash, K.C.; J.C.M. MacBeth, B.A.; Thos. W. Self, J.P.; E.S. Caswell, Secretary-Treasurer; Chas. R. Sanderson, Deputy Chief Librarian.



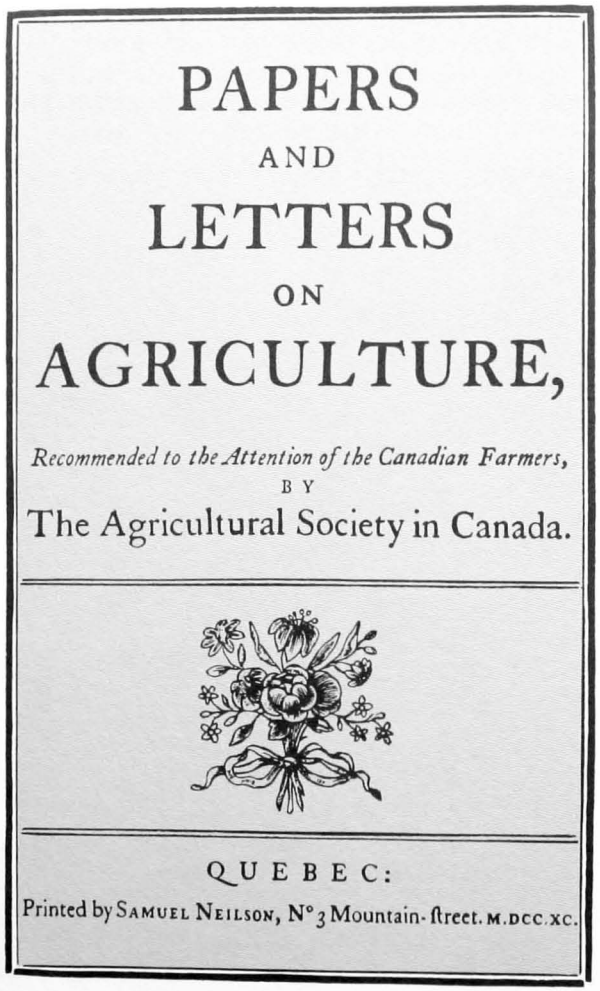
Clearly TPL was far from a "refugee camp." During this anxious, seeking decade, the library system established itself not only as a "welcoming place" but also as one where highly skilled staff met both familiar and strange requests with patience, good humour, and, above all, resourcefulness - qualities that they as well as their readers needed to get through the Depression.

During the 1930s Locke was also able to supervise the significant pioneering bibliographical work conducted by TPL. To celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the City of Toronto and the fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the free public library, TPL published in 1934 *A Bibliography of Canadiana*, a list of the early Canadian books in TPL's reference library.

As George Locke wrote in his introduction to the book "The pride of a Library is not mere possession of books but rather the explanation of the significance of those treasures and the development of interest and pleasure among those who may have the taste but not the material means of satisfying it."[26] Certainly, the 828-page bibliography helped to make the treasures of the library accessible to the public. It was prepared by Frances M. Staton and Marie Tremaine of the staff of the reference library and covered the years 1534 to 1867. Its contents were chosen to provide a chronological record of the history and, more importantly, the development of Canadian institutions at all levels over a period of 333 years. The descriptions of the bibliography's 4,646 items provided extensive bibliographical information. It included journals of explorers from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Great Lakes to the Arctic Circle, as well as the publications of mercantile organizations, political and fraternal societies, religious and educational institutions, and governmental agencies at all levels.

Another major bibliographical endeavour initiated during these years was the annual preparation and publication of *The Canadian Catalogue of Books*. Its first issue in 1923 listed the Canadian books and pamphlets published in 1921 and 1922. It covered

From: *A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF CANADIANA.*


PAPERS
AND
LETTERS
ON
AGRICULTURE,
Recommended to the Attention of the Canadian Farmers,
BY
The Agricultural Society in Canada.
QUEBEC:
Printed by SAMUEL NEILSON, N° 3 Mountain-ſtreet. M.DCC.XC.

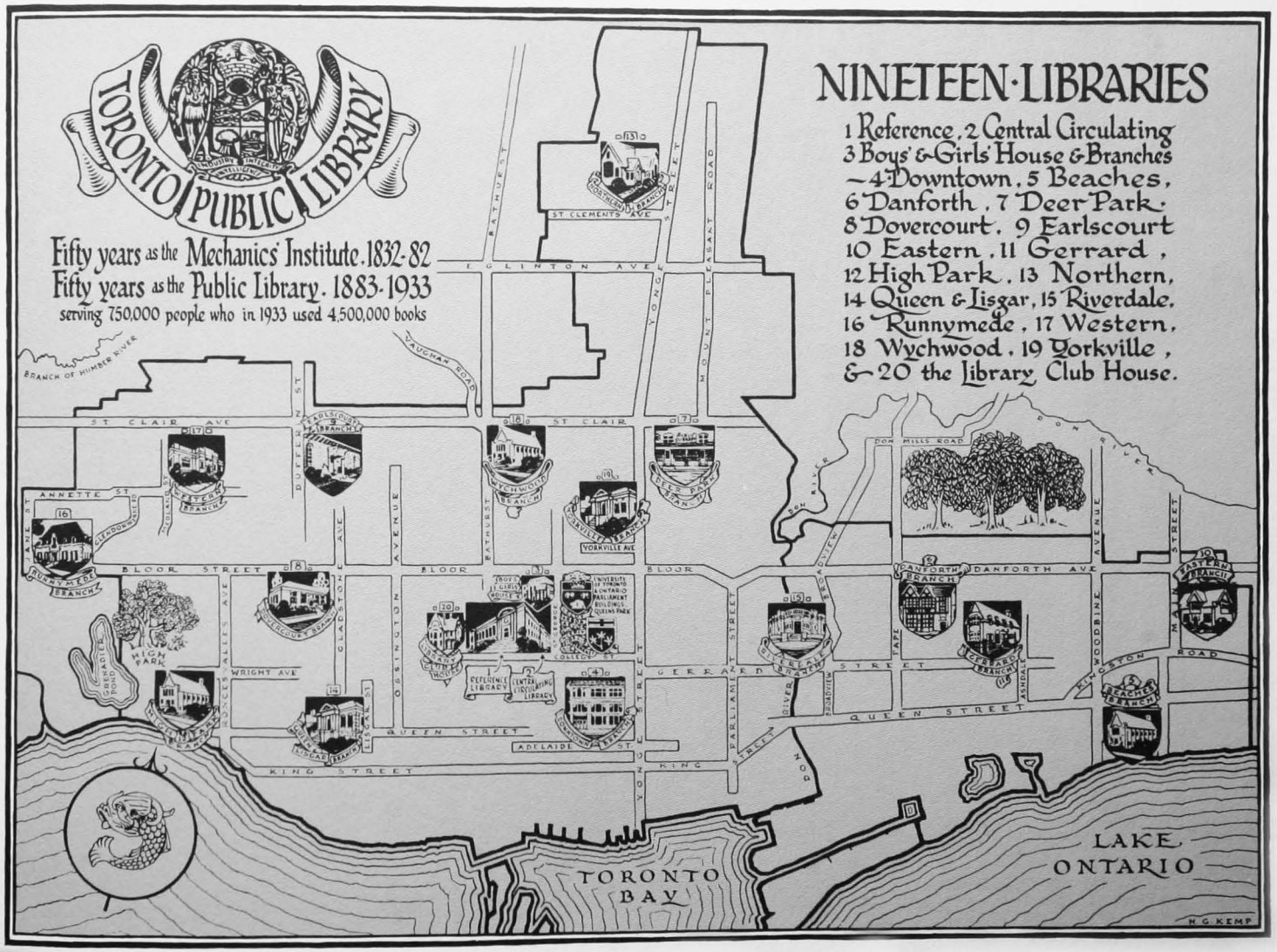
materials in French and English; TPL staff compiled the English list with the French items contributed from various sources. The bibliography's definition of "Canadian" became the standard: "books published in Canada, about Canada as well as those written by Canadians."

The series continued for twenty-eight annual instalments until 1950. At that time the Bibliographical Centre of the National Library of Canada in Ottawa took over its compilation and publication. Since 1951 the publication's name has been *Canadiana*. As a forerunner to Canada's official national bibliography, the *Canadian Catalogue* is a testimony to the pioneering efforts of TPL's bibliographers and cataloguers.

George Locke had been called a "commanding figure for a generation" in the library world. He was president of the American Library Association in 1926, and the (British) Library Association elected him an honorary fellow. In 1927 he was awarded an honorary LL.D. by the University of Toronto in recognition of his work and was likewise honoured by the University of Western Ontario in 1934. Together with John Riddington, librarian of the University of British Columbia, and Mary J.L. Black, chief librarian of the Fort William Public Library, George Locke headed an important inquiry into the needs of libraries in Canada, financed by the Carnegie Corporation. This was published as *Libraries in Canada: A Study of Library Condition and Needs* in 1933.

By the time he died on 27 January 1937, he was one of the most popular men in Toronto. More than one thousand people filled the great halls of the reference library on College Street to attend a special memorial service for him. Subsequently, a number of tributes were made to his memory. A George H. Locke Memorial Scholarship for graduate study was founded by the Toronto Public Library Staff Association. His life-size portrait, painted by Curtis Williamson and presented to Locke by the staff, was placed in the branch named to commemorate him. The Canadian government unveiled a memorial

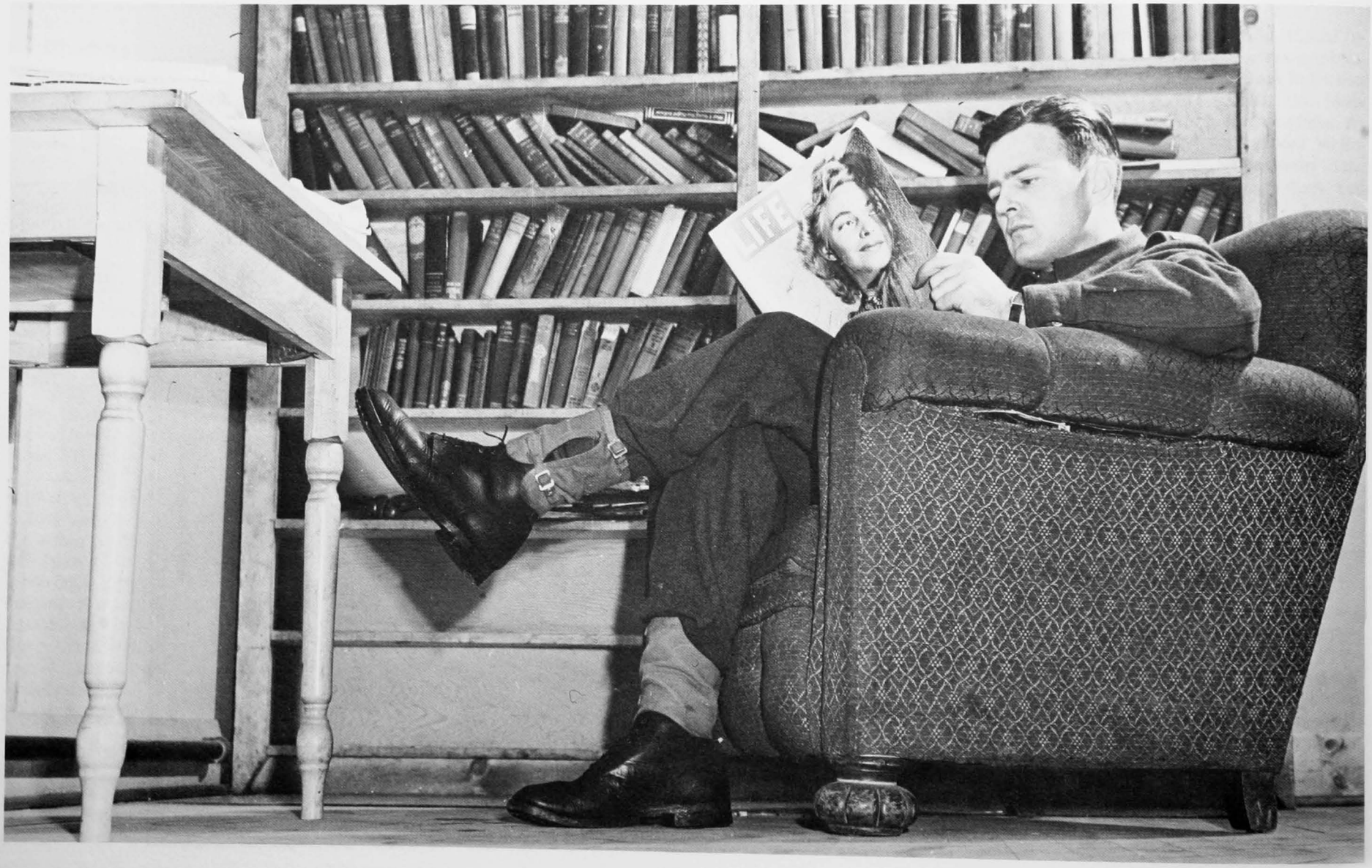
TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY CELEBRATES FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE, 1933.



tablet to him in 1948 at Beamsville, his birthplace. But as Edith Davidson, TPL board chairman in 1936, summarized in the 1936 annual report, "This system is a lasting memorial to George H. Locke." This evaluation was re-emphasized when the American Library Association gave TPL the highest praise in its 1933 Commission of Inquiry:

> From every point of view this library may serve as a model. In business management, in development and coordination of departments, and in *esprit de corps*, it is perhaps unique in Canada and would be notable wherever public libraries are found.[27]

TPL MILITARY CAMP LIBRARY IN
EXHIBITION PARK, 1939.



6
LIBRARY BUILDING IN THE WAR YEARS

Charles Rupert Sanderson was appointed as Locke's successor. He had been Locke's deputy since 1929, when the library board established the new post of deputy chief librarian to provide assistance for Locke in the ever-increasing administration of the library and all its branches. Prior to his appointment, Sanderson had been a librarian for the National Liberal Club in London and a lecturer at the School of Librarianship, University of London.

He was the first professional librarian to be appointed to the post of chief librarian at TPL. Sanderson had been born in the Lancashire town of Bury in 1887. He had worked in various public libraries in England: as chief assistant at Bolton from 1905 to 1909 and assistant librarian at John Rylands Library, Manchester, from 1909 to 1914. But his work and studies were interrupted by service in the First World War. Sanderson obtained a Bachelor of Science degree, standing first in his year, from the University of London in 1925 while holding a full-time post as librarian.

His great friend, the medieval historian Dr. B. Wilkinson, remembered "Sandy" as he was affectionately known, in the 1956 annual report:

> ... he was endowed with three outstanding qualities which would have earned him distinction in any walk of life. In the first place, and I place it first advisedly, was his great and courageous heart... The second was a shining intelligence: Charles Sanderson could conceivably pass unnoticed in a gathering, but never after he had begun to talk. Beneath all his achievement in later life was a keen and nimble mind, not the less effective because its workings were not always being put upon parade. The third was a wit and a sense of humour which gave artistry and sparkle to the ruggedness which he inherited as a Lancashire birthright, and made him in due course one of the most effective public speakers of his day.

CHARLES RUPERT SANDERSON 1887-1956
Chief librarian 1937-1956.

Appointed in 1937, Sanderson soon found himself leading TPL through six years of the Second World War. In the spring of 1939, the Royal visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth had cheered Torontonians. But the visit was followed by Britain's Declaration of War, on 3 September 1939. The *Globe* wrote that these two events, the Royal visit and the Declaration of War "had one thing in common. Both worked to make intensified active patriotism the firm sheet anchor of social and civic life. If war struck hard at Toronto's 176,000 families, the Royal visit gave them courage to face the blow."[28]

The war made new demands on the Library. New residents came to the city, wartime industries grew, and defence and industrial production projects were started. New skills in the labour force were sought by both men and women.

Certainly TPL responded with fervent patriotism. In the annual report of 1940, the chief librarian wrote:

> Libraries in war time will be a story that can be fully told only when the war is over. In the European countries now occupied by Germany the libraries are already receiving the special attention of the invaders. It is credibly reported that a "kulturdirektion" has been set up in Paris to "purge" the libraries and bookshops of all books not approved by the

Nazis, and to stimulate the distribution of literature presenting only their own views. Two of the three German officials sent to Paris for this work have for years past been members of the International Library Committee which is the working executive group of the International Federation of Library Associations. One of these is Dr. Krüss, the head of the Berlin State Library, a man known to many librarians on this continent who have sat in committee and conference with him and then believed that he had something in common with themselves....

From Britain there comes the record of the houses of a score of well-known publishers in ruins. ...

From Britain, too, there come the pitiful stories of main public libraries in ruins; of bands of undergraduates working amidst destruction and fire to salve whatever books they can, even though waterlogged, from one of the biggest university libraries in the country; of a library system in the East end of London which has not one single branch library left undamaged.

As it had in the First World War, TPL established a library at the military camp for the troops at Exhibition Park. This operated from 1939 to 1945 as a branch of High Park Library and was kept open seven days a week, staffed by TPL volunteers on weekends. In 1941 the library was placed in the Manning Depot at Exhibition Park for the use of the

TPL MILITARY CAMP LIBRARY IN EXHIBITION PARK, 1939.

