

were substituted for the system of lighting previously in use in the Reading Room of the Reference Department, the Chief Librarian's office, the Delivery and Receiving Room of the Circulating Department, the Reading Room, the entrance to the Circulating Department and the stairway and lobby leading to the Reading Room, at an estimated saving of some hundreds of dollars in the annual cost of lighting. So far the change has been fully justified by the marked improvement in the quality of the lighting, as well as by the saving of expense.

With a view to encouraging the use of the Reference Library, which now contains so many useful and valuable works, the teachers of some of the City Schools were, some months ago, invited to bring their classes in the evenings to the Library building, so that both teachers and pupils might avail themselves of the opportunities for study and research afforded by this Department. This move has been only experimental, but should the experiment prove successful, the Reference Department will gradually be brought into more general use by the public.

In September the Chief Librarian attended the annual meeting of The American Library Association held in Cleveland, Ohio, and on his return made an interesting report of the work done at the meeting. One of the chief advantages to be derived from attendance at these meetings is, that the Library profits by the experiments made by other Libraries in the direction of perfecting or improving Public Library methods.

The Reading Room for the unemployed was again opened during the winter months, and a large number of working men availed themselves of its privileges.

The books purchased during the year included many