

special topics have been allowed to freely use, in the building, the other books in the department. However, the work is now so far advanced that type-written sheets of the books in this department will be posted on the walls of the Library within a few weeks, so that the general public may know the more valuable books the Library possesses. The placing of the Encyclopedias and Dictionaries in the Reference Reading Room, open to all without the formality of applying for them, was an excellent idea, and the many hundreds of readers who are constantly consulting these books is proof that the privilege is fully appreciated. Owing to the foregoing facts, as stated, no accurate record of the number of users of Reference Books is available ; but, as with the magazines, this is considered as of minor importance in comparison with the benefits enjoyed by the readers.

#### THE READERS.

The number of reader's or borrower's cards issued to date is 5,372. The holder of each of these cards is entitled to draw one volume at a time from the Circulating Department for home use ; but these do not by any means represent the total number of readers using the Library, as in addition to those taking books for home reading, many hundreds of readers are constantly consulting the valuable treasures of the Reference Department. Appreciating the fact that the Library belongs to the people, every effort is made to induce the people to make good use of this valuable asset. The printed catalogue is supplemented by type-written sheets of new books being posted in the Library as received ; while a card catalogue case, containing the titles of the books in the Circulating Department arranged by Subjects, under nearly 550 subject headings, stands in the Reference Reading Room, and may be consulted by any one. In addition to these aids, notices are posted prominently in the Library stating that information as to any particular book desired and assistance in directing readers to works on any subject that may be the object of special study, will be cheerfully furnished by the Librarian. Printed cards have also been hung in the rooms of the Hamilton Association, Trades and Labor Council, and other organizations, inviting the members to avail themselves of the privileges of the Library and Reading Rooms.