MILITARY CAMP LIBRARY, ca. 1942.
No. 1 Manning Depot, Exhibition Park.

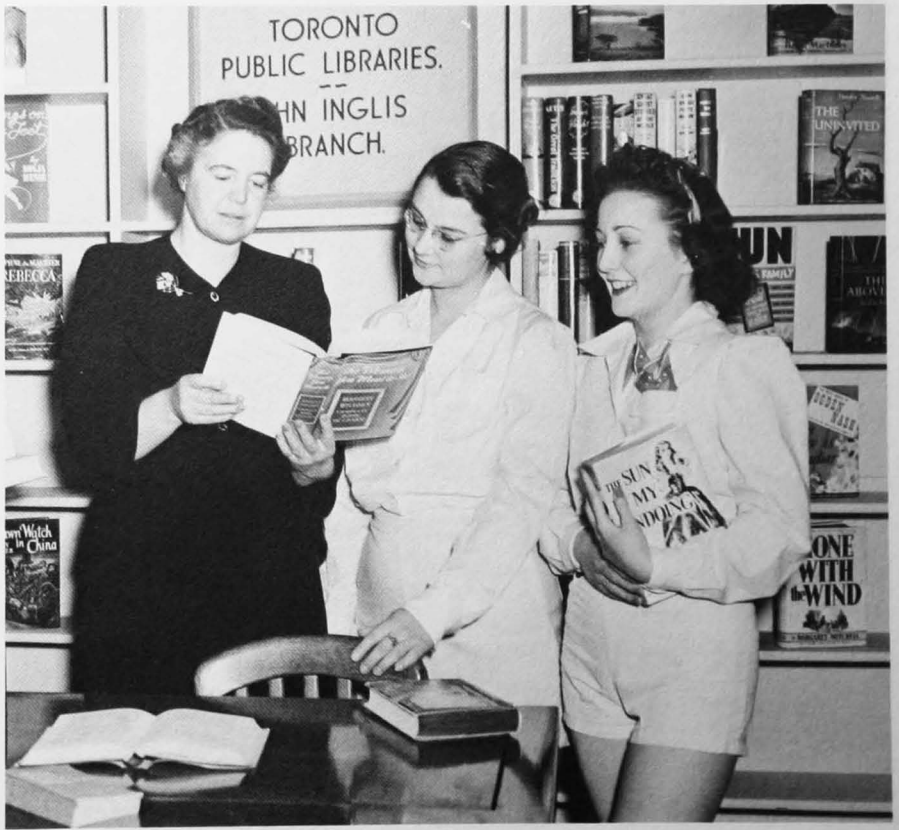
7,000-8,000 troops there. Mary Finch remembers this unusual branch:

> In one corner there would be a soldier with a punching bag, next there would be someone practising the trumpet or drums. In another corner, there was the Toronto Public Library. We had to carry on under these conditions. We were open eight-and-a-half hours a day. Volunteers helped. Some of the books would be housed in the pigpen or the swine house. I remember we received a book in the mail from a man who had gone through Manning Depot. His father had been in the army in the 1914-18 war and had borrowed a book of Shakespeare's plays from TPL which he had never returned. His son returned it to us. I sent it to Mr. Sanderson. He was tickled.[29]

TPL also placed a temporary collection of children's books at Hart House for the British boys and girls evacuated to Canada and living at the University of Toronto, and opened a library at the John Inglis Company for the factory workers involved in wartime production. The war also marked the beginning of services to wartime casualties and to civilian invalids in hospitals, mental homes, and homes for the aged.

LIBRARY IN HART HOUSE FOR BRITISH WAR EVACUEES, 1940.

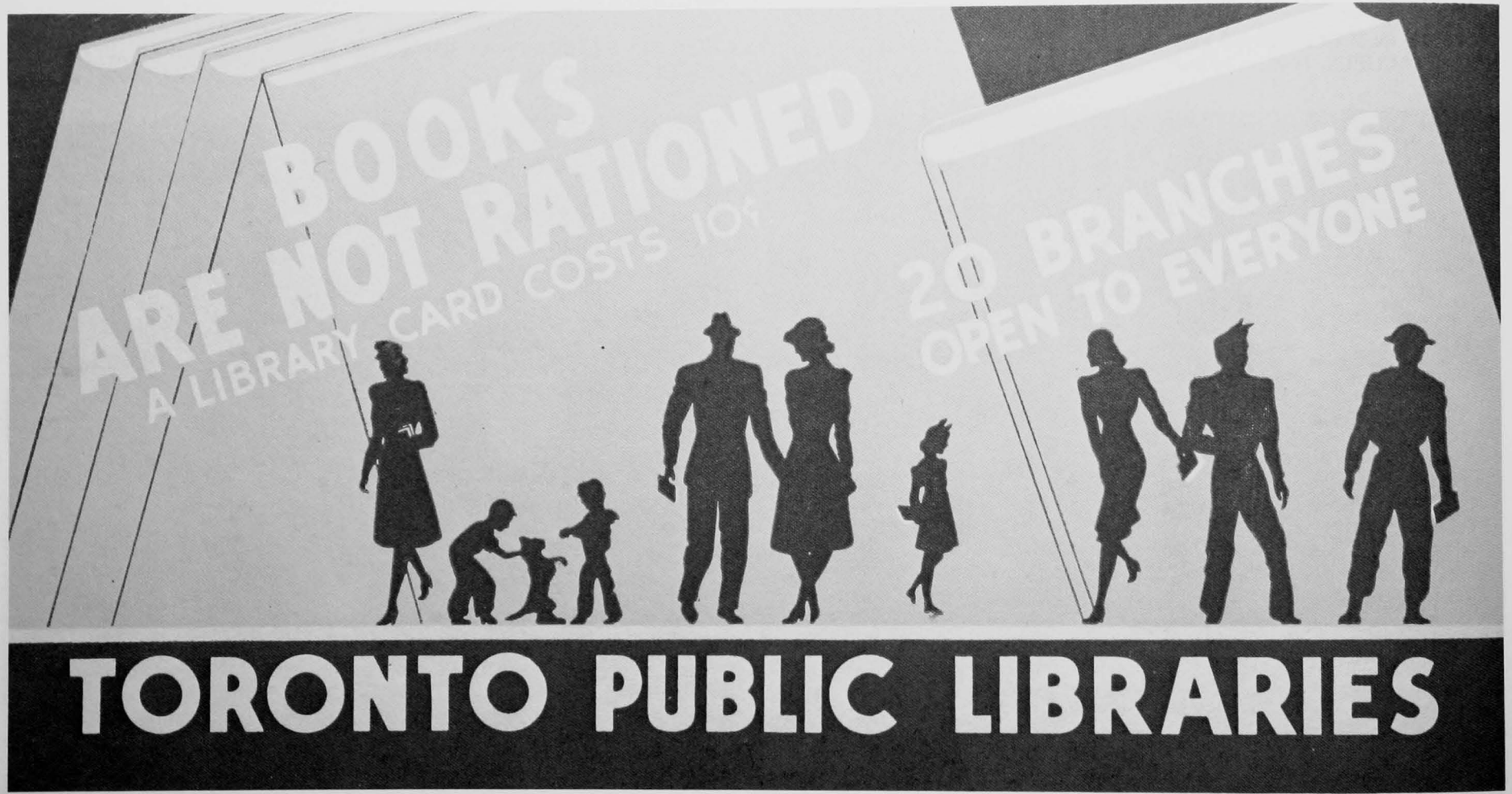
GIRLS CLUB LIBRARY AT JOHN INGLIS WAR PLANT, 1942.



In 1942 TPL mounted coloured posters in streetcars, the start of its successful public-transit advertising campaign.

During the war Sanderson had to make reductions in book purchases and try to keep salaries at a level that would retain the staff. His deputy was Anne M. Wright. She served as head of the Circulation Division and was responsible for relations with the branch libraries. She also kept an eye on branch administration costs and on staff problems.

POSTER USED IN STREET CAR PUBLICITY, 1942.



Lillian Smith, meanwhile, had the task during the war years of keeping work in the Boys and Girls Division in the forefront of the library's objectives. Indeed, Boys and Girls Division librarians helped families to cope with abnormal home conditions. With fathers overseas, mothers in war work, and older children at jobs after school, many children were left at loose ends and on the streets after school until their parents returned from work. Lillian Smith reported in 1942 that "the children, I think, are finding the regular events of the Library, the story hours, reading groups, plays and puppet shows, to be a comforting anchor of familiar procedure in their lives. Nearly sixty thousand children came to hear stories told during the year."

TPL staff had problems too, as Mr. Sanderson pointed out. Their war activities and contributions to many funds were achieved "under conditions of static salaries, rising costs of living and doubled or trebled taxation." The war years were not all a setback for TPL staff: 1943 marked the inauguration of the Toronto Public Library pension scheme. It was established at the same time and under the same conditions as the City of Toronto's civic employees' pension scheme.

Sanderson himself carried a double load during the war. He was active with the 48th Highlanders and with the Canadian Officers Training Course at the University of Toronto serving with them as captain. His only son, Charles Graham Sanderson, medical officer for the 22nd Canadian Armoured Regiment, was killed in action in France on 11 August 1944. Sanderson also continued his lectures on book selection and on public library service at the University of Toronto Library School from 1937 to 1947. As well, he obtained an M.A. in Canadian history from the University of Toronto in 1940 and published his thesis, *The Arthur Papers.*

During the war years the Toronto Public Library War Guild was constantly busy providing assistance to military organizations, and after the war, to relief and rehabilitation cases. In 1941, 1,651 articles provided by the guild were shipped directly overseas. Of these articles, 784 were knitted articles and included socks, sweaters, mitts, and scarfs; 719 articles of clothing were made by the members in the workroom from materials that were supplied by the Red Cross; and 214 articles were made from material supplied by the guild. Ninety per cent of the articles were made by the guild members assisted by twenty friends and outside organizations. The staff also made ditty bags for the Navy League.

DITTY BAGS PRODUCED BY TPL STAFF ASSOCIATION, 1940.

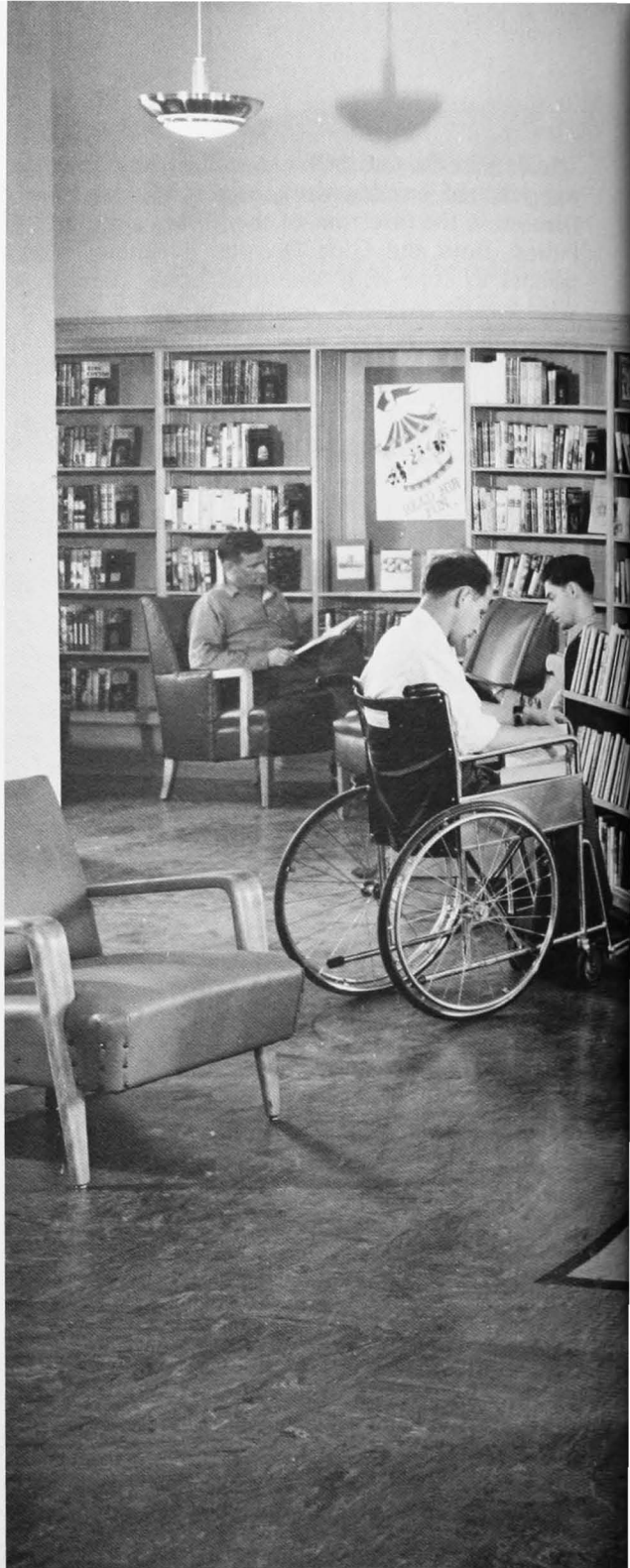
Several large bundles of children's garments were shipped to the "Mayoress of Exeter War Dept." They included hand-knitted children's sweaters and matching skirts made by the members. Under the direction of Elspeth Smith, and latterly Esther Crichton, the workroom was open every Monday night. Although regular membership was not large, a good deal of work was produced. The committee also sponsored a St. John's Ambulance Course in first aid. Fifty members and their friends attended these classes.

One of Sanderson's ideas was a book-sorting night. Books gathered from attics and cellars in homes and schools throughout the city were sent for the establishment of soldiers' libraries.

The Second World War, following hard on the heels of the Depression, caused a further postponement of the return to normal conditions. After the war new problems had to be faced. There was the challenge of television and other new media forms, and of the great number of New Canadians who were as yet not too familiar with the English language. Further, there was the problem that faced all big cities - that of suburban development beyond city limits. As always, there were the insistent demands of areas in the city that had wanted a local branch library for a long time.

TPL was also concerned with war-damaged libraries overseas. Bethnal Green in the east end of London reported a great need for children's books in postwar England owing to the destruction caused by the war. After the war book production in England was seriously hampered by a shortage of paper and skilled labour. Thus, many of the classics were absent from the public libraries. Charles Sanderson and Lillian Smith worked to secure through donations a collection of 1,500 children's books, either new or in perfect condition, which were packed and sent to Bethnal Green in 1947.

Part of the expansion by TPL after the war included the opening in 1946 of a library service in the Sunnybrook Medical Hospital in North York. This branch operated in agreement with the federal Department of Veterans' Affairs and was assisted by annual financial grants from the Gyro Club. TPL also provided service to the Christie Street Military Hospital.



SUNNYBROOK HOSPITAL LIBRARY, 1948.

Back Home

PROGRAMME FOR "BOOKS AND US", 1946.

BOOKS
and us

Informal radio chats about books and authors

by

CHARLES R. SANDERSON
Chief Librarian
Toronto Public Libraries

Begins October 27

CBC DOMINION NETWORK

Sundays

9.00 p.m. AST	8.00 p.m. EST	7.00 p.m. CST	6.00 p.m. MST	5.00 p.m. PST

(SEE PROGRAM LISTINGS IN YOUR LOCAL PAPER)

1936- CBC RADIO CANADA -1946

Another feature of wartime programming that was continued after the war was the use of radio. In 1944 the Boys and Girls Division was asked to conduct a radio storytelling program on the CBC in co-operation with the Department of Education as one of its weekly school broadcasts during the fall term. The opportunity of bringing the wealth of folk literature to the younger children in the schools was eagerly accepted, and for eleven weeks Sheila Egoff and Frances Trotter told folk tales and a series of the adventures of Don Coyote, which were heard by school children in grades one to four.

The relationship with the CBC continued when the chief librarian was invited to co-operate with the network in a series of weekly book chats. Although the major share of the work was done by Mr. Sanderson, the project took the form of a co-operative staff effort. "Books and Us" was the title of the series, and the subjects chosen for the broadcasts were the result of staff suggestions. Throughout the whole period a staff committee met each week to discuss, plan, and criticize material for presentation. While the permanent members of this committee were Circulation Division librarians, members from other divisions of the library were present at each meeting and joined in the discussion.

The talks were not confined to recent books. Their purpose was to encourage "reading" rather than to advertise any particular title. Topics ranged from the Brontes to Barrie and from music to science. The talks gave an interpretation of each author through his or her books as well the ideas, moods, and movements characterizing certain trends in reading. Mr. Sanderson's own experience and observations supplied colour and emphasis, to which the listeners were quick to respond.

After the war public libraries in Canada pursued a more active role in public education, and TPL was no exception. In this regard it was concerned not only with the branches and its own system but also with plans for the development of public libraries in the metropolitan area of Toronto. The postwar plans that the TPL board adopted in 1944 included the building of several new and much-needed branches, extensions of the book-stack capacity of the Central Reference Library, and repairs and reconstruction of the Central Library building.

The first large building project was the George H. Locke Memorial Branch at Lawrence Avenue and Yonge Street in North Toronto. Designed by Beck & Eadie, it was opened on 5 January 1949.

