

# DALHOUSIE MEDICAL DENTAL LIBRARY

a record of 99 years

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## Part I

The Medical School of Dalhousie University will celebrate its centennial in 1968 with a sudden up-surge of renewed energy and activity. Since 1868 it has provided training for students from New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The school's stalwart and steady contribution was given public recognition when, by unanimous agreement, it was decided that the Nova Scotia Centennial project would be the Sir Charles Tupper Medical Sciences Building which will be officially opened in the summer of Canada's Centennial year — 1967. Needless to say such a gesture has given great satisfaction and relief to the Medical Faculty which has been in need of a modern plant for a long time. So fast have demands been growing that it is now fairly certain that the building will not satisfy the needs of the School's second century. It is unfortunate that financing and building must tag years behind current requirements.

An intelligible understanding of this library's development requires a brief historical review of Canadian medical schools, of their supporting library collections, and of the medical librarians who nurtured them. The forerunner of the Dalhousie Medical School was the Halifax Medical College which enrolled its first class in 1868 through the efforts of several gentlemen, one being the Hon. Charles Tupper, a man of many parts and with an overwhelming interest in politics. By 1868, three other Medical Schools had already been established in Canada — those at McGill University (1821), Laval University (1853), and Queen's University (1854). Thirteen years after this date three others followed — University of Western Ontario (1881), University of Manitoba (1883)

and University of Toronto (1890). World War I was to end before others were established; these included the University of Montreal (1920), University of Alberta (1921) and a course for the first two years at Saskatchewan in 1926. Twenty years elapsed and the Second World War had concluded when a medical school was established at the University of Ottawa in 1945, followed by one at the University of British Columbia (1950), and the four-year course at the University of Saskatchewan (1951). Through the 1960's, action has been taken about schools at the Universities of Sherbrooke, McMaster and Calgary. The Sherbrooke School enrolls its first class in 1967 and interest is more than passing at the Memorial University of Newfoundland. Here, the Association of Canadian Medical Colleges and the Association of American Medical Colleges have provided assistance through a study Commission which was established in 1965 by Memorial University under Dr. J. A. MacFarlane, Emeritus Dean of Medicine at the University of Toronto. This Commission Report and that of the Government of Newfoundland's Royal Commission on Health Services, which

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Miss Fraser has been most active in library associations, having been President of both the British Columbia Library Association and the Pacific North West Regional Group of the Medical Library Association. She has also been Chairman and Secretary of the Canadian Library Association's Committee on Medical Science Libraries.

The second part of this article will appear in the May issue.

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was published in 1966 under the authorship of the late Rt. Hon. Lord Brain, have formed the base for planning. The appointment on 1st June 1967 of the Rt. Hon. Lord Taylor as President of Memorial University augurs well for the Centre. Lord Taylor is former Editor of *Lancet*, the oldest English language medical journal to be still publishing. With its first students possibly enrolled by 1970, the University would grant its first M.D. Degrees in 1974. The University Librarian has received large quantities of periodical back runs from co-operating libraries including Dalhousie; however, the new university library is already short of space and the recommended five-year "lead time" for an adequate medical collection will necessarily be curtailed.

A present decision is pending about a medical school for New Brunswick and, in preliminary discussion of this kind throughout Canada, one gets the impression that politics (of every variety) seems to have greater influence on whether a medical school is to be established than the actual capacity of the medical profession to operate a school which will satisfy more than minimal requirements. Accrediting committees do, in the end, assure this much; but library planning is clearly one area which is apt to receive short shrift when other expenditures must be faced.

It should perhaps be mentioned that the Dental Faculty at Dalhousie was established in 1911/12, it being one of the early Canadian schools. The first dental student had been registered through the N. S. Dental Association in 1891; the School had developed into the Maritime Dental College with 4 students by 1908. It has remained a teaching school until the present time, but plans are being laid for a greatly increased programme when the extension to the Dental School's building is completed.

