

A sustained effort has been made by the Department in recent months to weed out this class of publication being imported into Canada, and success has been achieved in this direction. Collectors and other officers of the Department at the various ports are vigilant in their inspection of all imported publications, and when any doubt exists samples are forwarded to headquarters, and the Examiner of Publications in many cases consults the Commissioner of Customs and also the Minister of National Revenue.

During the calendar year 1937 the Examiner of Publications received 1,330 letters regarding alleged treasonable or seditious, or immoral or indecent publications. Individual books and magazines of an alleged immoral or indecent character submitted for reading and examination numbered 856, the total number of such publications contained in shipments being 129,583. Of the 856 alleged immoral or indecent books and other publications, 35 individual titles were officially prohibited by memoranda sent to Collectors. Many others were not permitted delivery. It may be explained that a Memorandum is sent to Collectors only when a book or magazine is likely to have a wide general circulation. Books, magazines, photographs and novelties which are obviously indecent are ordered to be seized or exported, and no memorandum is issued, as in the majority of cases their importation is not likely to be of a general character.

During January and February, 1938, the number of letters received by the Examiner of Publications under Tariff Item 1201 was 327. The number of publications submitted for examination was 199, representing importations of 36,750. Three individual titles were prohibited by official Memorandum: six seized; and 37 exported.

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