GEORGE H. LOCKE MEMORIAL BRANCH, 1949. Yonge St. and Lawrence Ave. E., s.e. corner.

LIBRARY SERVICE AT THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, 1951.

Librarians Marian Cooke (l) and Marguerite Bagshaw (r).

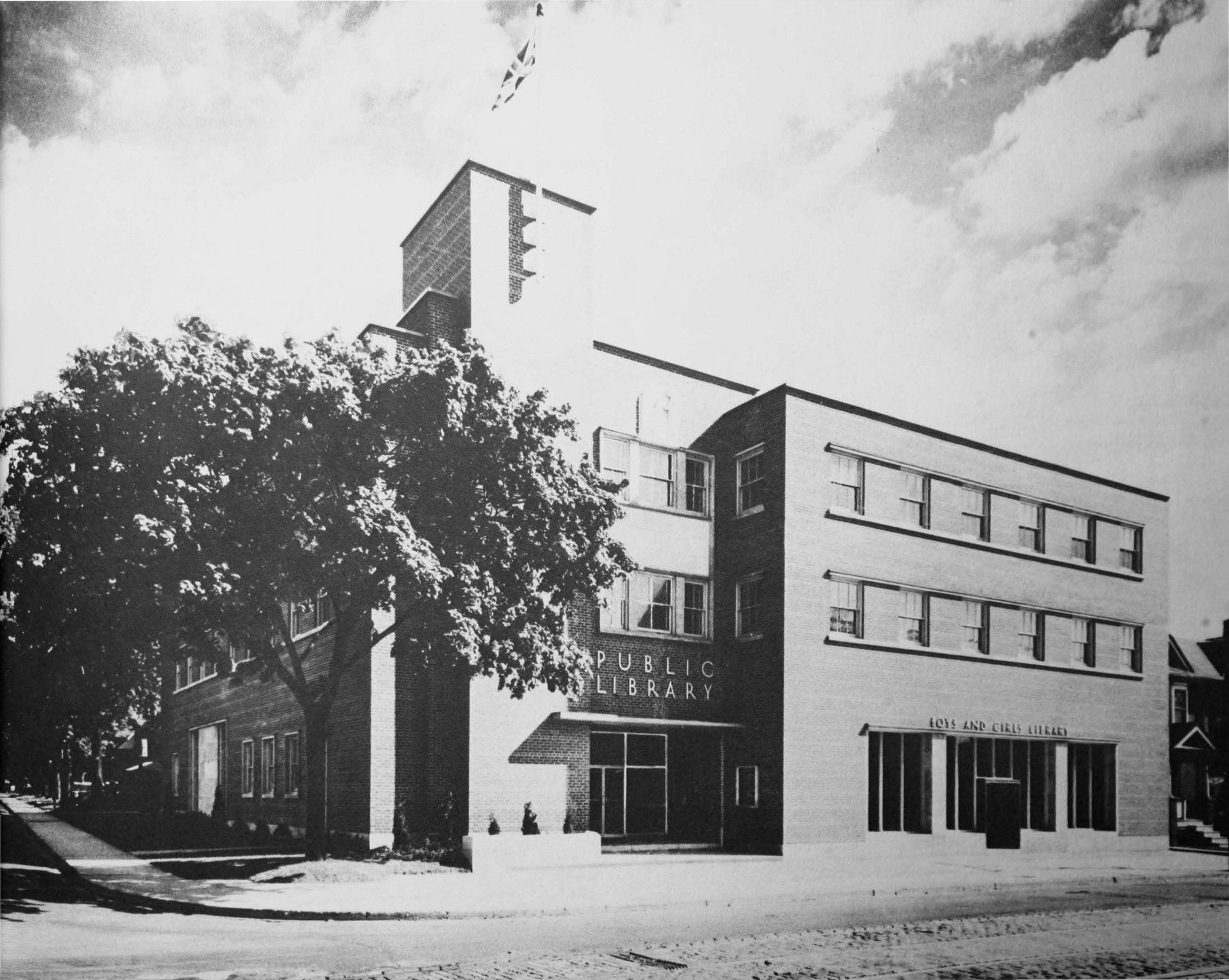
The Deer Park Branch, in rented storefront premises for forty-one consecutive years, moved into the new three-storey Deer Park Library building in June 1952. This building was a milestone in library planning in that its cost was to be amortized over twenty years by means of rentals. The original plan was to house the Adult Department on the main floor with three rental shops along the St. Clair frontage of the library building. The Boys and Girls Department was to occupy a portion of the second floor, with an entrance on the northwest corner. The remaining areas on the upper floors were to be rented as office space. When the board received an offer from one company to rent all the space not required for library purposes, the offer was accepted. Arthur H. Eadie redrew his plans, moving the Boys and Girls Department to the St. Clair frontage, with its own separate entrance. Mayor Allan Lamport officially opened the branch and remarked during his address that "This library will be unique on the continent. Apparently it is going to pay for itself."[30] And it did.

Another part of the postwar reconstruction program was the reopening of the Downtown Branch. This branch had been closed from 1947, but in July 1952 it was reopened at 10 King Street West and remained there until it was moved to Richmond Street West in 1956.

The postwar years also marked the start of services that were to become of permanent importance in the 1960s and 1970s. The ideas of neighbourhood and community involvement and the use of multimedia resources in the library were both developed in this difficult but important postwar period.

In 1947 TPL's education-film library began in the Central Circulation Division. At this time 258 films (16 mm) were available. In 1948 the TPL published the first catalogue of its film collection.

DEER PARK BRANCH, 1952.
St. Clair Ave. E. and Alvin Ave., n.e. corner. →

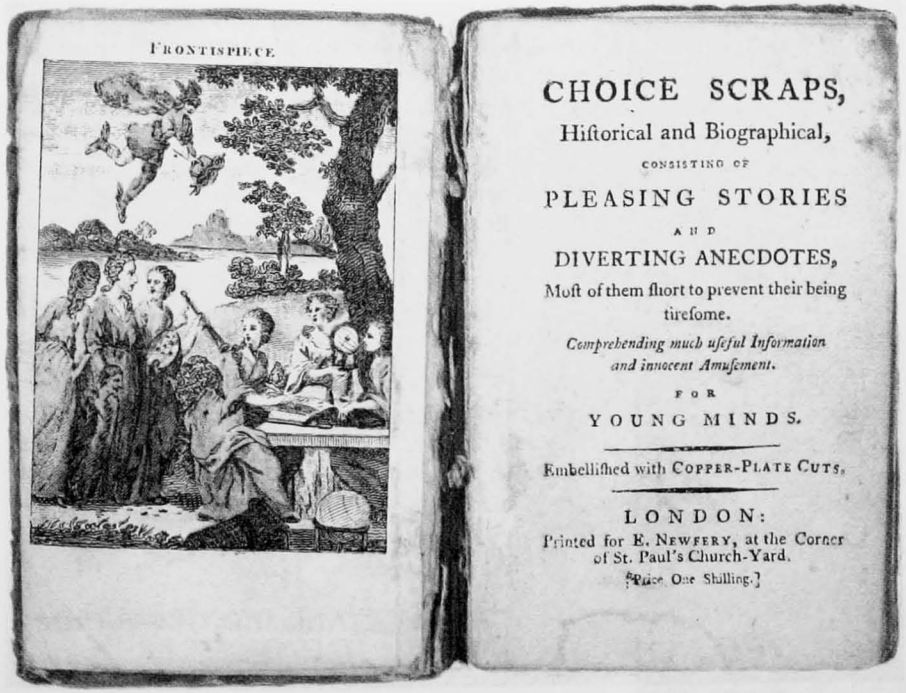

PUBLIC
LIBRARY

In 1950 the board began plans for a branch in the part of Toronto known as Cabbagetown in the area of Parliament and Carleton streets. The branch opened on 2 January 1955 and served Regent Park North, one of the first urban renewal housing schemes in Canada. This housing project was one of the board's first ventures in joint planning with a municipal urban renewal scheme. Ella Milloy, the first branch librarian, responded with imagination and resourcefulness to the challenges presented by the people in the area, who seemed to distrust the library. She and her staff had to work very hard to persuade parents, teachers in the schools, and children in the neighbourhood to use the library. Most of those who did come were from the streets in the immediate vicinity of the library. While many people came to borrow books, others came just to talk. It became clear to the staff that they would have to develop different methods from those used in the past to reach residents of the entire area. In 1957, when Sadie Jordan became head of the branch, she launched a bold program to make direct contact with the neighbourhood. She initiated a drop-in centre for teenagers and held poster-making competitions. She and students paraded up and down the streets of Cabbagetown wearing sandwich boards that advertised the services of, and invited the passerby to, the local library.

PARLIAMENT STREET BRANCH, 1956.
Parliament Street and Gerrard Ave. E., s.w. corner.

←

Perhaps the most significant event of the postwar period, one that continues to attract international attention, was the gift of the Osborne Collection of Early Children's Books in 1949. Edgar Osborne, county librarian of Derbyshire, England, donated his personal collection of some 2,000 books in memory of his wife Mabel. The Osbornes had visited Toronto during the 1930s and had been deeply impressed by the work and reputation of Lillian H. Smith as exemplified by the dynamic Boys and Girls Division of TPL. They felt that within such an environment their private collection of early children's books, dating back to the sixteenth century, would offer individuals a wide opportunity for research and scholarship in the common library heritage that Britain shared with Canada. To provide space in the original Boys and Girls House for this acquisition, TPL opened a new wing, housing the children's circulating collection and a theatre, in May 1951.


FRONTISPIECE.

CHOICE SCRAPS,

Hiſtorical and Biographical,

CONSISTING OF

PLEASING STORIES

AND

DIVERTING ANECDOTES,

Moſt of them ſhort to prevent their being tireſome.

Comprehending much uſeful Information and innocent Amuſement.

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YOUNG MINDS.

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LONDON:

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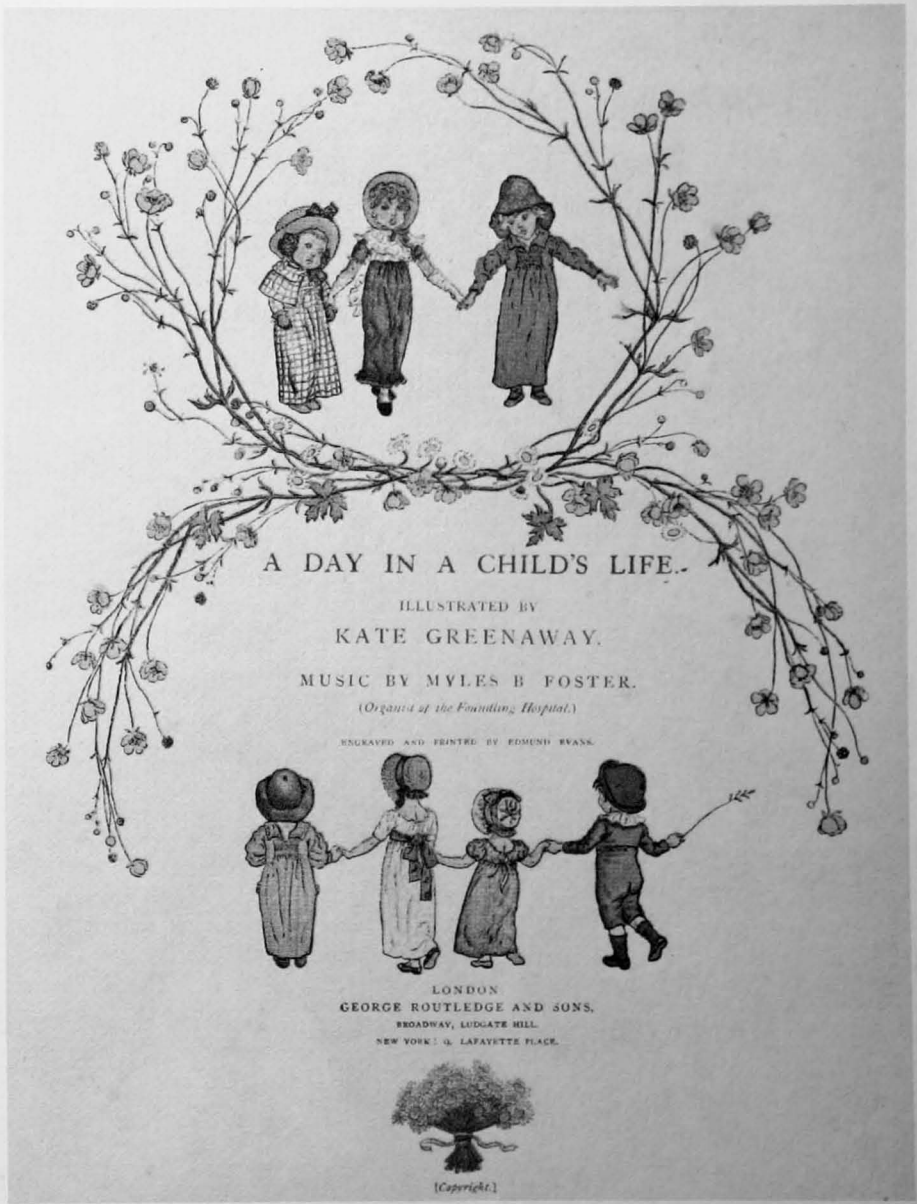
[Price One Shilling.]

From: THE OSBORNE COLLECTION OF EARLY CHILDREN'S BOOKS.


A DAY IN A CHILD'S LIFE.

ILLUSTRATED BY

KATE GREENAWAY.

MUSIC BY MYLES B FOSTER.

(*Organist of the Foundling Hospital.*)

ENGRAVED AND PRINTED BY EDMUND EVANS.

LONDON

GEORGE ROUTLEDGE AND SONS,

BROADWAY, LUDGATE HILL.

NEW YORK: 9, LAFAYETTE PLACE.

[*Copyright.*]

The Osborne gift carried several conditions: that a children's librarian supervise the collection, that the collection be augmented on a regular basis, and that a catalogue of its holdings be published. Sheila Egoff was appointed to begin work on the collection and remained as librarian in charge until 1951. It was under Judith St. John's distinguished tenure (1951-79) that the Osborne catalogue was prepared and published - volume 1 in 1958 and volume 2 in 1975. Margaret Crawford Maloney has been head of the Osborne Collection since 1979. The collection has continued to grow in size and in stature and now also includes original manuscripts, letters and artwork. By this centennial year, the Osborne holdings have reached over 13,000 items, extending back to the fourteenth century.

In 1962, at the instigation of Jean Thomson, head of the Boys and Girls Division from 1952 (later head of Public Services until her retirement in 1966), the Lillian H. Smith Collection was established to mark the fiftieth anniversary of children's libraries in Toronto. Currently it comprises some 4,000 notable children's books in English that have been published since 1910 (the date at which the Osborne Collection terminates). Jean Thomson donated some illustrations by Edward Ardizzone to celebrate this event, and in 1978 the original artwork from the Osborne and Lillian H. Smith collections was designated in her name. Since 1966 the Friends of the Osborne and Lillian H. Smith Collections, with almost 700 members worldwide and under the patronage of H.R.H. Princess Alexandra, have actively promoted these collections.

In 1978 a Canadiana Collection of children's books was organized. Together, the Osborne, Lillian H. Smith, and Canadiana collections draw many scholars, bibliophiles, and tourists, both from Canada and abroad.

EDGAR OSBORNE AND JUDITH ST. JOHN EXAMINE TREASURES FROM THE OSBORNE COLLECTION, ca. 1950.

H.R.H. PRINCESS ALEXANDRA, the HON. MRS. ANGUS OGILVIE.
The Patron of the Friends of the Osborne & Lillian H. Smith Collections, signs the guest book in April 1980.

Another postwar project involving overseas libraries was the scheme initiated in 1951 by several United States libraries and TPL to bring British librarians to North America on a one-year internship program. During the next decade annually up to six young British librarians arrived for eleven months work at TPL. The interns were chosen by the TPL board from candidates selected by a small committee of distinguished British librarians. Later the internship program expanded to include librarians from other Commonwealth countries such as South Africa, the West Indies, and New Zealand and from Colombo Plan countries in Asia and the Far East.

Certainly, by the 1950s TPL clearly demonstrated a strong sense of service directed to every level of the community. Toronto was now far larger and immensely more diverse in its needs and challengingly more complex in its cultural mosaic than ever before; it demanded, not only from TPL but also from every level of education and government, new and more sophisticated structures and services.

Toronto became a big city in the 1950s - the fastest-growing in North America. The metropolitan area's population jumped during the decade from 1,100,000 to 1,800,000. Immigrants from overseas, including war refugees, accounted for part of the huge population increase, as did the postwar baby boom. The suburbs of Toronto were burgeoning. Land that had once been concession roads, orchards, and small villages was quickly converted into subdivisions and industrial parks. Whereas in 1939 the city of Toronto's population had accounted for 75 per cent of the metropolitan area's population, in 1955 it was only 52 per cent. It became increasingly clear that the semi-rural townships that made up metropolitan Toronto could not meet their citizens' needs and the financial cost of the many municipal services such as education and libraries on their own. Thus, in April 1953, a new form of federated municipal government was created and incorporated; it began operating as the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto on 1 January 1954.

