

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

REPORT

OF

THE PROVINCIAL LIBRARY
AND ARCHIVES

FOR NINE MONTHS ENDING

SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1921



PRINTED BY
AUTHORITY OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

VICTORIA, B.C. :

Printed by WILLIAM H. CULLIN, Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
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To His Honour WALTER CAMERON NICHOL,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

I have pleasure in transmitting herewith a Report of the Provincial Library and Archives for nine months ending September 30th, 1921.

J. D. MACLEAN,
Provincial Secretary.

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Victoria, B.C., October 26th, 1921.

PROVINCIAL LIBRARY,

VICTORIA, B.C., October 22nd, 1921.

The Honourable J. D. MacLean, M.D., C.M.,

Provincial Secretary, Victoria, B.C.

SIR,—I beg to transmit herewith for presentation to the Legislature the Report of the Provincial Library and Archives covering the period from January 1st to September 30th, 1921.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. FORSYTH,

Provincial Librarian.

PROVINCIAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.

VICTORIA, B.C., October 22nd, 1921.

*To the Honourable A. M. Manson,
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
of the Province of British Columbia.*

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith the Report of the Provincial Library and Archives Department for the nine months ending September 30th, 1921, which shows a substantial increase in business over corresponding periods in previous years.

From the Reference Desk 20,063 volumes were issued; of this number, 185 were borrowed by the Public Libraries Commission to supplement the Travelling Libraries. There were also a number sent to individual inquirers in various districts in the Province.

The work of indexing local daily newspapers is also done at the Reference Desk, and during the period under review 5,344 items were recorded in the newspaper index.

Of 1,719 new books added to the library, 1,432 were catalogued, for which 6,348 cards were made and filed in the card catalogue.

The Cataloguer, in addition to classifying and cataloguing, acts as relief at the Reference Desk, and 265 hours of her time were spent in this way.

The following list of questions which have been dealt with in the Library is indicative of the wide use made of our service, both by members of the Legislature and by officials from various Government departments:—

Government control of liquor traffic in foreign countries.

Working synopsis of Saskatchewan "Liquor Act."

Maternity benefits.

Immigration laws of countries restricting immigration of Asiatics.

Licensing and regulating of billboards.

Water and Sewerage Boards in the United States.

Doherty Acts.

Preferential voting in Australia.

Optometric Associations.

Eight-hour day.

Employment of women before and after childbirth.

Employment of women and children in industry during the night.

Minimum age for admission of children to industrial employment.

Registration of pure-bred goats.

United States Federal water-powers.

Chiropractors.

Social insurance.

Old-age pensions.

Forest and park reserves in British Columbia.

The six-hour day.

Employment of minors.

Divorce.

Taxation of timber limits in the United States.

Hospitals and State aid.

Farm loans.

Immigration statistics.

Sessional indemnities in Canada.

Unemployment insurance.

Rural nursing.

Taxation of farm lands within cities.

Public debt and finances of various Provinces.
 Married women's property legislation.
 Testator's family maintenance.
 Equal guardianship of infants.
 Colonization schemes, public and private.
 Co-operative systems.
 Titles in Canada.
 Income-tax in England and Canada.
 Orders in Council *in re* Oriental immigration.
 Annuities (Canada).
 Wild-lands tax legislation.
 Administration of lunatics' estates.
 Dominion Seed Regulations.
 Foodstuffs (sale), infected wheat.
 State Produce Departments (South Australia).
 Woodmen's liens (Canada).
 Unemployment remedies.
 Unearned increment taxation.
 Anglo-Japanese Treaty and League of Nations.
 River improvement in British Columbia (Dominion Government expenditures, 1914-26).
 Land-value taxation.
 Hospital maintenance.
 Marriage laws (registration of clergymen).
 Marriage laws (marriage of deceased brother's widow).
 Special legislation for removal and superannuation of inefficient Civil Servants (Canada).
 Copyright laws (Great Britain, Canada, and the United States).
 Asiatic question in British Columbia.
 Forest-protection legislation.
 Farm loans.
 Agricultural credits.
 Land valuation.
 Revenue Acts, British Columbia and Vancouver Island.
 State budget systems.
 Gold-mining Regulations, British Columbia and Vancouver Island.
 Mill-dams and reservoirs legislation.
 Motor-vehicles legislation.
 Building Guilds in Great Britain.
 Co-operative tenants.
 Qualifications of School Trustees.

