

His Honour the Speaker presented to the Senate the Report of the Joint Librarian of Parliament, for the year 1918.

The same was then read by the clerk as follows.

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT.

OTTAWA, 20th February, 1919.

*To the Senate.*

The Joint Librarians of Parliament have the honour to report for the year 1918, as follows:

The remoteness of the Library from the Houses of Parliament has been remedied, this year as well as the previous year, as far as possible, by the system of motor-cycle conveyance which has seemed satisfactory, and of which we have heard no complaint.

The temporary Library at the Museum, for the use of Members, has been made useful by the addition of books of reference, in considerable numbers, as soon as they are issued. And the Statutes of Canada, and other official publications are added to the Library as soon as they are received.

The arrangements as to mail and transport of books, etc., are somewhat improved, but not yet regular; and it will probably take another season to return to normal conditions.

In the meantime, some expense is still incurred in obtaining by mail, for the convenience of members, books and reports which would ordinarily come by freight.

The sets of books obtained after the fire of 1916, to supply the place of those destroyed, are still stored, insured, in London, and cannot conveniently be imported till room has been provided for them in the Library. No addition has been made in the meantime to these purchases.

On the subject of an enlargement of the Library, report was made last year as follows:

“The Librarians understand that some space for the use of the Library will be spared in the new building. As the crowded state of the Library has long been known and has been reported on yearly for many years, it is hoped that the space to be supplied will be at least temporarily, sufficient.”

No information has been received during the year, from any source, regarding any proposed plans for increase of space. But the Librarians still entertain the hope that the plans for the new building will include more room for the convenience of members and for the storage and consultation of the books.

A considerable expenditure has been made, during the year, on law publications and other books British and foreign, concerning the war, and all the current contributions to the literature of the conflict have been procured.

The reports of the various committees and commissions so far as obtainable, have been purchased; and among others a number of copies of the Report so far as published of the Imperial War Conference of 1918.

Among the donations to the Library during the year, the following may be mentioned:—

Associated Boards of Trade of Eastern British Columbia 1900 to 1913; from Mr. J. Kemp, Rossland.

Guide to the Documents in the Cape Archives, 1652-1806; from the compiler C. S. Botha.

Catalogue of Runic Literature in the Icelandic collection of Cornell University.

Three illustrated albums describing action of the Italian Navy during the late war; from the Italian Government.

Imperial Library Catalogue; from the Government of India.

The donations include contributions of every variety from the outlying portions of the Empire, as well as from Washington and many of the Separate States.