Metropolitan Toronto became the first federal urban community in the Western Hemisphere. It inaugurated two levels of government - a local level and a metropolitan level. The metropolitan government undertook responsibility for area-wide investment, for example, for water, sewers, roads and expressways, and public transportation - notably the subway - as well as for overall physical planning and tax assessment. The original thirteen member municipalities (reduced to six in 1967) retained responsibility for fire protection, public libraries, and various other matters.

The need to provide libraries for the rapidly growing populations in the towns, villages and townships around the city of Toronto was being examined by each of the municipal authorities. By the end of the Second World War library systems had been established in Weston, Mimico, New Toronto, Swansea, Leaside, Long Branch, and York Township. In 1950 Etobicoke Township set up its own library board. In 1951 East York Township organized a library board, which requested the Toronto Public Library Board to take responsibility for administering a main public library and six branches in schools. TPL made a similar arrangement with the Village of Forest Hill in 1956. By the mid-1950s library systems had been set up in North York and Scarborough. By 1956 an active Library Trustees Council of Toronto and District had been established as a regular interboard forum for considering various methods of developing library services in the area. It was clear that overall guidelines for the development of library services in the metropolitan area were needed.

Charles Sanderson died on 24 July 1956. Widely recognized for his librarianship, his administrative ability, his gifts as a public speaker, and his contribution to Canadian historical research, Sanderson had been honoured by the University of Toronto with an LL.D. degree in 1951. Sanderson's portrait, painted by Allan Barr and presented to Sanderson by the staff in 1954, now hangs in the branch named in his honour.

The 1950s saw great changes in TPL as well. Jean Thomson succeeded Lillian Smith as head of the Boys and Girls Division in 1952. The deputy chief librarian, R.D. Hilton Smith, left to become a bookseller in Victoria. On the death of Dr. Sanderson, Newman F. Mallon, who had served as trustee on the board since 1940, was appointed assistant chief librarian and secretary-treasurer to the board. The board selected as the new chief librarian Henry Cummings Campbell.

CHARLES R. SANDERSON AT THE OPENING OF EAST YORK'S CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES, 1945. →

THINGS

FELICY LUDLOW, HEAD OF TRAVELLING BRANCH AT LAMBERT LODGE, 1960.

7
FORMATION OF METROPOLITAN LIBRARY SERVICE

At the time of his appointment Henry Cummings Campbell was working for UNESCO in Paris, developing library services in the member states of that organization. He advised on the program of aid for libraries in underdeveloped countries under the technical-assistance program of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies, and he visited libraries and documentation centres in Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. Earlier he had worked for the National Film Board, first as a film librarian and then as a film producer. A Canadian, Campbell was a graduate in political science and history from the University of British Columbia (1940); in library science from the Library School at the University of Toronto (1941); and from the M.A. program in adult education at Columbia University (1942). Campbell had worked in TPL as part of his library school training program and had been associated with Dr. Sanderson in the Canadian Officers Training Course at the Library School.

Campbell came to TPL at a time of great changes both in the library itself and in Toronto generally. Theresa G. Falkner, who first came onto TPL's board in 1944, observed the "dynamic new climate" in her chairman's report of 1963:

> However the change most impressive to the 1944 Trustee is the dramatic difference in climate. There is electricity in the air. Experimentation is going on. Life is stirring and even trustees feel a certain excitement. The cosmopolitan city has infected the Library. There are new librarians and internes who can talk to New Canadians in their native tongues... Among the 188 librarians there are now 18 men, and married women are no longer hampered by discrimination. The total staff now numbers 451. Specialists are developing in the new subject sections and 184 clerical assistants, along with a certain amount of automation, are helping to set librarians free to pursue their professional duties. ...
>
> The human dynamo generating this vibrating wind of change in the library is Harry C. Campbell. Dr. Sanderson did well to recommend him to the Board as his successor. In our Chief Librarian we have a brilliant driving force, - fearless, optimistic and tireless. His vigorous leadership is deeply appreciated by the Board.

HENRY CUMMINGS CAMPBELL.
Chief Librarian, 1956-1978.

Campbell was to be a major participant in the metropolitanization of Toronto's public library system. In 1958 the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto provided a financial grant to TPL for the first time. This initial grant of $25,000, which by 1967 had increased to $500,000, was intended to meet TPL's cost of operating the Central Library and other services used by non-residents of the City of Toronto.

In 1959 the TPL Board, by joint agreement with the library boards of the areas, suspended its non-resident fees for persons who lived in municipalities immediately next to Toronto. The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto also agreed in 1958 to pay for a study of metropolitan public library service. To encourage change and to help the Metropolitan Council decide on a plan for the future, the Library Trustees Council of Toronto and District in 1959 commissioned Dr. Ralph Shaw of Rutgers University to carry out this metropolitan area study. Dr. Shaw's report, *Libraries in Metropolitan Toronto*, published in 1960, revealed what many people had suspected,

namely, that there was a growing imbalance in access to books between the suburbs and the city and that the city libraries needed to be reorganized to meet the changed conditions of population and urban growth.

As a means of securing metropolitan public library co-operation, Dr. Shaw suggested the establishment of a metropolitan library board, with centralized cataloguing and card preparation and a library research and development unit. Dr. Shaw also recommended the use of a single library card for all borrowers. He urged the reorganization of the Central Reference and Circulating Library of Toronto and advocated that it be eventually replaced by a building on another, more central site.

Campbell and the TPL Board began to implement the Shaw report recommendations that related to TPL's own collections and responsibilities. The report was used from 1960 to 1966 as a blueprint for the reorganization of the Reference Division and the construction of new branches in various unserved sections of Toronto.

One of Campbell's first tasks was to build up the collections of the reference library. In order to accommodate the growing collections, the Foreign Literature Collection, Music Library, and Business Collection were moved into separate quarters.

The Music Library began in 1915 as TPL's first subject section, with 1,500 items. It was housed initially in the Central Library at St. George and College streets. In 1924 George Locke reported that "We have had to transfer our Music Library to the already overcrowded room housing the Robertson Collection." "The entrance was off College Street," recalls Mrs. Ogreta McNeil, who was an assistant librarian there and later head of the section. "We were next to the Reading Room and we were haunted by undesirables. There was a certain aura about it, especially on wet days."[31]

The Music Library was also popular with students from the Royal Conservatory, who liked to study scores. In addition to books and musical scores, the Music Library also had records. But the budget was very low. "We had $300 a year," Mrs. McNeil remembers. "Records were rented out for 25¢ a week. The listening tables were rented for $1 a year and were very popular with everyone. An old-age pensioner educated himself on these tables. He had a wide interest in music. A radio producer who used the library noticed him, asked about him, and paid his fee."

There were notable donations over the years. For example, in 1943 Dr. H.A. Fricker, organist, choir conductor, and teacher, gave his magnificent music collection of books, music, and tapes. Mrs. McNeil catalogued it in 1946.

In 1959 the Music Library moved to the Howard Ferguson house on Avenue Road. The house, the former home of the premier, was rented until 1962, when TPL purchased it. "It was like a home away from home; a drawing room where people could sit in nice leather chairs with their feet up and listen to music," says Mrs. McNeil.

The Music Library was also the home of many concerts. For example, Mrs. McNeil asked John Beckwith to compose a piece for the opening of the new wing in 1967. He and several of his fellow Canadian composers composed Variations on a Theme. Mrs. McNeil had two pianists perform it for the opening.

Music, which by 1967 comprised some 28,872 books and 6,593 records and tapes, was one of the special collections of TPL that was transferred to the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board in 1968 and moved to the new Metropolitan Toronto Library in 1977.

MUSIC LIBRARY, ca. 1959.
Avenue Rd., e. side n. of St. Clair Ave. W. →

MUSIC LIBRARY
TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The Foreign Literature Collection dates from the earliest days of the library. In 1885 there were already a limited number of French and German books in the first public library building at Church and Adelaide streets. By 1909, when the new Central Library opened at College and St. George streets, a substantial number of books in several languages could be found. Russian and Yiddish books circulated well in the 1920s, reflecting the interests of the immigrant population in the immediate area. After the Second World War the demand for materials in languages other than English became even more apparent. Local libraries responded to community needs as best they could. By the 1950s the number of multilingual books had grown to the thousands. But the collection was disorganized. Indeed, there was no centralized record keeping. In 1957 TPL appointed Miss Mary Finch to organize and develop this service. The branch at Queen and Lisgar was to house the core of the collection.

The official opening took place on 14 May 1957. Miss Finch recalls the event:

> The trumpets sounded and the bells rang (metaphorically speaking) as the invited representatives of the ethnic newspapers in Toronto rolled into the Foreign Literature Centre for the formal opening.
>
> Their astonished gazes fell on exactly 792 books in a few languages other than English. Not knowing the extent of the collection in the branches, they were, needless to say, very disappointed. Perhaps our customers, like us, had imagination, vision, and, most of all, hope that one day, not too far distant, there would be shelves and shelves of Polish and French and German and Russian and Ukrainian and other languages too numerous to mention.

The Foreign Literature Committee was formed to build "a representative collection of the best in foreign classic and modern writing." By 1963 they had systematically built up the collection in sixty-odd languages. There were 11,000 books in the centre alone and 22,000 in the branches.

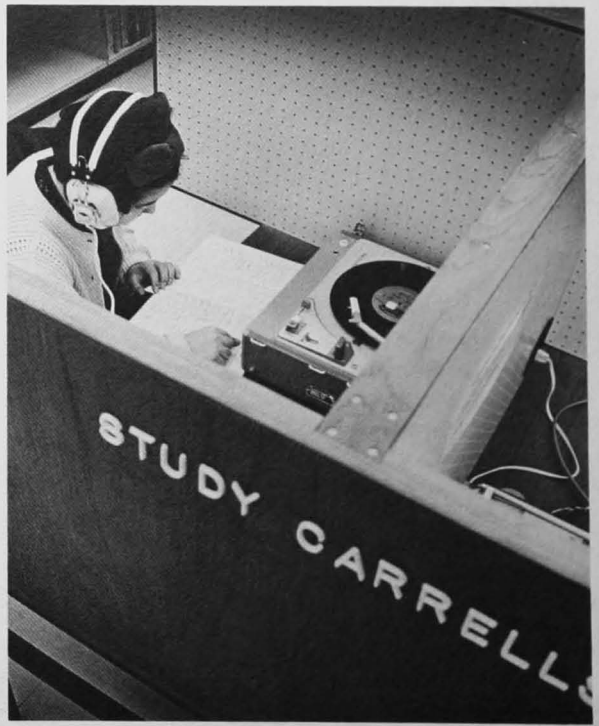
In 1959 the TPL Board decided to survey the extent to which adult population changes in Toronto had altered the demand for library materials in foreign languages. Dr. Andrew Kapos, a social psychologist, was commissioned to conduct a sample survey of education, interests, and leisure-time preferences among adult residents in the west and central areas of Toronto. The survey resulted in the library's increasing the size of the Foreign Literature Collection and employing field staff to reach new immigrants. Librarians organized orientation visits and book displays. Brochures were distributed, providing information in the popular manner. The branches required a great number of "learning English" records. The Kapos survey, *Toronto Speaks*, was a pioneer effort, being the first time a public library board in Canada had used a social scientist to provide information on which it could make decisions about its book collection and reader services.

FOREIGN LITERATURE CENTRE AT QUEEN AND LISGAR BRANCH, ca. 1959.

LIBRARIAN MARY FINCH AT FOREIGN LITERATURE CENTRE, 1958
Queen and Lisgar Branch.

In 1963 the collection was renamed the Languages and Literature Centre and moved to much larger quarters at the new Parkdale Branch. It contained a self-instruction centre (language learning using records and tapes) and presented many multicultural evenings - dance, theatre, readings - in its large auditorium. The gallery also exhibited many shows by New Canadian artists. From 1964 to 1969 the collection nearly doubled, and smaller deposit collections developed in local branches throughout the city. After 1968, when the Languages and Literature Centre was transferred to the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board and the centre itself moved to the building at St. George and College streets in 1969, TPL began once again to reorganize the foreign language collections.

SELF-INSTRUCTION CENTRE AT PARKDALE BRANCH, 1967.
Queen St. W. and Cowan Ave., s.e. corner.



With the movement of Foreign Literature Collection, the Music Library, and the Business Collection from the Central Library into separate quarters, as well as the building of new reading rooms and more space for book storage at the College and St. George building in 1958, TPL was able to begin to organize and consolidate the collection of the Reference Division and the Central Circulating book stock into separate subject sections. From 1957 to 1966 a number of subject divisions were formed: Fine Arts (1957), Music (1959), the Bibliographic Centre (1960), the Baldwin and Toronto Rooms (1960), Theatre and Drama (1961), Business and Technology (1962), Science (1962), Language and Literature (1964), Municipal Reference (1965), General Reference (1966), Social Science (1966), Literature (1966), History (1966). The administrative structure for the Central Library Division was created in 1961, and John C. Parkhill was appointed head.

In 1959 the Central Library Auditorium was reactivated as a theatre. TPL wanted to focus attention on its role as a cultural leader in Toronto in both education and entertainment. For a small rental fee the library board made the theatre available to any non-commercial group interested in developing professional acting in Toronto and in presenting good plays. The Arts Theatre Club was the first to make use of these premises, presenting Henrik Ibsen's *The Enemy of the People* in the spring of 1957.

The production was so successful that the library board commissioned architect Irving Grossman to remodel the theatre as a three-stage project. The stage was enlarged and extended by the addition of an apron, new lighting equipment was installed, and the seating was placed on removable risers so that all of the audience would have an excellent view. A number of dramatic groups, including Theatron, the Arts Theatre Club, the West End Players, the Thespians of Toronto, and the University Alumnae Dramatic Club, used the theatre during 1960 and 1961.

Irving Grossman further remodelled the theatre to seat 209. Now the full width of the theatre could be used either as an open apron stage or with a movable proscenium arch. The colour scheme was based on varying shades of red, which contrasted with the soft grey of the wall. The carpeting and curtains were in very deep, dark reds, and the upholstered seats were a brilliant orange red.

The first play produced in the finally remodelled theatre was one by Toronto playwright John Volinska entitled *Six Days in a Dream*. The Red Barn Theatre also made use of the theatre in 1962. The theatre was a prominent feature of the local scene until the 1970s when small theatre groups in Toronto built their own theatres and the Central Library Theatre could cease its pioneering role.

"THE FANTASTICKS" AT CENTRAL LIBRARY THEATRE, 1963.

At the same time TPL began to develop a separate Theatre and Drama Division of the Central Library, bringing together all of the circulating and reference books on these subjects, as well as related theatre materials, periodicals, programs, posters, handbills, letters, memoirs, and so on. Heather McCallum was appointed head of this new division in May 1961, and in November 1961 it was opened to the public.

By 1966 the Central Library had become a metropolitan area responsibility. The annual grant from Metropolitan Toronto towards the support of the Central Library had reached $350,000. That year an amendment to the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto Act established the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board (MTLB) to provide reference services to the metro area, promote interlibrary lending, and provide co-ordinating services to the local library systems.

The provisions of the amended act were to alter radically the structure and the services of TPL. In 1968 the MTLB assumed responsibility for all of the specialized reference collections and services of TPL except for those at Boys and Girls House. The operation continued at College and St. George streets until the MTLB opened a new Reference Library on Yonge Street at Asquith Avenue in 1977.

METROPOLITAN TORONTO LIBRARY, 1977. Yonge St. and Asquith Ave., n.e. corner. ⟶

Fine Art

TPL was left with its twenty-one branches. They, in effect, were the system. They varied in size and condition; most of them were old, some decrepit and small, but all capable of expansion and renovation. Most of them were also well located in a series of definable neighbourhoods. But TPL had lost its Central Library, with its reference collections, its administrative headquarters and certain support services such as cataloguing, creating a number of problems over the next decade.

The TPL Board had anticipated this change during the 1960s. Reacting to recommendations from the Shaw report on library service in metro Toronto, the board had decided to construct several large branches that would reduce the duplication of the small branch collections and provide greatly expanded reference and information services to local residents. Parkdale Branch opened in 1963, replacing the Queen and Lisgar Branch, and City Hall Branch opened in 1965, replacing the Downtown Branch. Each of these larger branches was capable of holding 100,000 volumes.

CITY HALL BRANCH, ca. 1965.
Nathan Phillips Square.

The board had also opened several small branches that catered especially to children in unserved areas. In this way five libraries were inaugurated: Regent Park (1959-65), Manning (1959-67), Jones (1961), Charles R. Sanderson (1968), and Palmerston (1971). In addition Swansea and Forest Hill had been added to TPL through the amalgamation of these municipalities with Toronto in 1967.

Harry Campbell and the TPL Board continued their plans to build a series of district libraries, or regional centres, to supply reference and other back-up services. In effect, this plan de-emphasized local neighbourhood libraries in order to concentrate resources at the area or district levels.

TPL also started several other special libraries and consolidated the resources of the Foreign Languages Collection. TPL began to assume full responsibility for acquiring books in certain languages, first in Greek and Portuguese, then in Italian, Spanish, and the five East Indian languages, to meet the needs of local communities. In response to community demand, a representative Chinese collection was opened at Riverdale in 1973.

