

this Branch might have been greatly assisted by informed discussion at such a meeting. We anticipate an early meeting this year, however, to deal with this and other Library matters.

The publication of the *Selected Additions List* was continued for the benefit of Senators and Members. Three of these lists were bibliographies on Health Insurance, Capital Punishment, and Parliamentary Procedure. In September our Reference Branch also prepared a Selected Reading List related to topics on the Agenda of the Eleventh Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association held in Wellington.

An extensive bibliography of material on Gerontology in the Library of Parliament was prepared for the use of the Canadian Conference on Aging and the staff also assisted in the preparation of a bibliography of Canadian reference books being compiled by the Reference Section of the Canadian Library Association. A list of *Newspapers and Periodicals currently received by the Library of Parliament including the Reading Room of the House of Commons* was prepared and printed and is now ready for distribution.

From January 1st to December 31st, 1965, our staff answered 2,543 reference questions, and circulated 16,407 books and periodicals, including 837 to other libraries. These figures are naturally lower than those of 1964 because of the longer absence of Senators and Members from Ottawa. During the same period 11,843 volumes were catalogued and classified, which brings to 225,465 the number of volumes recatalogued since the fire of 1952.

The Vertical File and Clipping Service clips some twenty Canadian newspapers and its increasing collection covers subjects of prime interest to Parliamentarians, including themselves, especially in the fields of economics and politics. Our Xerox photocopier enables us to provide copies of clippings, articles, or pages from books, and in 1965, 35,157 copies were made.

The Parliamentary Librarian was guest speaker at the British Columbia Library Association meeting in Kelowna, B.C. in May, and also attended the Annual Conference of the Canadian Library Association in Toronto in June, a C.L.A. Council meeting in Calgary in October, and a meeting of the Institute of Professional Librarians of Ontario in Toronto in September. He continued to serve on the National Library Advisory Council, and as Chairman of the Beta Sigma Phi Canadian First Novel Award Board. Both he and the Associate Parliamentary Librarian continued to serve as Directors of the Canadian Writers Foundation.

The Associate Parliamentary Librarian served as advisor to the Honourable J. M. Dessureault, Head of the Canadian group, at the official opening of the new Headquarters of the Inter-parliamentary Union in Geneva in November, where he attended the symposium on "The Problems of Parliament Today". The Associate Parliamentary Librarian then visited the Swiss National Library in Berne, and in Paris studied the organization and services of the Libraries of the French Conseil de la Republique, and Assemblée Nationale. The Associate Parliamentary Librarian attended the Annual Meeting of the Royal Society of Canada in Vancouver in June. This year he was elected one of the twenty-four members of the Académie Canadienne Française, and at the request of the Canada Council he organized and chaired a meeting of French-Canadian poets which was held at Stanley House, New Richmond, Quebec, on July 19-23, 1965.

The Associate Parliamentary Librarian, the Chief Reference Librarian, and three other professional librarians attended the Annual Meeting of the Association Canadienne des Bibliothécaires de Langue Française in Ottawa in October.