

with the House of Commons. We were fortunate, however, also in March, to secure as Library Administrative Officer, Mr. W. G. Sims, B.A. He has 18 years experience with the Civil Service Commission.

HOUSE OF COMMONS READING ROOM

Mr. J. E. Desjardins retired from his position as head of this unit after almost 50 years continuous service on Parliament Hill. He was well-known and well-liked, and is missed. But we were fortunate in being able to replace him with another member of the Library staff, Mr. J. Houle, formerly Periodicals Clerk in the Library. This Reading Room's 841 newspapers, 235 periodicals, and some 4,000 novels are now serviced by three bilingual clerks.

At the request of the Joint Committee, additional important dailies are now received by air mail.

BINDERY

The three members of this section bound 1,920 volumes, 524 more than in 1965, and also repaired and stamped more books. We hope to find more space for this useful unit.

MISCELLANEOUS

Additional Space:

Requests for additional space have been made repeatedly throughout the year, and there can be few persons in the Department of Public Works in ignorance of our need. Repeated promises have been made, however, and we confidently expect that in 1967 our immediate needs will be met.

Gifts:

During 1966 a total of 970 volumes of duplicate Canadian parliamentary documents were given to six Canadian academic libraries, a larger number of volumes to the National Library, and smaller numbers to many other Canadian libraries.

As in July, 1966, the Parliamentary Librarian became the Canadian Correspondent for the International Centre for Parliamentary Documentation at Geneva much pertinent material was also provided to this organization.

Vandalism:

We note with regret that some zealous persons, during the heat of the debate on capital punishment, removed many pages from our valuable collection of British Hansards which recorded the debates on the same subject which took place there over a period of approximately 20 years. This was serious, expensive, and quite unnecessary vandalism. As xerox copies of these debates could have been readily provided, such "self-service" is deplored.

Visitors:

Many important visitors called during the year in addition to the 639,864 tourists conducted to our Library by the House of Commons Protective Staff. Not all can be mentioned in this brief report, but those from foreign countries were Mr. B. Cheeseman, Librarian, Commonwealth Relations Office, London; Mr. Athol Johnson, Assistant National Librarian, Australia; Herr Wolfgang Brockhaus, Publisher, Stuttgart, Germany; Mr. Enos Sewlal, Director, National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago; many delegates from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association; Miss Tongyod Pratoomvongs, Thammasat University Library, Bangkok, Thailand; Mr. Kahn Chima Okorie, Director, Library