EVA MARTIN TELLS STORIES TO THE CHILDREN AT JONES BRANCH, 1963.
Jones Ave. and Dundas St. E., s.e. corner.

CHARLES R. SANDERSON BRANCH, 1968.
Dundas St. W. and Bathurst St., s.e. corner.

PALMERSTON BRANCH, 1980.
Palmerston Ave., w. side n. of Bloor St. W.

SWANSEA BRANCH, ca. 1980.
Lavinia Ave.

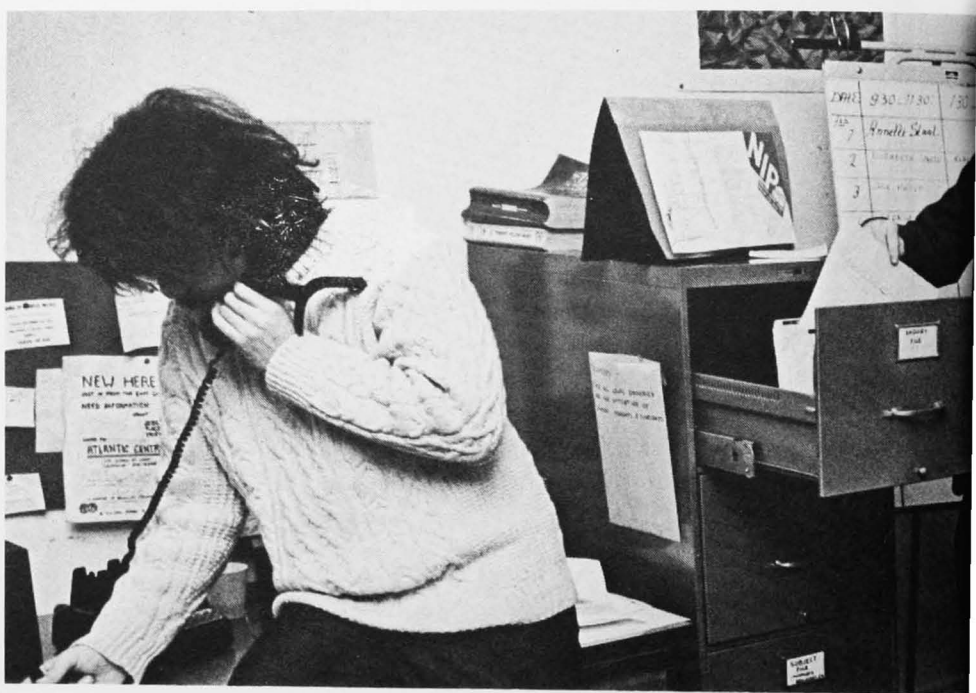
In 1970 the TPL Board established the Spaced Out Library (SOL) with a donation from science fiction writer and anthologist Judith Merril, who gave her collection of science fiction and related materials to the library. This special reference collection, housed at 40 St. George Street, was designed as a stimulus to both scholarly and public interest in the field. Acquisitions that have been made during the SOL's first ten years, in addition to newly published works, have emphasized the period between 1930 and 1970. The SOL has also given special attention to the development of a collection of "fanzines" (amateur press publications by science fiction fans).

The SOL's collection now comprises more than 20,000 items, including novels, short stories, anthologies, plays, poetry, critical works, speculative non-fiction, artwork, tapes, records, posters, newspaper clippings, and a large number of amateur and professional periodicals. SOL hosts special events for the public on a regular basis and workshops for teachers and librarians. An association, The Friends of the Spaced Out Library, has been formed to assist the staff in programming and with special donations.

Another special by-product of TPL's development of children's literature and services is the Marguerite G. Bagshaw Theatre. Marguerite G. Bagshaw, head of Reading Services in TPL, was an eminent proponent of the use of puppetry and storytelling in work with children. After her death in 1972, the staff of TPL requested that the Palmerston Library Theatre be renamed after her and that a memorial fund in her honour be established. In 1973 the TPL Board authorized both the renaming of the theatre and the memorial fund. The first Bagshaw Committee set to work to raise $10,500. The collection of puppets and of books and materials is now housed at Boys and Girls House. Former TPL librarian and eminent storyteller Alice Kane was the consultant. The Bagshaw Theatre on Palmerston Avenue seats 125 people and is a centre for local amateur and professional performers in puppetry and related theatre arts. As well, it is a locale for festivals, workshops, lectures, and other programs in puppetry, music, storytelling, and mime, for both children and adults, sponsored both separately and together by the theatre and by TPL.

LEARNING RESOURCES CENTRE AT FOREST HILL BRANCH, ca. 1969.
Eglinton Ave. W., opp. Vesta Dr.

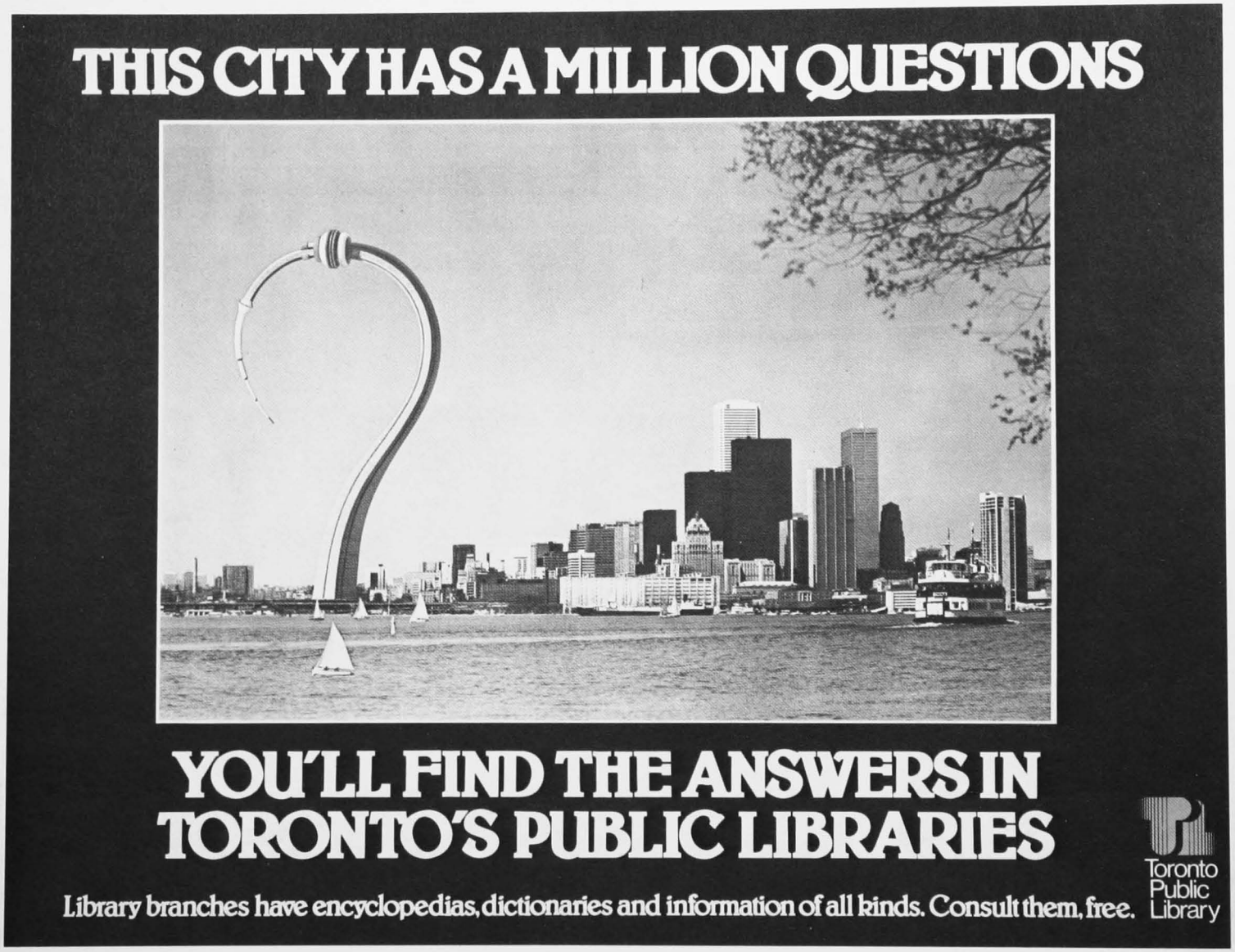
NEIGHBOURHOOD INFORMATION POST AT PARLIAMENT STREET LIBRARY HOUSE, 1970.



TPL also experimented further with community involvement in several of its branches. In 1968, for example, a co-ordinator of community services was appointed in official recognition of the growing involvement between TPL staff and community groups throughout the city. In 1969 the first of several community service branch positions was created, and the Parliament Street Library House was established as a community drop-in centre for an impoverished inner-city neighbourhood. A community information post was established there and at the Parkdale Branch. An elaborate Learning Resources Centre was established in 1968 in the former municipal headquarters of Forest Hill. Other community programs and cultural work were started, notably with the Italian population in the west-end Dufferin/St. Clair Branch. Individual branch librarians involved their communities in library activities.

LIBRARY IN THE PARKS, 1974.

A POPULAR POSTER OF THE 1979
TRANSIT ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN



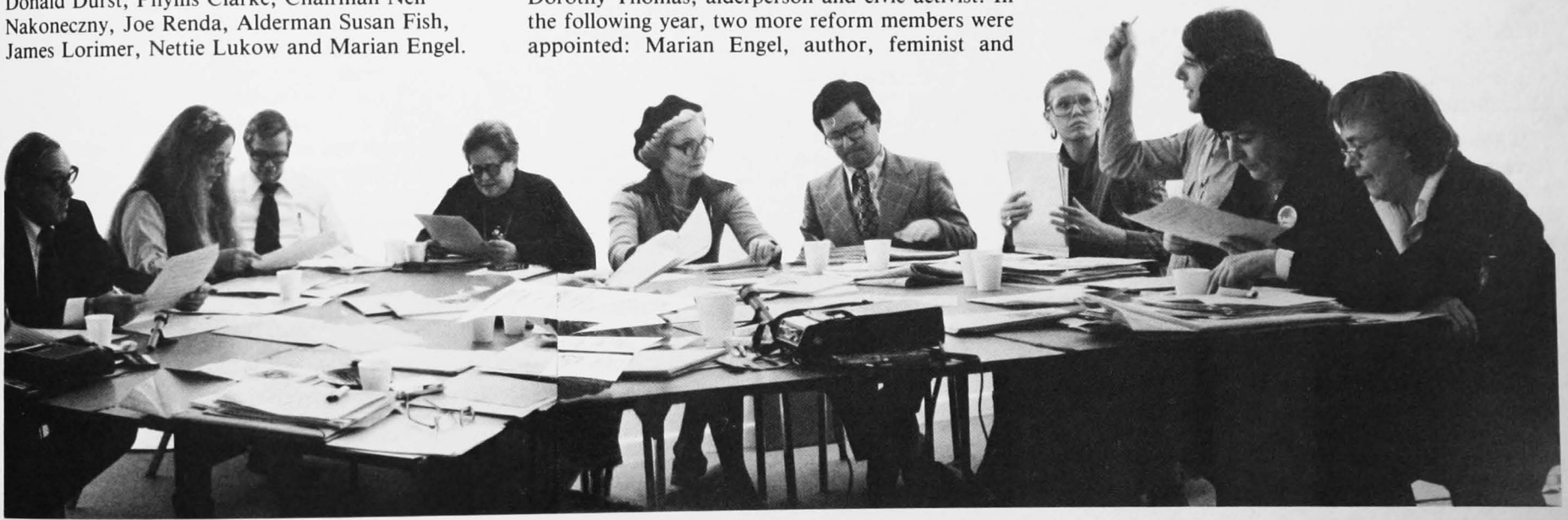
8
RENOVATIONS AND NEW DIRECTIONS

The mid-1970s marked the beginning of a period of great change for TPL. In a few short years the TPL system was transformed. In the words of Professor John Marshall, "It was totally turned around in terms of basic policy and direction. Nowhere amongst public institutions was citizen participation as widespread or as deep going as at the library. And nowhere was decentralization carried as far as it was in the library system."[33]

Change came dramatically and swiftly. In 1972 the Toronto civic elections gave a reform group on city council an effective majority and injected new life into many formerly moribund municipal institutions.

In 1974 the library system began to feel the effects. In that year three reform members were appointed to the library board: James Lorimer, author and publisher; Sherril Cheda, librarian and feminist; and Dorothy Thomas, alderperson and civic activist. In the following year, two more reform members were appointed: Marian Engel, author, feminist and Canadian nationalist; and Becky Kane, civic activist and a former community-service worker in a west-end branch library. Thus, by 1975 there was a reform majority on the library board, and its decisions began to reflect their input.

The efforts of the reform members on the TPL Board, combined with reports commissioned by TPL management, input from the staff, and participation of library groups and community groups who had previously not been included in such decision-making, developed completely new policies for the



LIBRARY BOARD, 1977.
From Left to Right: Chief Librarian H.C. Campbell, and Board Members Becky Kane, Donald Durst, Phyllis Clarke, Chairman Nell Nakoneczny, Joe Renda, Alderman Susan Fish, James Lorimer, Nettie Lukow and Marian Engel.

library, including the renovation of existing buildings, the building of new ones, and a new management structure. One of the most important changes developed from the resource allocation among different areas of the city. In the past the north end of the city had received far more of the allocations than had other areas. A new policy of equalization was eventually adopted.

Secondly, there was a reversal of the capital-spending policy that had originated in the 1960s. The Northern District Library, built in 1975 at a cost of approximately $5 million, was to have been the first of three district libraries. However, the district library plan was abandoned. Instead, capital funds were concentrated on the renovation and expansion of the existing network of branch libraries.

Four major city areas were defined, and the area was officially adopted as the basis of operation. Area librarians were appointed as part of the management structure. Further, citizen-advisory groups were established in all four areas. As a natural corollary of this division, the neighbourhood was recognized as the primary focus of citizen participation and library use. The basic role of the branch library was re-emphasized in order that a higher level of neighbourhood services to users and to potential users might be provided. Again, there was a re-emphasis on community outreach and attracting non-users.

Within the management of the organization itself there was a basic reorganization intended to spread and delegate authority. Following a report by Beckman Associates in June 1975, the role of the chief librarian was clarified, and a collective style of management based on a functional division of library operations was encouraged in order to create a core of senior staff consultants to supervise the development of special areas, to recognize the four geographic divisions in the city, and also to help provide citizen participation and encourage staff participation.

Although plans for the library system in the 1960s revolved around capital expansion, with district libraries in the north, east, and eventually the west and with renovations to a few existing branches, these plans were overturned, and capital expenditure was frozen until various studies, reports, and meetings re-established goals for TPL.

Under the pressure of questioning from the reform members of the board, Chief Librarian Campbell requisitioned the Forrester Report in 1975, a study that provided a picture of the way in which the library system was working. The system, in effect, according to James Lorimer was two systems. Lorimer, in his chapter "Turning Two Systems Into One: Budgets and Equalization," in John Marshall's forthcoming book *"Participation Toronto: The Library Experience,"* describes the systems:

> The first system was a well-endowed, well-serviced, well-provided library system serving the 121,000 residents of north Toronto, the communities running in a band east and west of Yonge Street north of Bloor Street (roughly) and including the city's highest-income neighbourhoods of Rosedale, Forest Hill, Moore Park, Lawrence Park, as well as other solid middle class areas. The second system, serving the 584,000 residents of east, central and west Toronto was poorly-endowed, poorly-staffed, and under-stocked, with many pockets of the city having no service at all. Within this second system there were individual branches which offered a higher than average level of service to their own communities: Parkdale, Beaches, City Hall. But they were exceptions in a very obvious general pattern.
>
> The picture of the two libraries as existing in TPL was evident in Forrester statistics regarding branch books and materials collections. There were 2.0 books per capita in north Toronto, 1.0 per capita in east, central and west Toronto. And this substantial gap in the size of library collections was being intensified by ongoing purchases of library materials. The materials budget for north Toronto branches was $1.81 per capita in 1974. In east, central and west Toronto, it was 42¢.
>
> Besides books, the other principal components of library service branch are staff and buildings. Spending on public service branch staff in north Toronto in 1974 was $6.31 per capita. In east, central and west Toronto in the same year it was $3.44[34]

In terms of the numbers of square feet of building space available for public use, the north Toronto system was again more than twice as well endowed as the eastern, central, and western systems. Capital spending in the previous forty years had led to this substantial discrepancy in physical facilities.

The $5 million Northern District Library had an enormous impact, pushing up the physical standards of library facilities in north Toronto and capital-spending figures for library buildings. Library capital spending from 1945 to 1974 totalled $9,740,918. Of this $6,983,464 or 72 per cent went to north Toronto and its 18 per cent of the city's population. Per capita spending for the period was $55 in north Toronto. It was about $5 per capita in east, central, and west Toronto during the same period.

