

government and 86 opposition inquiries, a total of 174, were handled. Questions also came from the Civil Service, embassies, parliamentary staff, the press gallery, and others.

Our first indexer left us to join the staff of the House of Commons Index and Reference Branch (the third staff member to do so), but we were extremely fortunate to be able to replace him with Miss Lois Nelson, formerly Chief Librarian at the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

Our Chief Reference Librarian, Miss Simonne Chiasson, and three of her staff, Mr. T. E. Monette, Mrs. T. Foster, and Mr. Louis Tarte, received the 25 year service pin inaugurated last year by the Civil Service Commission. Two Reference Librarians left, and were replaced by two experienced librarians, Miss Susan Anderson and Mr. Lloyd Heaslip. We are, however, in desperate need of an additional French Reference Librarian.

RESEARCH BRANCH: Mr. Philip Laundry, Chief.

The major improvement in library service in 1966 was made possible by filling the five vacant research positions, in effect, doubling the Branch staff. Mrs. H. Immarigeon, B.A., LL.D., Mr. E. J. Brower, B.A., an experienced economist, and Mrs. M. Wetzstein, a senior secretary, joined us in February. In July, Mr. J. A. Gatner, M.A., an experienced researcher, came, and finally, in November, Mr. M. R. Pelletier, B.A., LL.L., D.E.S.D., completed the staff.

Despite being under strength for most of 1966, this Branch quickly established itself and completed 195 projects during the year, 110 for the government benches, 64 for the opposition parties, and 21 for parliamentary associations. Only one complaint has been received by the Parliamentary Librarian. Of the 367 Parliamentarians, 68 took advantage of this new Branch. Thirteen papers were prepared for Senators. These figures should help clear up some prevalent misconceptions regarding research assistance available to Parliamentarians.

CATALOGUING BRANCH: Miss Florence Moore, Chief.

The thirteen members of this Branch catalogued and classified 14,627 volumes, an increase of 2,784 over 1965. The total number of volumes recatalogued since the fire of 1952 reached 234,031 at the end of December, 1966. Three trained librarians were added to the staff; two of these remain; Mr. D. Michaelson, and Mrs. G. Kaufman. We are in desperate need of an additional French cataloguer, however.

The most unusual item added to our collection in 1966 was, undoubtedly, a tape of the bomb explosion which occurred just outside the Ladies Gallery of the House of Commons on May 18, 1966.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Our three-man administrative section exists to assist the Parliamentary Librarian, the Associate Parliamentary Librarian, the Assistant Librarian, Branch Heads, and all other staff with personnel and financial matters. Obviously, the officer in charge of this section holds a responsible position.

We thus very much regretted the departure from our staff of Mr. Jack Bennett after 21 years service. He was well-liked and considered indispensable in the Library, but in March he accepted a position as a Clerk of Committees