With the possible exception of those at the University of Toronto and McGill, Canadian medical schools were caught unprepared for the tremendous explosion of post-war scientific research. The impact has been upsetting. Until very recent years, the Canadian schools have been largely **teaching** schools, not too heavily engaged with research programmes; and their libraries have been expected to serve both hospitals and practitioners without reasonable financing and staffing. By 1959, post-war developments were having sufficient effect on

all campuses for two things to occur which had consequences for the Dalhousie Medical-Dental Library. The Committee on Medical Education recommended to the Dalhousie Medical Faculty that a more active research programme should be developed. This policy was accepted with apparent unawareness that it would change the whole course of their library's future. It took three years before the effects of this decision became evident. The second influence was the Medical Library Association's 58th Annual Conference at Toronto in May, 1959. The theme of this conference naturally dwelt on Canada's contribution to the medical sciences. The Medical School Group was chaired by Miss Grace Hamlyn, Librarian of McGill Medical Library. For several years, two or three Canadian medical librarians had met occasionally at M.L.A. conferences but since few of the eleven were permitted to attend at the expense of their schools, and because distances were frequently very great, attendance was intermittent and the opportunity to meet regularly was lacking. Between 1953 and 1962, the librarians of McGill Medical Library and of the University of British Columbia Biomedical Library were the only regular Canadian participants at MLA meetings. When in 1957 the *Union List of Scientific Serials in Canadian Libraries* was published, the Biomedical Librarian at the University of British Columbia, whose collection was then only 6 years old and was recorded for the first time, suddenly caught the full impact via Interlibrary Loan requests of the inadequacies of other collections, many of which were decades older than her own. To the McGill Medical Library, which had been playing the role of Fairy Godmother for years, this was not news. Out of this experience, and the opportunity to learn what was happening elsewhere, the two Librarians planned an historically unique session for the Medical School Group Meeting.

For the first time eleven Canadian medical school librarians worked together to assist one of their number to prepare a paper about their mammoth problems. Of the eight who attended the Toronto meeting, the majority were meeting for the first time. It was shock treatment for many to hear a paper (1) which uncovered private skeletons before a group of some 125 knowledgeable librarians. Nonetheless, they valiantly rallied in special session to discuss what could be done about their plight.

The paper proved to be the opening move which had issue in the Association of Canadian Medical Colleges/Association des Facultés de Médecine du Canada being asked for rescue action in September 1961, the same month which saw the Royal Commission on Health Services publicly announced. Results were immediate and a series of meetings were held in Ottawa on the 8-10th February 1962. The President of ACMC/AFMC, Dean Chester B. Stewart of Dalhousie University, chaired the main meeting which resulted in the decision to sponsor a survey and which encouraged the librarians to organize themselves into an effective committee: the impetus which resulted from this first meeting of deans and librarians (together with the National Librarian, the National Research Council Librarian and the Medical Research Council's Administrative Staff) was, to put it mildly, startling.

As a consequence of prior negotiation with the Council of CLA/ACB, and through the assistance of the Association's Executive Secretary, Miss Elizabeth Morton, the Committee on Medical Science Libraries was formed even before the librarians departed from Ottawa. Miss Grace Hamlyn was named the Committee's first Chairman and by April, 1962, a Brief to the Royal Commission on Health Services (2) was submitted to the Commission in May 10th, the very day upon which Miss B. V. Simon, Assistant Librarian of McGill University Library, began her survey tour at the University of Toronto. The Survey was jointly sponsored by ACMC/AFMC and the CLA/ACB's Committee of Medical Science Libraries; but crucial support and assistance was provided by the Medical Research Council and the Special Committee on Medical Education of the Royal Commission on Health Services.

Miss Simon's visits were completed by August 1962 and the working drafts were circulating in January 1963. Although not officially published until November 1964 (3) reaction to her visits and her findings were immediate and much improvement had occurred on all campuses by the time her Report made its public appearance. The Royal Commission's Report, which arrived the following spring, included a recommendation (No. 220) that "in the provision of educational facilities for health professional personnel at research institutions, medical schools, dental schools, schools for public health and schools of nursing, adequate

library facilities must be provided, these to be financed from the Health Facilities Development Fund and the Health Professions University Grant". (4) Further support was provided in one of the Commission's special studies by way of an unequivocal statement titled *Library Resources for Medical Education and Research*. (5) It was encouraging to receive such support after many years in the wilderness. Although discussions centred around medical school library services, at no time did these librarians permit the other health sciences to be omitted. The committee was deliberately given an inclusive name and dental school librarians have been members since 1963.