Lorimer summarized the situation as follows:

> The enormous discrepancy in every kind of resource for library service between the system serving north Toronto and the system servicing the rest of the city was clearly reflected in the success of the system providing library services. Circulation in north Toronto was 7.7 books per capita in 1974 and in east, central and west Toronto, it was 4.6. With twice as many books per capita, almost twice as much money spent on staff per capita, four times the new book budget per capita, more than twice the branch space per capita, circulation in north Toronto was almost twice as high per capita as in the rest of the system.[35]

Lorimer argued that implicit in these statistics was the principle that a high level of public library services should be provided to the highest-income neighbourhoods and substantially lower levels of services to lower-income areas. The basic service of books and materials other than books offered by every branch was one well calculated to suit the taste of middle-class and, more accurately, upper middle-class people. However, a study of library use in the east end showed that members of only 9 per cent of the households in a random survey were in the white-collar, professional, higher-income occupations. But 68 per cent of east-end library users were in this occupational category. All across the city the library seemed to have set itself up to serve a specific minority of city residents. Those potential users were found in small numbers in east, central, and west Toronto. They predominated in north Toronto.

NORTHERN DISTRICT LIBRARY, 1981.
Orchard View Blvd., n. side w. of Yonge St. →

NORTHERN DISTRICT LIBRARY
THE TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Because TPL's service policy was that the library should provide the same level of service to each branch as it had the year before, the disparity of the resources of the different branches was perpetuated. Those branches with high circulations had large staffs and book budgets. Those with small circulations had small budgets. Thus, the inequities continued.

From this analysis of the inequities, the idea of equalization emerged during 1974 and 1975 and became library policy in 1976. What TPL meant by equalization was spelled out in its *Five Year Objectives 1978-1983*. This states the library will "work towards equalizing the distribution of library services and resources in all four areas of the city", specifically by "equalizing per capita expenditures." However TPL clearly states that this does "*not* mean identical resources and services in all areas and branches; in fact the thrust of these objectives is in the direction of less uniformity and more flexibility to respond to community interests and needs."[36]

The library's commitment was to bring the other areas up to the level of service provided in the north rather than to reduce service in the north. Equalization became the new overall policy approach, replacing the approach that had produced the two systems in Toronto. The equalization proposals received considerable public support, and the library board was able to mount successful political pressure on City Council to produce the necessary budget to carry out some of them.

Originally the TPL Board had planned to build an east end district library. However, by 1975 as a result of the analysis of TPL's new "reform" board, the reports of advisory groups, and other studies, this plan was abandoned. The Stinson Report, commissioned by TPL Board in 1975, was especially concerned with the way the existing physical facilities of the system met the needs of the community and how, in the light of the overall goals and objectives of the library, changes could be made to improve service to the community. The board, in its Long-Term Planning and Priorities Committee and on the basis of the Stinson Report, recommended a plan of equalization

PHYLLIS CLARKE AT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING, 1976.

of services, expansion of services, and enlargement and renovation of the branches. The Long-Term Planning and Priorities Committee also involved citizens in its discussions, not only about specific branch libraries but also in decisions affecting the system as a whole.

The East End Advisory Group was particularly active. It made its views known to a 1975 library board commissioned study *Public Library Needs in the East End of Toronto*. The East End Advisory Group was instrumental in rejecting the initial concept of the district library. It also directed its efforts into facilitating the first five renovation projects in the east end: At Pape/Danforth, Gerrard/Ashdale, Main Street, Riverdale and Jones branches. Here, the group operated only in a secondary capacity, since each branch had its own building committee with its own citizen representatives.

Another group that effected this change was the Scadding Court Group. In October 1974 a delegation from Scadding Court, in the midtown area of Toronto, appeared before the library board to outline a proposal for a community centre that, if approved, would incorporate the Charles R. Sanderson Branch and have sufficient space for adult services in addition to the existing children's services. The appearance of this delegation before the board prompted considerable critical questioning of the board's plans for capital expenditure.

TPL continued its examination of the system through its Goals and Objectives Study. This started early in 1975 with a committee established by the board whose membership included staff, citizens, aldermen, public and separate school trustees, and library board members. In the fall of 1975 the TPL board sponsored a series of public meetings to discuss goals and objectives. There was one public meeting for each of the four areas of the city. Each meeting concluded with the formation of a Citizen's Advisory Committee, consisting of a group of citizens from the area who were concerned with public library service. Among the issues considered were building renovations, multilingual signs and collections, twenty-four hour service on interlibrary loans, the provision of how-to-books and articles of interest to industrial workers, paperback displays, community involvement, and the principle of reflecting community needs in collection development.

The largest of these four area public meetings was the one held in the west end at Parkdale Library. At the time of the meeting seven libraries served this area of the city's population. Per capita, the numbers of books in their collections were the lowest in Toronto, as were their operating budgets. Most of these libraries were old buildings from another era, with collections suitable for a long-gone clientele. The population had changed since the war: mainly low-and-medium-income levels prevailed throughout the area, while the ethnic composition had become the most diverse of any part of Toronto. Thus, the 200 people crowded into the auditorium at Parkdale Library in October 1975 had a wide variety of needs.

Phyllis Clarke, who attended that meeting, was particularly concerned with equalization. Indeed, her involvement in and subsequent chairmanship of TPL board dates from those early days when west Toronto citizens' organized. The West Toronto Citizens'

Advisory Committee had a wide program, ranging from changes in existing branch activities to plans for renovation of buildings and for expansion into new service areas.

In 1977 a new west Toronto branch opened in a store-front location at Perth and Dupont. By 1979 three west Toronto branches - High Park, Dufferin/St. Clair, and Runnymede - had been renovated and expanded, Bloor having been done earlier. A fourth, Annette, has since been completed, and in 1981 the St. Clair/Silverthorn Branch opened. All of the collections, particularly multilingual ones, have been expanded, and the gap in per capita expenditures has been narrowed.

The West Toronto Citizens' Advisory Committee continued to stress the aim of equal per capita expenditures across Toronto, and along with other citizens' advisory groups, joined the TPL Board in asking the Toronto City Executive for special equalization funds for 1979-82. Their combined presentations succeeded in obtaining an allocation of $200,000 earmarked for equalization for the 1979 TPL library budget.

LIBRARY ON WHEELS, 1973.
This mobile library brought materials to previously unserved areas of Toronto.

One of the most important parts both of the expansion of library service and the concentration of services in the communities themselves consisted of the renovations of the sixteen branches and the new libraries that were built. Spadina Road Library, in the central Annex neighbourhood, opened in September 1977 with celebrations by Native Canadian dancers, drummers, storytellers, and folksingers. It came into being through co-operation between the Native Canadian Centre and the TPL Board and Spadina Road Library includes a Native People's collection. The TPL Board showed a creative use of an old building when it opened the Queen/Saulter Library in 1979, located in former Postal Station G, designed by E.J. Lennox. The newest branch, St. Lawrence, opened in 1982 to serve the innovative new downtown community.

ST. LAWRENCE BRANCH, 30 October 1982. Front St. E. and Sherbourne St., s.w. corner.

SPADINA ROAD BRANCH, 1979.
Spadina Rd. near Bloor St. W.

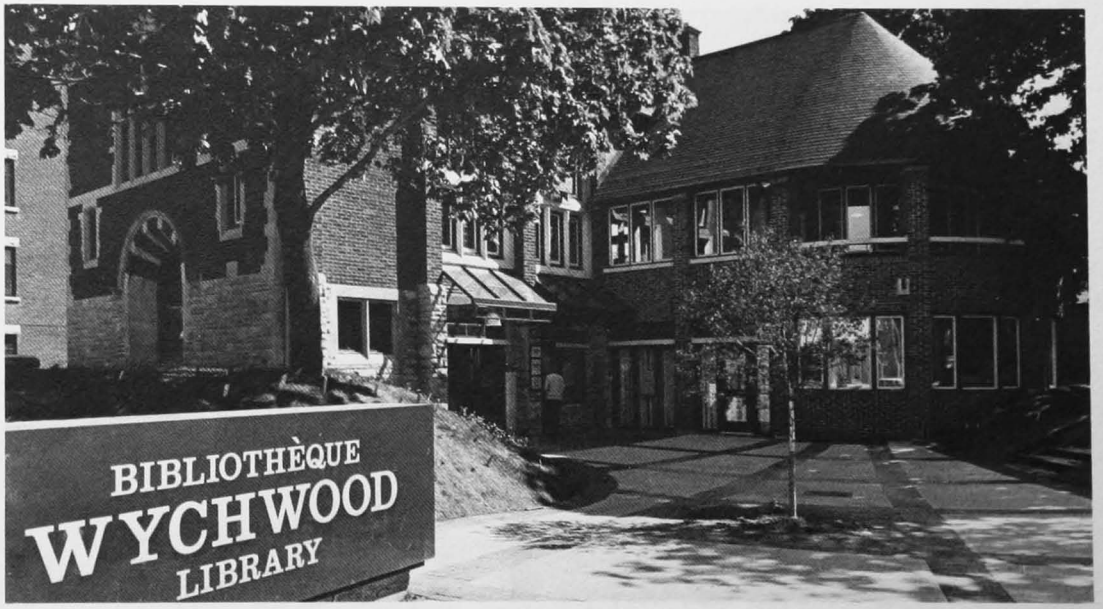
QUEEN/SAULTER BRANCH, 1980.
Queen St. E. and Saulter St., s.w. corner.

Alan Dudeck was capital project co-ordinator of these projects. In an interview he emphasized the unique approach of citizen involvement in the planning for renovations, extensions, and new buildings. Local building committees determined what was needed, helped to select architects, and worked through various planning stages until the proposal was prepared and presented to the board. This process, in which Dudeck, TPL staff, central management, board members, architects, contractors, and the users of the library were all involved was unprecedented in the library world.

RENOVATIONS IN PROGRESS RIVERDALE BRANCH, 1980.

CITIZENS, LIBRARY STAFF AND ARCHITECTS TOGETHER PLAN THE NEW DESIGN FOR HIGH PARK BRANCH, 1977.

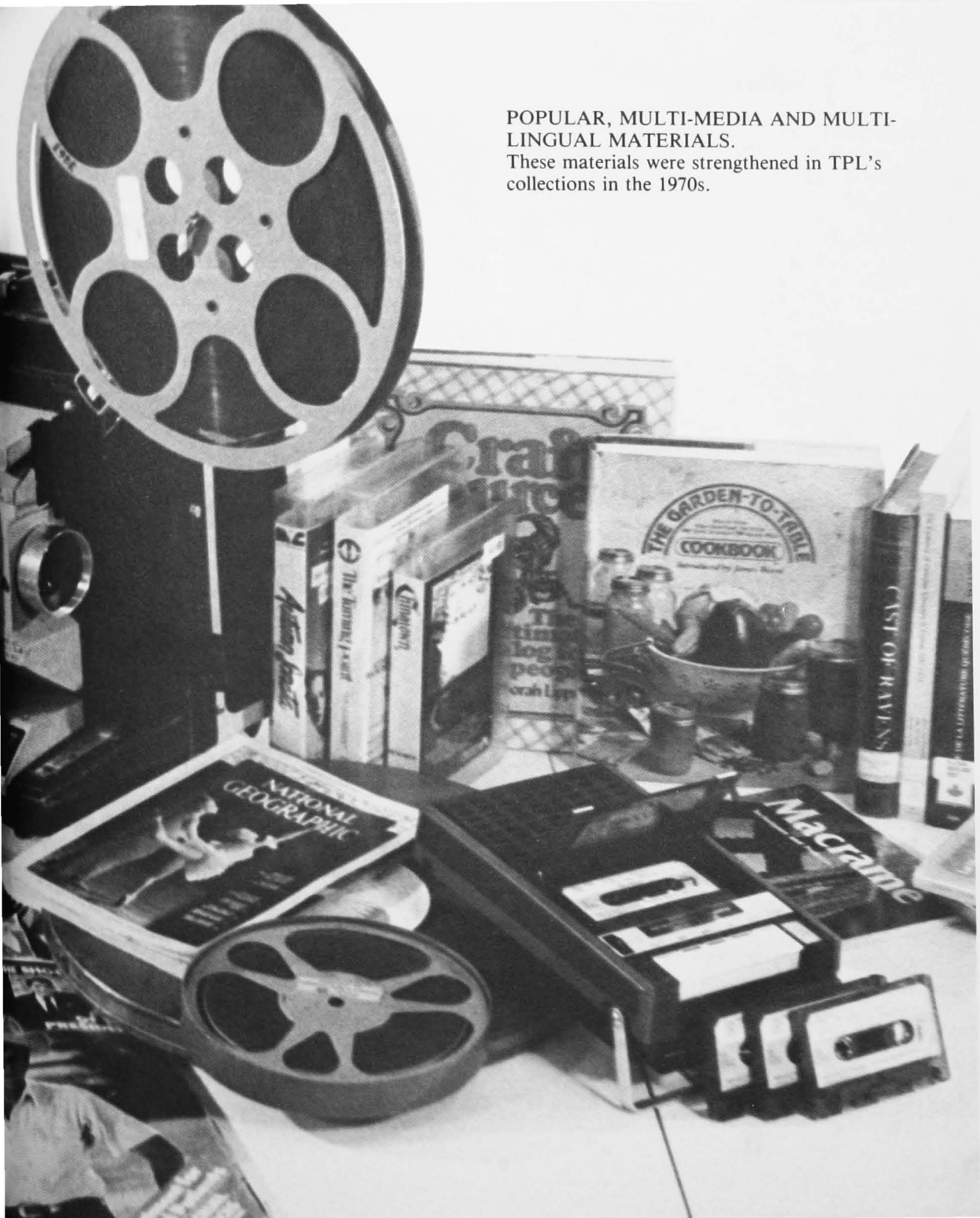
WYCHWOOD BRANCH After its renovation and expansion, 1979.



To attract more non-users and to reach sections of the population that had not been serviced, TPL made a major shift in its policy regarding library materials and collections. A much greater emphasis was placed on Canadian materials, and a decision was made to expand resources in languages other than English. There was also a new emphasis placed on popular cultural materials. Each of these changes generated considerable controversy.

The issue of Canadian materials in the library was one of the first to be raised in the seventies by the "reform" members of the board and as more citizens became involved in decisions affecting the library. The decade saw a remarkable resurgence of Canadian identity, with increasing emphasis on Canadian culture, the development of a new maturity in Canadian literature, and a flourishing Canadian publishing and film industry. To some, TPL seemed insufficiently aware of the new growth and the opportunities presented.

CANADIAN BOOKS BEING IDENTIFIED WITH MAPLE LEAF STICKERS, ca. 1973.



POPULAR, MULTI-MEDIA AND MULTI-LINGUAL MATERIALS.
These materials were strengthened in TPL's collections in the 1970s.

The Book Selection Policy Committee in 1974 and 1975 comprised James Lorimer, Becky Kane, Sidney Midanik, and Sherril Cheda. They discovered that in 1974 Canadian books represented approximately 12 per cent of TPL stock. The library set out to promote Canadian materials. Stickers of red maple leaves were placed on Canadian books in the libraries to raise public awareness. Inevitably, controversy raged over whether the library had enough Canadian materials in its collections. A Canadian publisher, James Lorimer, who had been a board member from 1974 to 1979, was accused of conflict of interest. To combat this charge, Lorimer donated his firm's books free to the libraries.

The committee instituted an intensive review of the methods of selecting all materials in TPL, including Canadian ones. The reading habits of the city seemed out of synchronization with the materials supplied to them, at least according to the East End report. Librarians seemed narrowly conservative, even elitist. The committee debated quality versus "what the people want." Canadian books, paperbacks, and popular culture materials became increasingly important. Funds were allocated for each branch to spend on popular materials. The library branches purchased materials at local sources and put them on their shelves with very little time lost in processing. The 1977 TPL annual report carried a headline "Pop Cult. smash hit." Top Ten disk records, lightweight paperbacks and comics sit on the shelves along with Dickens and Dostoevski. Cookbooks, gardening books, and other new how-to books have also been added to the library's collections.

Some librarians reacted angrily to the new developments, especially as these seemed to threaten their traditional professional domain: book selection and collections policy. This was especially true as it related to Canadian materials and to the introduction of more "popular" or "mass" culture into the libraries. Some citizens and some librarians have expressed the concern that a lot of junk is being imposed on the libraries. Critics claim that quality has been sacrificed in the drive for equalization, in the acquisition of popular materials, and in the new programs

designed to attract children, new members, and immigrants to the libraries. Others feel that things such as the sign outside the Gerrard Street Branch proclaiming "This Is Your Library" in fourteen different languages is a positive step.

TPL adopted a selection policy that left the final responsibility for selection in the hands of branch staff and selection committees appointed for the system. But TPL placed itself in the forefront of Canadian public libraries by stating that "consideration is also given to the general idea on collection building as developed by the various citizens' groups."

There was also an impressive increase in the amount of money made available for multilingual books. In 1975 the collection was moved from Parkdale to the new Northern District Library and was renamed the Multilingual and Multicultural collection. By 1976, 12 per cent of TPL's materials budget was allocated to the multilingual materials in response to local needs. In keeping with TPL's policy of drawing in even more users, the selection policy for books in other languages broadened to include more popular leisure reading, more practical books on subjects such as sex education and child care, cookbooks, and other how-to books. Musical records and tapes in many languages were also acquired.