For those questions which are deemed of sufficient importance permanent records are preserved for future reference. The collection of data in many instances necessitates large correspondence with Governments of various countries, and where such questions are of legislative interest not only are copies of the laws gathered, but particulars of the results of their operation are obtained.

Two sets of the "Revised Statutes of British Columbia" have been annotated up to the present year, and to further facilitate reference indexes are being made to the annual volumes of Bills as presented to the House. In course of time a complete index covering a series of years will be available, as also a cumulative index to "British Columbia Sessional Papers."

An index to the "Liquor-control Act," comprising over 600 entries, was compiled in the Library and subsequently printed.

In the reading-room 365 newspapers and periodicals are filed regularly. The list has been revised during the past year and some technical journals have been substituted for those of a lighter nature. All back numbers are carefully preserved for future reference. The British Columbia newspapers, *The London Times*, *New York Times*, and other important journals are bound each year. As the cost of binding is very high at the present time, a large amount of binding is being held over until such time as the cost of material, etc., is reduced.

During the session of the Legislature, clippings are made of the proceedings in the House from the leading daily papers of Victoria and Vancouver. These are preserved in clipping-books, which are in a measure a substitute for printed debates.

In the Archives section 1,045 manuscripts were read and classified; of this number, 287 were original autograph letters, and 750 cards were added to the index.

About 5,000 manuscripts were broadly arranged and will be further classified as time permits.

The early manuscript records of the Lands Department are being transferred from their vault to the Archives Department, and an effort is being made to acquire all such documents dated prior to Confederation, which are at present in danger of being lost or destroyed in some of the Government offices. All of this material will be gradually amalgamated with other archives and made more available for officials when research is required. Among the material which has been acquired for the Archives Department, the following documents may be mentioned:—

Copy of correspondence between Hudson's Bay Company and Secretary of State *re* Colonization of Vancouver Island, 1848.

Returns of Addresses of House of Commons, 1848-49.

A number of original letters of Sir James Douglas and Dr. John McLoughlin, and many early documents relating to mining, etc.

Through the courtesy of Sir Leicester Harmsworth the Department is being enriched with the earliest original archives connected with representative government on Vancouver Island, including the appointment under the Great Seal of 1849 of Richard Blanshard first Governor of the Island, also the original lists of British passengers to the Island by the ships "Harpooner," 1849; "Cowlitz," 1850; "Norman Morrison," 1850; and "Tory," 1851.

In addition to the above, we have acquired the valuable collection of Alex. Caulfield Anderson's manuscript letters, journals, and maps. These have already proved very useful in researches made by the Lands and Survey Branch and the local Geographic Board, and as time passes these documents will become more valuable.

The work of classifying and cataloguing books and pamphlets in the local history collection is progressing; there were 2,238 cards added to the history catalogue.

This section of the Library in conjunction with the Archives is used extensively.

The Library and Archives Department has been the recipient of many donations of publications during the past year. Of those to whom thanks are due the following may be mentioned: Sir Herbert G. Fordham, Mrs. Alfred Watt, Rev. R. Connell, Major F. V. Longstaff, A. N. Mout, Mr. McPherson, and J. Tracey; also to various State Governments, libraries, universities, and other institutions.

In conclusion, it affords me great pleasure to testify to the untiring efforts of the staff to render the best possible service.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. FORSYTH,
Provincial Librarian and Archivist.

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