The reason for this sudden concern requires yet another historical glance. In 1934-39, a respectable medium-sized library subscribed to 275 journals and held 20,000 volumes in its collection. By 1950 when the new medical library at the University of British Columbia was begun, it was generally agreed by medical librarians that a minimal core of subscriptions to serve a medical school with teaching and research programmes was 450 medical titles — discounting dental titles, gifts and exchanges — and a working collection of 30-40,000 volumes. By 1959, the basic list had risen to 700, and in 1962 the list reached 1,000 titles and a collection of 50-65,000 volumes. (6)

Carroll's contribution in 1958 (7) was beneficial in the U.S.A. but had had no effect in Canada. He stated flatly that a completely centralized university library will not prove satisfactory for the medical school unless linked by a connecting corridor. He also made the cryptic comment that a first-class library is necessary to hold to level faculty and he recommended that journal lists should run between 900-1100 titles and that collections should hold 100,000-125,000 volumes. He stated further that enrolment has little bearing on library budgets and he deplored the fact that library budgets were always the first to receive cut-backs. This kind of thinking was still foreign to most Canadian campuses in 1962 when our own Survey was begun. By 1966, the waters had calmed and such matters were being discussed without choler. At present a working collection is estimated to be 1200-1500 journals and 75,000-100,000 volumes is being recommended for a library to support a health services operation in the middle range.

**TABLE I**  
**Canadian University Medical Libraries in 1958, 1962 and 1964**

Library  
(Data for 1958 from the 1959 paper at MLA conference; data for 1962 from the Simon report; data for 1964 from the Committee on Medical Science Libraries of the Canadian Library Association.)

| Library                 | Population - Physicians of Canada |                   |                   | Serials and Monographs Number of Volumes |        |         | Current Serials Number of Titles Subscriptions: Gifts: Exch. |       |       | Total Expenditures |        |         |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--------|---------|--|-------|-------|--------------------|--------|---------|
|                         | 1958                              | 1961 <sup>2</sup> | 1958 <sup>3</sup> | 1958                                     | 1962   | 1964    | 1958   | 1962  | 1964  | 1958/9             | 1962   | 1964    |
| Atlantic Prov.          | 1,349,000                         | 1,897,415         | 1,352             |  | 30,000 | 32,000  | 384  | 490   | 806   | 16,065             | 31,628 | 54,810  |
| Dalhousie 1890          |                                   |                   |                   |  |        |         |  |       |       |                    |        |         |
| Ontario 1920            | 5,405,000                         | 6,236,092         | 7,046             | 7,908                                    |        |         |  |       |       |                    |        |         |
| Ottawa 1946             |                                   |                   |                   | 12,000                                   | 17,000 | 19,000  | 637  | 707   | 782   | NA                 | 36,170 | 41,704  |
| Queen's 1850            |                                   |                   |                   | 20,000                                   | 30,000 | 35,000  | 335  | 420   | 500   | NA                 | ....   | ....    |
| Toronto**† 1890         |                                   |                   |                   | 80,000                                   | 83,000 | 100,000 | 1,425  | 750   | 1,000 | NA                 | ....   | ....    |
| Western Ontario 1881    |                                   |                   |                   | 52,290                                   | 58,186 | 66,008  | 782  | 879   | 900   | 23,275             | 37,570 | 55,025  |
| Quebec                  | 4,628,000                         | 5,259,211         | 5,091             | 5,863                                    |        |         |  |       |       |                    |        |         |
| Laval 1852              |                                   |                   |                   | 23,000                                   | 26,533 | 32,000  | 586  | 768   | 1,100 | 25,500             | 35,630 | 66,500  |
| McGill† 1823            |                                   |                   |                   | 99,500                                   | 96,000 | 100,466 | 1,895  | 1,560 | 2,225 | NA                 | 75,725 | 127,850 |
| Montreal 1920           |                                   |                   |                   | 60,000                                   | 27,750 | 45,000  | 1,595  | 428   | 1,100 | NA                 | 53,300 | 70,889  |
| Western Prov.           |                                   |                   |                   |  |        |         |  |       |       |                    |        |         |
| Alberta† 1921           | 1,123,000                         | 1,331,944         | 1,175             | 1,280                                    | 23,416 | 28,819  | 496  | 958   | 1,509 | NA                 | 39,486 | 70,308  |
| British Columbia* 1950  | 1,399,000                         | 1,629,682         | 2,087             | 2,010                                    | 36,588 | 59,698  | 1,270  | 1,399 | 1,539 | 56,482             | 69,118 | 142,598 |
| Manitoba 1878           | 850,000                           | 921,686           | 914               | 1,033                                    | 30,416 | 34,158  | 493  | 442   | 720   | 34,005             | 36,900 | 74,310  |
| Saskatchewan 1926; 1951 | 881,000                           | 925,181           | 803               | 895                                      | 15,380 | 19,065  | 539  | 531   | 625   | NA                 | 30,350 | 39,800  |