Realizing the need for West Indian materials in Toronto and responding to community demand, Parkdale librarian Rita Cox along with other TPL staff supported by H.C. Campbell started a West Indian Collection at Parkdale Branch in 1973. Between 1973 and 1977 West Indian books, records and periodicals were added to the collection at Parkdale until, in February 1977, there was a sufficient number for these materials to merit being a system resource as part of TPL's Multilingual and Multicultural collection. By June 1983, the West Indian Collection included 3,000 books, 1,000 records and 24 periodical subscriptions and it is still growing.

All these efforts have resulted in an unprecedented increase in circulation. The multilingual collections in the branches currently consist of over 176,000 volumes and 21,000 audio-visual materials in thirty-three languages. Book stock increased 857 per cent over 1970. In 1982, 875,558 items circulated (a 1,138 per cent increase since 1970).

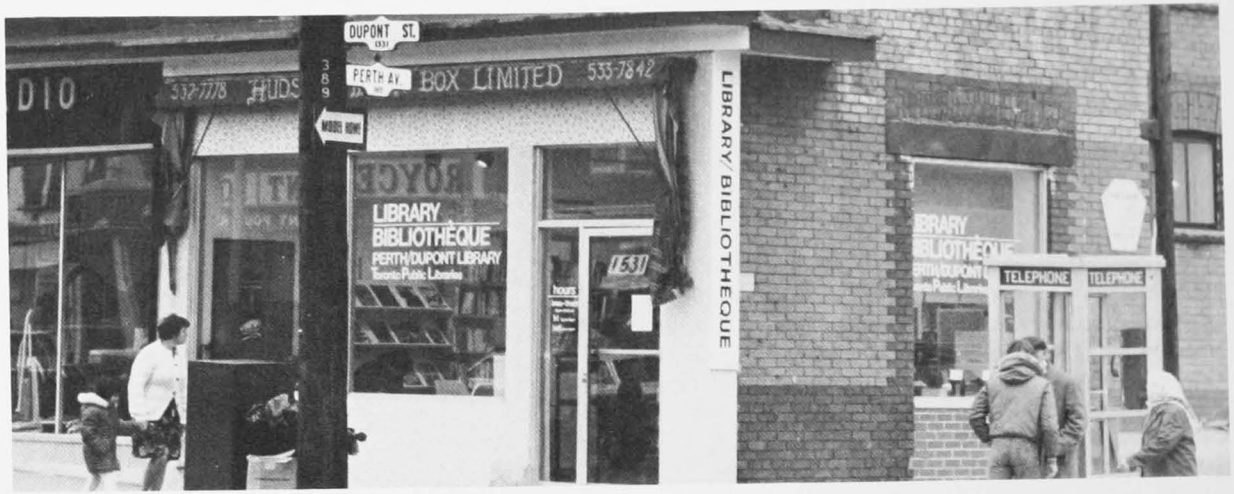
The final report of the Goals and Objectives Study was adopted by the board in 1978. It serves as a statement of library board policy for staff and management guidance and is the basis for the development of annual library budgets and the determination of priorities. The objectives of the TPL Board as approved on 7 May 1978 include the provision of

JUNE IN JAMAICA AT RUNNYMEDE BRANCH, 1973.

"library materials and services which are used by a substantially greater number of city residents than at present," the provision of "library services in all neighbourhoods of the city," and the equalization of "the level of library services in all areas of the city."[37]

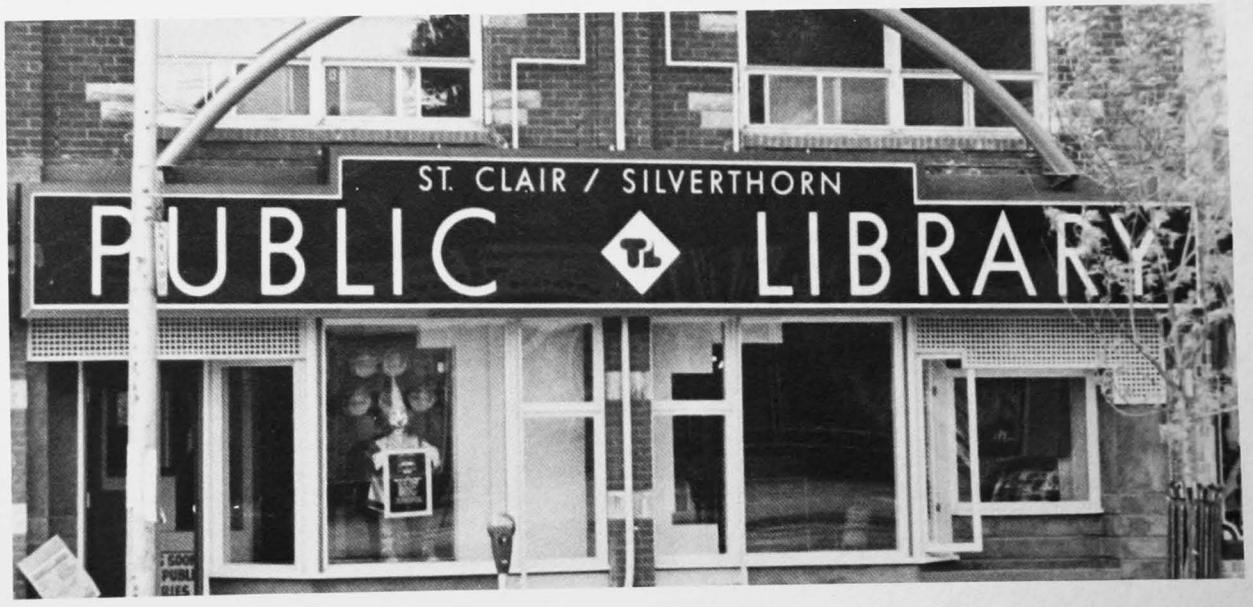
Subobjectives ranged from doubling the amount of library usage in the city by 1983 and increasing the number of library users (expressed as a percentage of the population) to the level in the area of the city where the user-population ratio was highest, also by 1983.

PERTH/DUPONT BRANCH, 1978.
Perth St., and Dupont Ave., s.e. corner.



HEDLEY RUTTER
Acting Secretary-Treasurer of TPL Board, 1978.

ST. CLAIR/SILVERTHORN BRANCH, 1981.
St. Clair Ave. W. and Silverthorn Ave., n.w. corner.



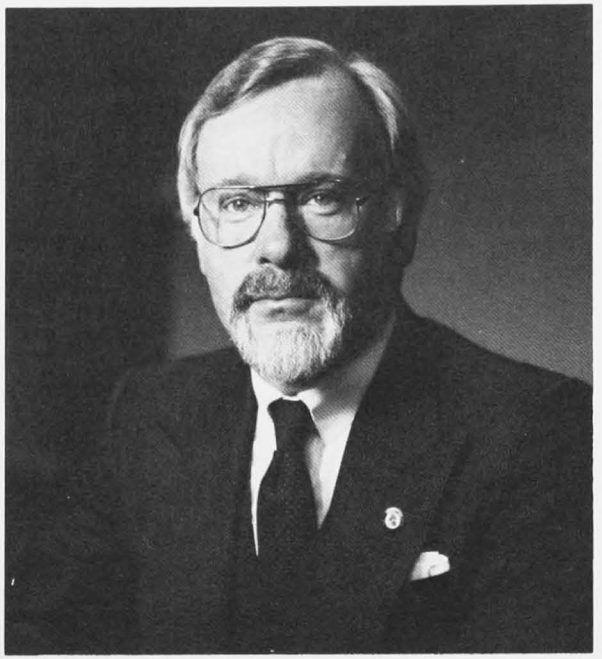
In 1978 H.C. Campbell resigned as chief librarian; E. Les Fowlie was appointed to succeed him in 1979. Before his appointment to TPL Mr. Fowlie had served for five-and-a-half years as director of the Calgary Public Library. Earlier he had served as administrative head of the St. Catharines Public Library.

Mr. Fowlie was born in Wallaceburg, Ontario, and grew up in Peterborough and Toronto, where he attended Vaughan Road Collegiate. He graduated from Queen's University in political science and from the University of Toronto Library School. Before taking up his career in libraries, he served as assistant secretary to the Canadian National Commission of UNESCO and junior administrative officer in the Alberta and Ottawa offices of the Canadian Citizenship Branch. He had also served as librarian and library liaison for the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, assistant head of the University of Alberta's Extension Library, and librarian with the late Walter Gropius's firm, the Architects' Collaborative, in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

In Calgary Mr. Fowlie was instrumental in modernizing the library's administrative structure and in developing community-oriented programming. He was a leader in the movement to increase provincial support for libraries and, during his tenure at Calgary, provincial per capita support rose from $0.05 to $2.00. Under his leadership, planning was begun for the development of regional libraries in southern Alberta, resulting in the establishment of the Marigold Library System in the south-central area of the province. He was also prominent in the Library Association of Alberta, serving as its president, and he served on the Advisory and Steering Committee of the study "The Right to Know," which examined the state of, and prescribed for, the development of Alberta's libraries.

The changes that TPL underwent in the 1970s produced such stress and strain that in 1976 the staff, formerly represented by the staff association, organized into a union, Canadian Union of Public

E. LES FOWLIE
Appointed chief librarian 1979.



Employees Local 1996. In this they followed the example of the maintenance staff. In 1966, CUPE Local 1003 was certified as the bargaining agent for the staff of TPL's Building and Grounds Department. Each year the board negotiated contracts with the CUPE locals but, during 1980 negotiations, serious differences arose over the implementation of a job evaluation program amongst other issues. In 1980, when conciliation failed, Local 1996 went on strike.

The image of the genteel lady librarian had indeed changed. Here she was on the picket line in front of Northern District Library or participating in rallies at City Hall. The major issues in the strike were implementation of the job-evaluation program, improved maternity leave, protection against technological change, improved vacations, and a wage increase. The salary increase, explains Kathy Viner, former president of the Local, "was tied to the issue of implementation of the job-evaluation program. The money for that would have had to come out of our salaries. There were other non-trade-union issues too. The board made a lot of radical changes. Most of the librarians felt that they were going to have no say in decision-making in the running of the library. There was also concern over the desire expressed to sell the rare-book collection."[38]

All twenty-eight branches were closed for three weeks. Kathy Viner remembers the tremendous camaraderie. "St. Paul's Church on Avenue Road was strike headquarters. The kitchen there prepared coffee and sandwiches, a truck delivered food to pickets."[39]

Chief Librarian Les Fowlie recalled the strike from management's point of view: "the Administration, for their part, found the strike traumatic. Negotiations had been long and difficult and the small numbers of non-union management increased the sense of isolation and the stress. While a number of issues, which were not on the table for negotiation, were strengthening the resolve of the union, the principal issue for which the administration had fought hard was to install a job evaluation scheme based on a remuneration plan which generally reflected practice in library organizations and in the job market."[40]

The compromises necessary to reach agreement resulted in a scheme not really satisfactory to either side. Added to this, was an issue which was hard fought - that of exclusions to the bargaining unit. Non-union management contended that there were too few exclusions to the bargaining unit to make the system work effectively and felt that it led to a real confusion of roles. A number of managers who were included in the bargaining unit were bitter about not being consulted 'as managers' about matters which were on the bargaining table.

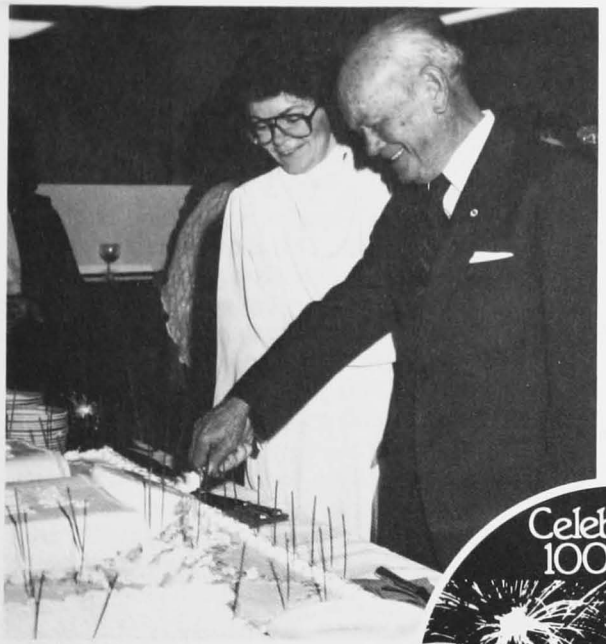
"The board and Management, however," Mr. Fowlie added, "withdrew the exclusions proposal in the interests of getting a settlement."

"We won," claims Viner, "We got a job-classification program instead of a job-evaluation program. We also got a wage increase, a grievance procedure to go in with the job-classification program, improved maternity leave, and improved protection against technological change."

Notably the union was concerned with the quality of the service in its libraries. The union also stressed the need for genuine staff input and genuine participation in management decision-making. The positive public-relations aspect of the strike action was noted by the *Toronto Star*, which commented that the union's gains were won "with an amount of flair and civility unusual in a labour dispute." The *Star* continued: "Pickets were careful to explain the reasons for their strike to library patrons they were inconveniencing and marched the picket line with decorum, thus managing to avoid the enmity usually aimed at civil servants who walk off the job." The article commented on the union's emphasis on "quality of service" issues and concluded: "As the first strike in the 98-year history of the library system, it set a precedent and, although it created financial hardship among the predominantly female staff, it enabled employees to air their grievances with dignity that maintained public respect."[41]

Following the strike, board and management worked together to tackle a number of problems. Among them was communications - both between the board and management and between union and non-union administrators. Fortunately, the mid-term review of the library's long-term goals and objectives was scheduled for 1981. This allowed staff to express some of their anger at objectives that they had never really accepted or that they felt were "imposed". A process was started for examining and resolving problems such as the makeup and role of the Management Committee. This issue had been with the committee since its inception.

CUPE LOCAL 1996 STRIKE RALLY, NATHAN PHILLIPS SQUARE,
October 1980.



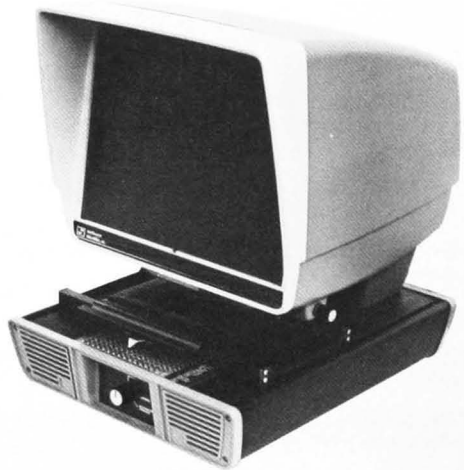
TPL's CENTENNIAL GALA AT CITY HALL
5 March 1983.

9
CONCLUSION

In 1983, as TPL comes to the end of its five-year goals and policies programs, the TPL Board still charts a careful course, trying to attract more users by providing the books, magazines, and records they want, while all the while taking care to sustain the quality of the system and its services.

Throughout its first hundred years the library has been a mirror of the social history of the city and the country. Two world wars, the Great Depression, the advent of the motor car, a smallpox epidemic, the outbreak of infantile paralysis, the deaths of famous and not-so-famous men and women, and the visits of royal princes and princesses dot the pages of the annual reports. Movies, radio, television - successive chief librarians have reported that library use has successfully surmounted their competing influence. Certainly, as TPL enters its second century, the increasing use of computers, both in the office and in the home, presents both challenges and problems.

While "the library may exist *ab aeterno*," as Jorge Luis Borges writes in *The Library of Babel*, what will "Man the Imperfect Librarian" do with it?[42] "No one in the library world would project more than 25 years ahead due to rapid changes in information and communications technology," says Stephanie Hutcheson, assistant librarian for Resource Support. "Some people think that the library building will disappear and that patrons will obtain information through home terminals in Toffler's electronic cottage model. But I think that the library building will continue to be vital to the community. When one is homebound, a totally neutral, yet dynamic place in



COMPUTER OUTPUT MICROFORM (COM) CATALOG.

the community, somewhere to get out of the home, will become even more important. The library will remain a cultural and recreational centre with a strengthened information dissemination role. We will have to move quickly, however, to offer good on-line information services before other interests take this over completely. Providing books will remain a primary service while new materials will be offered such as software programmes."[43]

As for that most familiar object of the library, the book, what is its future? Will readers just key in and get the text thrown up on a terminal? Certainly devoted readers and librarians hope not. There may always be some readers who will prefer to sit back comfortably in an easy chair, book in hand or in the lap, rather than experience the discomfort of sitting upright in front of a terminal and straining their eyes.

The library will undoubtedly use computers more and more to record and to distribute information. Already computers assist both librarians and borrowers to locate materials. As computerized check-outs become more and more widespread, staff will be freed from purely clerical duties and be able to spend more time on professional interests.

In the future librarians' duties will centre much more on retrieving and interpreting information for the client. Such use of the library as an information centre, Hutcheson warns, raises the difficult question of whether the library should impose direct user charges which, in her opinion, could compromise the concept of the free public library.

Whatever the future holds, in 1983 TPL's image in the city remains very positive. A *Toronto Star* poll conducted in July 1981 showed that its readers rated TPL second only to the fire department as a public service. TPL scored 76 on an index of 100. In recent years TPL has been a leader in multicultural services. Its bold experiment in participative management is being studied by other library systems. Perhaps in years to come the renovation program and the citizen involvement in that rebuilding and in other decisions affecting the library will be considered as significant a contribution as the pioneering work in bibliography and children's services of the library's earlier decades.

