

greatly during the last year. In spite of this, however, it is believed that most of the books necessary for the use and need of Members of Parliament have been added to the Library.

At the recent session of the United Nations the Honourable Paul Martin, then Secretary of State, made arrangements with the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Trygve Lie, for all documents published by the organization, in both English and French, to be sent free to the Library of Parliament. We are grateful to both these gentlemen.

On 22nd May, 1946, the Joint Committee of both Houses on the Library of Parliament held a meeting and made the following recommendations:

1. That the necessary steps should be taken to redecorate the interior of the Library, and to replace by hot water the steam heating system at present in use in the central part of the Library.

2. That in order to relieve the congestion in the Library the Government consider the necessity of providing accommodation for the storage of all books and material which the Librarians consider superfluous to the present needs of the Library of Parliament. Such material could later on form the nucleus of a National Library, which your Committee felt should be located in Ottawa, and the need for which has so long been recognized.

3. That a programme of microfilming bound newspapers be inaugurated by the purchasing of a microfilm reading machine and the acquisition of the already existing microfilm editions of a number of leading newspapers.

4. That the installation of the new system of lighting, commenced last year, be completed as soon as possible.

5. That a reclassification of the staff of the Library be made by the Civil Service Commission, and that there be added to the temporary staff one trained cataloguer and one expert library typist-filer, with a view to proceeding with the partial recataloguing of books after Library of Congress methods, and also, an apprentice to be trained by the present skilled bookbinders.

The report of the Committee was adopted in the Senate on the 30th May, 1946, and in the House of Commons on the 19th June, 1946.

The Public Works Department inform us that they will soon complete the installation of the new system of fluorescent lighting in the library, and the replacement by hot water of the old steam-heating system; and also that they will proceed with the redecoration of the interior of the library.

The Librarians have made every effort, but without success, to obtain more space, not only to relieve the present congestion, but for the thousands of books which are yearly added to the library. Office room is seriously and inconveniently restricted as all available space has been taken over for books, and the staff has been obliged to use desks in the main reference room of the library which should be reserved for Members of Parliament.

Subscriptions have been entered for the microfilm editions of a dozen of the leading newspapers, and an order has been placed for a microfilm reading machine. By this means we hope to be able to save some space in the future.