1: Canada Yearbook 1957/8; 2: Canada Yearbook 1965; 3: AMA Directory 1958; 4: Count inconsistent — Base differed for 3 Lib.  
\* Biomedical Library and its Branch Library in Vancouver General Hospital  
\*\* Staff for entire Science and Medicine Department.  
† Dental titles included

Figures concerning staffing were not collected for the 1959 paper.  
1958/9 Budget figures taken from working paper for CLA/ACB Committee on Medical Science Libraries Brief to Royal Commission, 1962.

In 1959, Canadian medical schools were all accommodating research programmes, most of which were supported by government grants. If the interlibrary loan services of McGill, Toronto, U.W.O. and U.B.C. had been in-operative, many of these projects would have been strangled at birth. In 1960 when McGill Medical Library was forced to charge for its enormous interlibrary loan service, a shock-wave reverberated from the Atlantic Seaboard to the Rockies through dozens of laboratories and it provided a very real stimulus to the development of local collections!

So much then for a brief historical survey which is intended to elucidate the statistics immediately following.

It was hoped that the 1965/66 statistics from the annual questionnaire, submitted to all medical school libraries, would be available at this time, if only to up-date Table 1; however, we can supply only the following at present:

After the appearance of the Simon Report in 1964, steps were taken to study its recommendations and to plan necessary action. A second joint-meeting was held in February, 1965. A report of progress made since the 1962 survey was presented, and a Sub-Committee was established to study Miss Simon's recommendations and to report back concerning the location and nature of the proposed National Health Sciences Bibliographic Centre. Dr. John Firstbrook, Queen's University, chaired the Sub-Committee which tabled its report in June 1966. (8) A joint meeting of ACMC/AFMC and the CLA/ACB Committee on Medical Science Libraries convened in Ottawa on the 20th October 1966 and agreed to the recommendations in the Firstbrook Report. Especially encouraging was the recommendation that a National Health Sciences Resource Centre be established as a Division within the National Science Library in Ottawa, and the Federal Government has been asked to establish such a service. It will be a prime

**TABLE II**

|                       | Number of Volumes        | Number of Titles<br>Subscript; Gifts,<br>Exch. | Total Expenditures |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------|
| British Columbia..... | 99,844**†                | 2,660†   | \$200,000*         |
| Dalhousie.....        | 36,973**                 | 1,016  | \$ 97,975††        |
| Manitoba.....         | 35,832                   | 820  | \$ 74,310          |
| McGill.....           | 102,630<br>† Dept. Coll. | 1,823  | \$136,401          |
| Montreal.....         | 48,000                   | 1,200  | \$118,000          |

\* Centralized cataloguing costs not included

\*\* Includes dental collections

† Includes biological sciences

†† Includes \$20,000 Capital grant and \$575 special fund income for the collection

responsibility of the Centre to co-ordinate and assist with the development of regional services from coast to coast, using established health science library services as a base. One of these regional centres will be the Dalhousie Medical-Dental Library.

So much for the impact of the outside world on the local scene. What about the Dalhousie Medical-Dental Library?

It seems most fitting to take a long backward glance at its past just as it gathers strength to take a forward stride during 1967 under its new name, the W. K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library. One is unaware of self-commitment until it has been put to the test. In the reading of fifty years of Library Committee Minutes and numerous Budget Statements and Annual Reports, I have run the emotional gamut of irritation, despair, fury, exasperation, impatience, disgust, sympathy, admiration, and awe, while struggling with an inarticulate, inconsistent, and incomplete record. How does one communicate the decades of willing labour by the devoted few who, between 1868 and 1962 worked under great handicaps? It cast my thoughts back to the depression days of the 1930's, the effects of which the rest of Canada managed to throw off more quickly. It also took me back to my reading of the Vancouver Medical Association Library's Minutes dated 1906 et seq the same era, the same attitudes the same spirit, the same problems.