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[3] "Our Free Library," Toronto *Globe*, 3 January 1883, p.4.

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[7] "The Free Library - to the Editor of the World," Toronto *World*, 30 January 1884, p.1.

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[21] George H. Locke, "A Library Club House," *Library Journal* 56 (1 September 1931):699.

[22] Ibid., p.700.

[23] Interview with Ogreta McNeil, Toronto, 1982.

[24] Interview with Henry C. Campbell, Toronto, 1982.

[25] Interview with Mary Finch, Toronto, 1982.

[26] Toronto Public Library, *A Bibliography of Canadiana; Being Items in the Public Library of Toronto, Canada, Relating to the Early History and Development of Canada*, edited by Frances M. Staton and Marie Tremaine, with an introduction by George Locke, Toronto, 1934, n.p.

[27] Quoted by Malcolm W. Wallace, "Locke," 59.

[28] "Royal Visit and Windsor Murder Included in Toronto's Variegated memories of 1939," Toronto *Globe & Mail*, 1 January 1940, p.8.

[29] Interview with Mary Finch.

[30] "Library Junks Rule of Silence, Urges Relaxation," Toronto *Globe & Mail*, 3 June 1952, p.4.

[31] Interview with Ogreta McNeil.

[32] Interview with Mary Finch.

[33] John Marshall, "Participation Toronto: the Library Experience," unpublished mss, Toronto, 1982.

[34] Ibid.

[35] Ibid.

[36] Toronto Public Library, *Five Year Objectives for the Toronto Public Libraries, 1978-1983 as approved by the Toronto Public Library board on May 17, 1978*, Toronto, 1978, p.6.

[37] Ibid., p.2.

[38] Interview with Kathleen Viner, Toronto, 1982.

[39] Ibid.

[40] Interview with E. Les Fowlie, Toronto, 1983.

[41] "Toronto Can Get Back to the Books", *Toronto Sunday Star*, 26 October 1980, p.B7.

[42] Jorge Luis Borges, *Labyrinths; Selected Stories and Other Writings*, New York: New Directions, 1964.

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APPENDIXES

CHAIRMEN OF THE TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

John Hallam	1883-4
John Taylor	1885
Dr. George Wright	1886
James Mason	1886, 1887
A. R. Boswell	1892
Edwin P. Pearson	1889
Joseph E. McDougall	1890, 1898-9, 1901
R. A. Pyne	1891
D. O'Sullivan	1892
William Mara	1893
Miles Vokes	1894
William D. McPherson	1895
H. T. Kelly	1896-7, 1909, 1918, 1925
W. T. J. Lee	1900, 1915, 1921, 1928, 1934
Thomas W. Banton	1902, 1914, 1920, 1927, (Mar-Dec) 1930, 1937
J. Herbert Denton	1903
Robert H. Graham	1904
Sir Glenholme Falconbridge	1905-6-7-8
A. E. Heustis	1910
Norman B. Gash	1911, 1916, 1922, 1929, 1935, 1940
John Turnbull	1912, 1917, 1924
Thomas W. Self	1913, 1919, 1926
R. B. Orr	1923
Ernest J. Hathaway	(Jan-Feb) 1930
Mrs. Richard Davidson	1931, 1936, 1942
J.C.M. MacBeth	1932-3, 1938, 1943
Henry Glendinning	1939
Frank N. Walker	1941, 1946
Newman F. Mallon	1944, 1953
William J. Wadsworth	1945
Ernest E. Woollon	(Feb-Sept) 1947
John M. Bennett	(Oct-Dec) 1947, 1948, 1954, 1959
Mrs. John W. Falkner	1949, 1957, 1963
Charles M. Carrie	1950
Albert Taylor	1951
Mrs. H. E. McCullagh	1952
John E. Corcoran	1955
Mrs. Peter Sandiford	1956
Dalton C. Wells	1958, 1964
J. Maurice King	1960
W. Harold Male	1961
Dr. Edmund T. Guest	1962, 1971
Alan R. Campbell	1965
Keele S. Gregory	1966, 1972
Donald F. McDonald	1967
J. Sydney Midanik	1968, 1973
Mrs. Ryrie Smith	1969
Edward M. Davidson	1970
Mrs. Glenys McMullen	1974
Mrs. Nell Nakoneczny	1975, 1977-8
James Lorimer	1976
Dr. Phyllis Clarke	1979-80
Father Bernie Black	1981-82
Mrs. Elizabeth Hoffman	1983

BOARD MEMBERS 1883

Mayor A. R. Boswell
George D'Arcy Boulton
John Hallam
W.H. Knowlton
James Mason
John A. Mills
William Scully
John Taylor
Dr. George Wright

BOARD MEMBERS 1983

Father Bernie Black
Dr. Phyllis Clarke
Nick Figliano
Elizabeth Hoffman
Eva Ligeti
John Medeiros
Nell Nakoneczny
Alderman Tony O'Donohue
Sheryl Taylor - Munro

CHIEF LIBRARIANS

James Bain, Jr.	1883 - 22 May 1908
George H. Locke	1909 - 27 January 1937
Charles R. Sanderson	1937 - 24 July 1956
Henry C. Campbell	September 1956 - February 1978
Hedley Rutter	March 1978 - December 1978 (acting)
E. Les Fowlie	1 January 1979 -

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 1983

E. Les Fowlie	*Chief Librarian and Secretary-Treasurer*
Trudie Town	*Assistant Librarian - User Services*
Stephanie Hutcheson	*Assistant Librarian - Resource Support*
Robert Dubreuil	*Director of Staff Training and Development*
Willoughby Edwards	*Director of Finance and Property Services*
Margaret Kvetan	*Director of Personnel and Staff Relations*
Walter Yewchyn	*Director of Planning and Development*
Janice Long	*Area Librarian - North*
Nancy Heighton	*Area Librarian - East*
Malva Kannins	*Area Librarian - West*
Barbara Quinlan	*Area Librarian - Central*
Kaye Kishibe	*Technical Services Coordinator*

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Paula de Ronde	*Chairperson*
Doug Stewart	
Dora Avramis	
Rita Cox	
Joan Kinsella	
Helen McNeil	
Debra Pearson	
Ann Thoburn	
Laurel Tasker	
Vivienne James	
Lynda Moon	
Stephanie Hutcheson	
Elizabeth Hoffman	
Barbara Myrvold	
Daisy Toribio	

CHRONOLOG OF THE TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

1830	York Mechanics' Institute organized; renamed Toronto Mechanics Institute 1834
1882	Free Libraries Act passed by Ontario Legislature
1883 1 January	Free Library By-Law approved for Toronto
1883 15 February	First Library Board meeting, John Hallam first chairman.

BUILDINGS

1884 6 March - January 1927	TPL opened in Mechanics' Institute building, Church and Adelaide streets. Called Central Library & Church Street Library.
1884 February - 1907 1 June	Northern Branch. St. Paul's Hall, Yonge Street opposite Collier Street (rented premises).
1888 11 December - 1891 July	North Western Branch. Worm's Hall, Dundas and Brock streets (rented premises).
1888 11 December - 1891 July	North Western Branch. Worm's Hall, Dundas and Brock Streets (rented premises).
1888 31 October - 1910	Eastern Branch. Bolton Avenue near Queen Street East (rented premises).
1889 - 1909 15 March	Dundas Street Branch, Ossington Avenue near Queen Street West (rented premises).
1900 June - 1930	College Street Branch. College Street and Brunswick Avenue (rented premises). Transferred to basement of Reference Library building, College & St. George streets, December 1908. Collection amalgamated into Central Circulating Library, 1930.
1903	Carnegie grant of $350,000 for a new central library and three branches.
1907 14 June	Yorkville Branch. Yorkville Avenue near Yonge Street. Replaced Northern Branch.
1909 30 April - 1964	Queen and Lisgar Branch. Queen Street West and Lisgar Street. Replaced Western and Dundas Street branches.
1909 8 September	(Central) Reference Library. College and St. George streets. Reference collections transferred from Church Street Library.
1909 28 September	Western Branch. Annette and Medland streets (annexation). Renamed Annette Street Branch, 1962.
1910 19 October	Riverdale Branch. Broadview Avenue and Gerrard Street East. Boys & Girls addition 23 January 1927.
1911 31 January - 1952	Deer Park Branch. Yonge Street north of St. Clair Avenue; moved to St. Clair Avenue West near Yonge Street, 1915; moved to St. Clair Avenue East near Yonge Street, 1918 (rented premises).
1911 11 September - 1927	Municipal Reference Library in City Hall.
1912 - 1916	Wychwood Branch. Hillcrest Public School, Bathurst Street.
1913 June - 1922	Northern Branch. Yonge Street south of Eglinton Avenue; moved to Yonge Street north of Eglinton Avenue, 1915; moved to Yonge Street and Albertus Avenue, 12 January 1917 (rented premises).
1913 23 October	Dovercourt Branch. Bloor Street West and Gladstone Avenue. Renamed Bloor and Gladstone Branch, 1938.
1913 19 December - 1921	Earlscourt Branch. Boon and Ascot avenues (rented premises).
1914 23 February - 1916	Beaches Branch. Queen Street East and Hambly Avenue (rented premises).
1914 15 December - 1921	Eastern Branch. Gerrard Street East and Main Street (rented premises).
1915	Carnegie grant of $50,000 for three branches:

1916 15 April	Wychwood Branch. Bathurst Street and Melgund Road.
1916 31 October	High Park Branch. Roncesvalles Avenue near Wright Avenue.
1916 13 December	Beaches Branch. Queen Street East near Lee Avenue.
1921 15 February	Earlscourt Branch. Dufferin Street between Rosemount and St. Clair Avenue West. Renamed Dufferin/St. Clair Branch, 1977.
1921 15 December	Eastern Branch. Main Street near Gerrard Street East. Renamed Main Street Branch, 1977.
1922 27 September	Boys and Girls House. St. George Street between College and Russell streets.
1923 15 January - 1975 November	Northern Branch. Yonge Street and St. Clement's Avenue. Renamed St. Clement's Branch, 1954.
1924 15 May	Gerrard Branch. Gerrard Street East and Ashdale Avenue. Renamed Gerrard/Ashdale Branch, 1977.
1927 23 January	Downtown Branch. Adelaide Street West near Yonge Street (rented premises). Collections from Church Street & Municipal Reference libraries transferred.
1929 20 November	Danforth Branch. Pape Avenue near Danforth Avenue. Renamed Pape/Danforth Branch, 1977.
1930 19 February - 1964	Staff House. College Street near St. George Street. Purchased in August 1928. (demolished).
1930 21 April	Central Circulating library added to Reference library. College Street near St. George Street.
1930 12 November	Runnymede Branch. Bloor Street West and Glendonwynne Avenue.
1947	Downtown Branch closed.
1949 5 February	George H. Locke Memorial Branch. Yonge Street and Lawrence Avenue East.
1951 30 May	Boys and Girls House addition for library and Little Theatre.
1952 2 June	Dear Park Branch. St. Clair Avenue East and Alvin Avenue.
1952 7 July - 1965	Downtown Branch reopened at King Street West near Bay Street; moved to Richmond Street West near Bay Street, 1956.
1955 12 January	Parliament Street Branch. Parliament Street and Gerrard Street East.
1959 18 April - 1976	Music Library. Avenue Road at St. Clair Avenue West.
1959 - 1968	Manning Boys and Girls Branch. Robinson Street.
1959 - 1965 June	Regent Park Branch. Regent Park School, Regent Street.
1960 4 April	Central Library addition for Bibliographic Centre, Baldwin Room, stacks book and reading rooms.
1962 November	Jones Branch. Dundas Street East and Jones Avenue.
1964 February	Parkdale Branch. Queen Street West and Cowan Avenue. Replaced Queen & Lisgar Branch.
1964 7 May	New Boys and Girls House, 1951 addition retained.
1965 13 September	City Hall Branch. Nathan Philips Square. Replaced Downtown Branch. Included business and municipal reference collections.
1967 1 January	Swansea Memorial Branch. Lavinia Avenue (amalgamation).
1967 1 January	Forest Hill Branch. Eglinton Avenue West opposite Vesta Drive (amalgamation).
1967	Central Library Division including Central and Music library buildings transferred to Metropolitan Toronto Library Board.
1968 - 1978	Learning Resources Centre at Forest Hill Branch.
1968 27 September	Charles R. Sanderson Branch. Bathurst Street and Dundas Street West. Replaced Manning Boys & Girls Branch.
1969 January	Administrative offices moved to Deer Park building, St. Clair Avenue East and Alvin Avenue.
1969	Parliament Street Library House. Gerrard Street East and Berkeley Avenue.

1970	Library Service Centre. Queens Quay East near Jarvis Street. Travelling Branch, purchasing and stock room, technical services, display and maintenance departments.
1971 5 April	Palmerston Branch. Palmerston Avenue near Bloor Street West.
1975 15 December	Northern District Library. Orchard View Boulevard near Yonge Street. Replaced St. Clement's Branch.
1977	Administrative offices moved to Northern District Library buildings.
1977 September	Spadina Road Branch. Spadina Road near Bloor Street West.
1977 18 November	Perth/Dupont Branch. Perth street and Dupont street; moved to Dupont and Franklin streets, 1983.
1979 11 December	Queen/Saulter Branch. Queen Street East near Saulter Street; moved to corner November 1980 (rented premises).
1981 13 June	St. Clair/Silverthorn Branch. St. Clair Avenue West near Silverthorn Avenue (rented premises).
1982 9 September	St. Lawrence Branch. Front Street East and Sherbourne Street (rented premises).

SERVICES - PERSONNEL AND COLLECTIONS

1883	James Bain, first Chief Librarian appointed
1885	First books in German and French bought
1887	Competitive examination for intending assistants established
1887	Policy to collect Canadiana established
1888	Telephones installed to connect branches and main library and interloan established
1889	First complete catalogue of Reference library published
1893	Special reading room for the unemployed opened in basement of Reference library
1894	Circulation of books for home reading exceeds half million
1896	School class visits to the Reference library begin
1909	Open shelf system adopted
1909	Children's room opened in College St. Branch
1910	Library Staff Association formed
1911	Municipal Reference library opened in City Hall
1911	John Ross Robertson's Historical Collection presented to the Library
1912	Children's services started with the hiring of Miss Lillian H. Smith (Children's Department); story hours inaugurated
1912	Dewey Decimal system of classification adopted for all books except fiction
1915	Camp library at the Exhibition grounds established for World War I soldiers
1915	Music Library established
1916	Dovercourt Branch site of provincial library training school; moved to Reference library 1918.
1918	First B & G library in a settlement house run by TPL
1923	*Canadian Catalogue of Books*, an annual list of books published in Canada, started. Taken over by the National Library of Canada in 1951.
1924	High school sections started at several branches
1927	Publication of *Books for Boys and Girls*
1928	Reference Library opened on Sunday afternoons
1930	Library service extended to homes for the aged, hospitals, Mercer Reformatory and others
1931	Reference work for business and industry organized in the Hallam Room of Business and Technology
1932	*150 Books* list first published
1934	*Bibliography of Canadiana* published by TPL
1937	Charles R. Sanderson appointed Chief Librarian following Dr. Locke's death
1939	Library at Exhibition Park established for troops in training
1945	East York Township libraries operated by TPL; taken over by East York Library Board in 1967.

1946	Branch library established in Sunnybrook Hospital in cooperation with Gyro Club; taken over by North York Public Library Board October 31, 1967.
1947	Educational Film Library
1947	Books sent to Bethnal Green, London England, replacing books destroyed in bombing raids during the war.
1949	The Osborne Collection of Early Children's Books presented to TPL Board by Mr. Edgar Osborne
1956	H. C. Campbell appointed Chief Librarian following Dr. Sanderson's death
1956	Travelling Branch established
1956	Foreign Literature Collection established as headquarters for TPL services to new Canadians, renamed Languages and Literature Centre in 1963 and moved to Parkdale Library
1957	Young People's Department established
1958	The first volume of the *Catalogue of the Osborne Collection of Early Children's Books* published
1960	Metropolitan Bibliographic Centre established
1961	Central Library Division created and organized into subject departments
1961	The first John Masefield Storytelling Festival held in Boys and Girls House
1962	Lillian H. Smith Collection of Children's Books established to mark the fiftieth anniversary of children's services
1965	Self-instruction Centre established at Languages and Literature Centre, Parkdale
1966	Friends of the Osborne and Lillian H. Smith Collection organized
1967	Central Library Division taken over by the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board. Acquisition included Business and Municipal Reference Collections, Music Library, and Languages and Literature Section.
1970	Community Information Posts established
1970	Spaced-Out Library established
1970	Installation of teletype network linking the Interloan Department and 6 major branches
1970	Shut-In Service inaugurated
1972	Film Department established
1973	Library-On-Wheels Service
1974	Citizen Advisory Committees established to work with branches
1976	Management reorganization according to the Beckman Associated Study
1979	E. Les Fowlie appointed Chief Librarian
1981	COM (Computer Output Microform) Catalogue introduced to the public
1983	Toronto Public Library Centennial