

## PRAYERS.

The Honourable the Speaker presented to the Senate the Report of the Parliamentary Librarian, as follows:—

## REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIAN

First Session of the twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968

To the Honourable the Speaker of the Senate

To the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons

The Parliamentary Librarian has the honour to submit his report for the Calendar year 1967. His last report was presented to both Houses on May 8, 1967, and covered the Calendar year 1966.

The Joint Committee on the Library of Parliament met once last year on December 21st, to review library matters, chiefly salary revisions.

The slow progress of Parliament's Centennial Project, publication of the House of Commons and Senate Debates for 1867-1874, was also considered, and the publication of volume I only, containing the debates of the 1st session of the 1st Parliament, November 6, 1867—May 22, 1868, was authorized.

It was also decided to close the Library on Sundays, though the House of Commons Reading Room would remain open, during the Session, from 12.00-4.00 p.m.

Previously, on February 9, 1967, our Sub-Committee to Examine the Research Branch, Automation, and Related Matters, met and considered the informative report of Mr. Philip Laundry, Chief of the Research Branch, on his operations. Members attending, in addition to the Joint Chairmen, the Hon. Sydney J. Smith, Speaker of the Senate, and the Hon. Lucien Lamoureux, Q.C., M.P., Speaker of the House of Commons, were Senator Muriel McQueen Ferguson, Mr. R. Gordon Fairweather, M.P., and M. Gérard Pelletier, M.P. In addition to the Parliamentary Librarian and Mr. Laundry, the Associate Parliamentary Librarian and the Assistant Librarian were present.

**REFERENCE AND CIRCULATION BRANCH:** Miss Simonne Chiasson, Chief.

Overall *inquiries* totalled 4,274, an increase of 603 over 1966, 1,931 more than in 1965. *Inquiries* handled by the *Clipping Service* increased by 291 to 1,029, and 5,892 copies were made, an increase of 1,101.

For example, in January, 1967, alone, 382 answers were provided, 176 to 68 Liberal Members or Liberal appointed Senators, and 206 to 74 opposition Members or Conservative appointed Senators. In addition, 53 answers were given to government departments, 11 to Embassies, 55 to letters, 38 to Senate and House of Commons staff, 7 to Royal Commissions, and 23 to members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery.

Circulation totalled 17,654, down 833 from 1966, but up 2,080 over 1965. Other libraries borrowed 346 items, we borrowed 199. Our notable collection of newspapers was used by 197 non-parliamentary persons, only 61 fewer than in 1966, although we turned our 7200 volumes of bound newspapers over to the National Library.