(To be continued)

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# DALHOUSIE MEDICAL-DENTAL LIBRARY

a record of 99 years

M. DOREEN E. FRASER

## Part II

### Halifax Medical College Library, 1868-1911

Two great political rivals sat on the Board of Governors of the Dalhousie College and University while plans were made to found a Medical Teaching Faculty which would be in communication with the College. The year was 1867, and the two men were the Hon. Charles Tupper, C.B., M.D., M.P. and the Hon. Joseph Howe, M.P. The College issued its *Annual Announcement of the Faculty of Medicine Summer Session 1868* and the Faculty commenced its first session on 4th May 1868 in the aftermath of swirling political arguments about the matter of Confederation. Did either have prescience concerning 1967? That political arguments would still be continuing about Confederation and "the little doctor" would still be making news by way of Nova Scotia's Centennial Project—the Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building.

The School's name was changed in 1874-75 to "The Halifax School of Medicine, Medical Department of Dalhousie College and University", and in 1875/76 incorporation by Act of Parliament provided the name "Halifax Medical College". In this same year it took occupancy of New College Hall at the corner of College and Carleton Streets, and its *9th Annual Announcement* proudly described its facilities which included a Reading Room and a Library. This is the first intimation that such existed. Mention is made in the 1880/81 *Announcement* that "The lecture rooms, dissecting room, Reading Room, Library, Museum, Chemical Laboratory, etc., are well lighted, ventilated and warmed, and are fitted with all the modern appliances for imparting knowledge." Fifteen years later the Library moved to a room in the

Halifax Visiting Dispensary on Brunswick Street, which was fitted for its use by the Hon. Dr. Parker. Although the collection was moved before the opening of the 1890/91 Session, arrangements were not completed until 1893-94, the School's 25th Anniversary. Outlined in the *Announcement* for 1890/91 is found:

#### *Rules for the Halifax Medical College Library*

- I. All duly registered medical practitioners of Province of Nova Scotia may use the Library subject to conditions laid down in the rules governing the same; and the library is open to students, past and present, of the Halifax Medical College subject to due regulations that will be found posted on the College notice boards.
- II. Smoking is not allowed in the Library.
- III. Under no circumstances can any book, journal or pamphlet be taken out of the Reading Room. To this rule no exception can be made.
- IV. Library will be open 10 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. and 2:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. If it seems desirable, the rooms may be open during the evenings, in the winter.
- V. Gentlemen when in the reading room are requested to refrain from conversation if others are reading. This is important because as no books can be taken away, gentlemen wishing to consult books will expect a guarantee of non-interruption from noise, else the time in the Reading Room cannot be agreeably and profitably spent.

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VI. It is expected that gentlemen shall under no circumstances cut any extract out of any journal or mark any journal or book.

Not until the 1894-95 *Announcement* is there mention of a Librarian - Dr. Carleton Jones. By then the rules had been reduced to three and the Student-in-Charge was made financially responsible for damage or loss!

In 1890, the Library received a major bequest when Dr. Cogswell willed his collection and the Cogswell Fund Bequest to the Medical Society of Nova Scotia. His will stipulated £25 for preparation of a catalogue and £1,000 "to be invested. . . and I declare the interest dividends and annual income thereof shall be applied at their [trustees] absolute discretion partly towards the salary of a librarian to the said Society and partly to such other purpose for benefit of the said Library as the said Society shall see fit. . . and I strongly recommend that it be made a rule that no book shall be allowed to be taken out of the Library without special written permission of the Trustees of the said Medical Society or other persons connected with the management of the said Library" (9).

It was agreed that the Cogswell Collection would be housed in the Halifax Medical College Library, so in 1896 the Cogswell Memorial Library moved to its quarters where repeated efforts were made to begin preparation of the Catalogue which had been stipulated by the Will. The 1902 deadline was met when Dr. J. Ross Miller managed to publish *The Catalogue of the Cogswell Library. Property of the Nova Scotia Medical Society Halifax College Building. T. C. Allen & Co., Printers and Stationers, Halifax, N. S.* This thirty-three page subject catalogue provides author, title and date for the books and a title list of journals with holdings. Dr. L. M. Murray was Librarian, Secretary and Treasurer of the Library Committee at that time. Readers will be relieved to know that books were permitted to circulate for one month, despite the request in the Will and the original library rules.

