

His Honour the Speaker presented to the Senate the Report of the Joint Librarians of Parliament, for the year 1917.

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

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT,

OTTAWA, 18th March, 1918.

To the Senate:—

The Joint Librarians of Parliament have the honour to report as follows for the year 1917.

The purchases for the Library during the year have been somewhat limited in character.

The range of books on the war has been wide, and probably no volume of any value has been overlooked.

In addition to the books, a large number of pamphlets has been published, of which copies (sometimes several copies) have been purchased. These are being bound for preservation.

The law books relating to the war, and to international law have been numerous.

In consequence of the great number of war-books, pamphlets and legal works, the cost of which has necessarily increased, it has been deemed advisable to economize in the purchase of books of lighter literature.

The official publications of the British Government and the United States have been procured and have been at the service of Members and of the various Commissions during the year. These publications have been numerous and have necessarily entailed much expense.

Considerable delay has, during the year, been occasioned by want of transportation, and it has been found necessary to use more frequently the cables and the mails.

No purchases have been made this year to supply the place of books lost in the fire as there would be no shelf-room for them under existing circumstances.

The Librarians understand that some space for the use of the Library will be spared in the new building. As the crowded state of the Library has long been known, and has been reported on yearly for many years, it is hoped that the space to be supplied will be, at least temporarily, sufficient.

The usual provision will be made for the rapid supply of books to Members during the Session.

Among the donations received during the year, the most notable and useful is one from the Smithsonian Institution, consisting of eighty volumes of their annual reports, to replace the set lost in the fire of 1916.

The catalogue of accessions during the year has been prepared, and will be presented as soon as it is printed.

The list of copyrights has been prepared as usual and will be found according to custom among the Sessional Papers when printed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. D. DECELLES,
General Librarian.

MARTIN J. GRIFFIN,
Parliamentary Librarian.