

The Honourable the Speaker presented to the Senate the Report of the Librarian of Parliament for the year 1940.

The same was then read by the Clerk, as follows:—

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT

Report of the Librarian for 1940

To the Honourable the Speaker of the Senate:

The General Librarian of Parliament has the honour to submit the Report on the Library for 1940.

The Supplementary Catalogue of books donated and purchased during 1940 will be issued early in 1941.

Through the co-operation of the Minister of Public Works very important and much needed improvements have been made in the library heating system as well as in the lighting, and the antiquated fire-protection devices have been replaced by up-to-date equipment.

Considerable relief from the congested condition of the library has been afforded through the transfer of 80,000 Sessional Papers to the new Records Building; but lack of space still remains an acute problem.

There has been a very large decrease in the vote available for the purchase of books, and war taxes have added to their cost. The strictest economy has therefore been used, especially in the purchase of lighter literature. A number of important books relating to various aspects of the war and to the special needs of Parliament have, however, been added to the Library. Despite the difficulties and hazards of ocean transportation no official papers or documents of Great Britain or the Dominions have been lost or unduly delayed.

War conditions and greatly advanced prices make it increasingly difficult to procure French books.

A list of donations will appear in the Supplementary Catalogue. It should be pointed out that many of these donations are received under the system of exchange which exists among the important libraries of the British Dominions and the United States.

Respectfully submitted,

FELIX DESROCHERS,
General Librarian.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the Table.

With leave of the Senate, and—

On motion of the Honourable Senator Dandurand, it was—

Ordered, That all the Senators present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of the Senate and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet in the Senate Chamber when and as often as they please.

With leave of the Senate, and—

On motion of the Honourable Senator Dandurand, it was—

Ordered, That pursuant to Rule 77 the following Senators, to wit: The Honourable Senators Beaubien (Montarville), Buchanan, Copp, Haig, Horsey, Meighen, Tanner, White, and the mover be appointed a Committee of Selection to nominate Senators to serve on the several Standing Committees during the present Session; and to report with all convenient speed the names of the Senators so nominated.