#### **Dalhousie Medical - Dental Library, 1916-1967.**

We need not delve into details; suffice to report that The Halifax Medical College closed its doors in 1911 and reopened as the Dalhousie

University School of Medicine in 1912. The Library's swan song comes in Minutes of Library Committee for 1st July 1912, when it recommended to the Medical Society of Nova Scotia that "the work of the Library had been practically suspended owing to the absorption of Halifax Medical College by Dalhousie University", suggested that the Library be closed, and that no more books be purchased until it reopened. It was agreed that the Cogswell Funds (\$4,667.67) be invested in New Brunswick Debentures of 1933, leaving \$198.99 of the original bequest for unexpected expenditures. There was also unexpended interest of \$864.82 and a credit with H. K. Lewis of £0.154.

No doubt World War 1 delayed matters considerably, for the next Minutes, which are dated 1st August 1915, dealt with the "Friendly suit for ruling of Court relative to intent of the Will." Plaintiff: Medical Society of Nova Scotia; Defendants: Governors of Dalhousie University; Judge: Mr. Justice Ritchie. By such formal and honourable means, it was settled that the Governors would own the Cogswell Library, and the Society would continue as Trustees of the Cogswell Bequest and authorized to expend income of fund toward up-keep of the Library, and otherwise for the benefit of the Library as the Society shall see fit. And so it rests today. Each year some \$250.00 has been spent on clinical monographs of use to practicing physicians. The special Cogswell Library Book Plate was introduced in 1956.

#### **Administration**

As in many medical libraries during the 19th and first quarter of the 20th Centuries, physicians ran "Do it Yourself" library services with clerical staff who worked under close instruction. To dredge through pages of Minutes, which relate that the perennial house-keeping concerns of library practice were dealt with by men who both taught and practiced medicine, lends an air of fantasy to what were serious matters—weeding, sorting, journals, purchasing supplies, acknowledging gifts, inventory, sending claims, binding, repairs, filling gaps in journal files! Pages of Minutes list decisions about what books should be bought and which journal subscriptions to add, while cataloguing backlogs, difficulties with the "Studley Business Office", binding, and overdue books monotonously dogged their days for decades because staff was inadequate.



The Library Committee was the administrative body until into the 1960's and, as with all such libraries everywhere, owes its existence to the interest and knowledge of the devoted few. Seldom have Library Committee members been so highly placed. From 1916/17 to 1954/55, the University Presidents chaired the meetings and only three wartime meetings were missed. During the succession of Medical Deans, only one meeting was missed between 1922/23 and 1961/62, surely a remarkable record. Eleven men can be called "the devoted few" for between them they contributed 136 years of committee service. Dr. E. G. Young must be given honourable mention for he became Secretary in 1924/25 and was Chairman-cum-Secretary from 1927/28 until his resignation on 20th November 1950.

Post-World War II emancipation of Librarians became evident when Miss Charlotte Allan joined the Committee in 1950/51 and became official Secretary in 1953/54. The Librarian still holds this position as an ex-officio member of the Committee which is elected by Faculty. Another break with tradition came when Mr. Douglas Lochhead, the University Librarian, attended the Committee Meeting of 1st December, 1953. He and his successors have been ex-officio members ever since.

In March 1955, several months after the appointment of Dr. C. B. Stewart as Dean of Medicine, the Library Committee was invited to discuss its constitution and frame of reference. Should it exist, how should it be organized, what would be its functions? At this time too, the Dental School is first mentioned in the Committee's records. The Dental School contributed funds for the administration of the Medical-Dental Library services, but had maintained its own Library Committee for many years. It is regrettable that its records are not available at this time.

### Librarians

Library Committee Minutes of 13th July 1916 state - "attempt is to be made to secure a librarian to prepare a catalogue of the Dalhousie University Medical Library at a salary of \$25.00 a month . . ." Minutes of 18th September 1916 reveal that Miss Louise Power was engaged to be the Librarian at \$20.00 a month

and that she was "getting special instruction from Miss Lindsay". On 26th July, 1917, leave-of-absence was granted to Miss Power to take a six weeks course at the Library School of Simmons College in Boston. These were the first and the last intelligible entries concerning their Librarians which occur in the Library Committee's Minutes. Brief comments hint at inefficiencies and dissatisfactions, therefore matters concerning the Librarians presumably must have been deliberately eliminated. The only entries subsequently recorded are requests for raise in salary, and frequent requests for more staff.

A few gleanings have been extracted from the Minutes. A successor to Miss Power "was secured" at some unspecified date. Not until her resignation is recorded in the Minutes of 18 July 1924, do we learn sex and name - Miss Florence E. Macdonald. In turn, her successor is eventually mentioned in Minutes of 28 November 1925 but only a complaint about excess of work places her name on record in the Minutes of 14 October 1929 - Mrs. J. D. Pope. She asked for a raise in 1934, and a report of her inefficiencies were submitted to the President in 1936 - and then silence. We are left guessing about Mrs. Pope's fate. Because I attended the University of Toronto Library School with Mrs. Margaret Cornell, I know that she became Librarian during the 1937/38 term. The Minutes never mention her by name, and neither her arrival nor her departure are recorded. Miss Charlotte Allan who succeeded Mrs. Cornell, bursts into history by appearing on the Library Committee for 1950/51. She became Librarian at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography shortly after. Mr. T. H. Rees became Librarian in September 1961. He resigned on 30th June, 1964 to become Librarian of the University of Cincinnati Medical School Library, and the writer was appointed to the Faculty of Medicine as Librarian on 1st July 1964.

The written records of the Library provides bleak evidence that the conditions which existed in 1962 were partly due to decades of understaffing for it had been a "one man show" until 1949. The Minutes of 14 May 1949 laconically state that "time had arrived to give Miss Allan a full-time assistant to facilitate service to staff and students", but at the same time it was agreed that the student assistants should be withdrawn from

meal hours and evenings. Not until 2 February 1953 did Miss Allan get her Assistant Librarian in the person of Mrs. James Thomson. Both Mrs. Cornell and Miss Allen laboured long, earnestly and conscientiously to produce a miracle of service under circumstances which were difficult. Their particular contribution will not be equalled again.

Through the depression thirties one can understand such difficulties, but from 1945 they become increasingly difficult to fathom. At the time of the Simon Survey in 1962, the staff numbered four. It increased to five in July 1964, and by December 1966 stands at thirteen full-time staff augmented by part-time assistants. There will be a further substantial increase during the 1967-68 budget.

### **Budgeting**

Over the years, the budget has shown little relationship to publication output or to current prices. This is particularly true since 1945. There are few meaningful figures between 1916-1920/21 without resorting to archival sources. By 1921/22 the budget expenditures totalled \$3,090.66, in 1924/25 it reached \$4,627.00. It never reached this figure again until 1948/49. Book expenditures reached their highest peak in 1929/30 - \$545.86, a figure not passed until 1940/41 when \$589.38 was spent. The next high point was 1946/47 - \$714.15, and then \$1177.99 in 1955/56. This kind of spending makes painful reading. Following the 1956/57 expenditure of \$2046.49, there was a low in 1960/61 - \$652.91, and 1956/57 was not surpassed until 1965/66 when the budget reached the more comforting figure of \$5,450.00 plus a capital grant of \$4,000. With medical book prices averaging \$15.00 to \$19.00 over the past 10 years, one can understand why a large monetary transfusion has become a necessity. Five years ago, it was estimated that a reasonable book budget for Medical School Libraries with research programmes was \$10,000.

As for the journals, which usually account for 90% of medical library circulation statistics, the situation was equally uncomfortable. The subscription list reached a peak of \$1,641.33 in 1933/34, two years before the Library's funds vanished altogether, and after the 1926/27 high of \$1,055. Not until 1952/53 would

this figure be passed when the budget item reached \$2,000. Between 1953/54 and 1961/62, when the U.B.C. Biomedical Library budget figures for medical journals jumped from about \$10,000 to roughly \$17,000, the Dalhousie subscription list hovered between \$2,248 (1954/55) and \$3,442.99 (1957/58). The Simon Survey had an immediate effect for thereafter the figures read: 1962/63 - \$6,046.00; 1963/64 - \$7,616.00; 1964/65 - \$8,500.00; 1965/66 - \$16,800.00; 1966/67 - \$23,180.00, and will reach \$32,000.00 by 1967/68 before the subscription cost levels off. In the 1964/65 budget a special item for reference and bibliographic materials was initiated. In three years, capital funds totalling \$33,900 will have been spent on bibliographic materials and operative funds amounting to \$6,300 on reference materials and documents.

From these figures it can be safely concluded that Dalhousie University's Medical School is making a determined effort to catch up rapidly.

### **Financing**

Survival would have been impossible for many years without the financial contribution to the annual budgets by a Rockefeller Foundation donation of \$3,600 in 1925, and that of the Carnegie Foundation. Between 1939/40 and 1952/53, Library reports record the expenditure of Carnegie funds to be \$26,586.32. There are no figures for a four-year period so that this total could well stand \$10,000 higher.

Federal Mental Health grants have provided approximately \$300 a year since 1952/53 to build a good psychiatry collection, the only strong subject collection possessed at the time of the Simon Survey in 1962, and still the strongest.

Local monetary support has been limited. Only one sizeable contribution is recorded since 1916—\$500 from the Estate of Dr. Alexander Ross in 1942/43. The Cogswell Fund has already been mentioned. The Medical Society of Nova Scotia has never been asked to increase this annual contribution above \$250 despite the decrease in buying power which has occurred during the intervening 50 years because the Society has contributed stalwart support in many ways to the medical school's teaching programme.

In 1931, the Provincial Medical Board initiated a gift of \$100 to purchase books not already in the collection for the use of clinicians. From 1934/35 to 1937/38 it made an annual contribution of \$25.00. By 1938/39 it was \$196.19 and has varied from \$337.65 to \$74.00. In 1940, this annual contribution was named the MacDougall Memorial Library Grant and a legal agreement was signed on 7th May 1941. It has currently been running at \$250 a year for some time. Books purchased by means of this grant carry a special bookplate. The Board has also contributed to the School for other projects.

The medical collection has been scarred by wars and depressions. Nothing has driven home the "Maritime Condition" more quickly than to discover the frugality and stoicism revealed in the Library Committee's Minutes and the reports of the Librarians. The quiet suffering over the long, long years makes the reading an educational and emotional experience. There has been recent realization that more adequate financing is necessary for regional services throughout the Maritime Provinces and a study has just begun.

It must be obvious from earlier comments about current budgeting for books and journals, that unprecedented changes have occurred since the Simon Report—not only in funding but in attitude. In 1964/65, a five-year development programme was roughed out—China and Russia are not the only five-year planners! The plan is now moving through its second year with the pace quickening rapidly. A crash programme looms ahead for the next two years which will provide the Library with a sound working medical research collection. Substantial financial assistance has been made available for Medical School development programmes as a result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Health Services. In mid-December 1966 it was finally ruled in Ottawa that libraries are included in the definition of the term "Medical School Facilities" and thereby become eligible to receive Health Resource Fund grants. The Dalhousie Medical School forced an interpretation of the definition by its application for a grant of \$360,000 to develop its collection, at which time it had to guarantee an additional 25% of the funds being requested. The grant was approved in late February 1967 which means that

there will be 22 months in which to spend \$500,000, thereby adding some 20,000 volumes to the collection. Four-fifths of the grant will be spent on journal files mostly published since 1945, if these files are available for purchase, and on bibliographic materials. The Library could well find itself in the awkward position of having the funds but not being able to purchase what it requires. There are twenty-seven medical school building collections at the present time.

### Depression and War

The stock market crash of 1929 ushered in the depression years which led to the Library's searing crisis in 1935. The Minutes of 30 September state baldly that the University Library Grant was abolished - except for salaries. To salvage the journal collection, the Library Committee decided that they would attempt to maintain the subscription list by private donation. Towards this effort, President Stanley contributed fifty dollars, Dr. H. B. Atlee volunteered to approach members of the clinical Faculty, while Dr. E. G. Young offered to contact basic science Faculty members. The tragedy sharpens when one knows the Dalhousie University salary levels at that time. One year later the Minutes report the Faculty Emergency Fund to have collected \$1,219.53 in cash and a canvass of all medical graduates produced gifts or loans of journals as follows: Medical Faculty - \$543, Board of Governors - \$320, Medical Alumni - \$590. This produced a remarkable overall total of \$2,672.53 in the depths of the depression, and so the Library was rescued. By October 1937, the subscriptions to English language journals had been reinstated but there were many gaps to fill.

Meanwhile library quarters were proving inadequate once more. In 1927, the Library had been forced to move into the Forrest Building which was near the Public Health Clinic Building, but early in the 1930's pressure increased for new quarters. Dr. H. B. Atlee and Dr. D. Mainland had much to do with the planning and supervised much of the preparation for the new building. When the tapestry brick Library Building opened its doors in 1939 with seating for 90 readers, it was not only a proud occasion, it was a fortuitous event. Very few would have foreseen that its first six years of service would contribute so extensively to Canada's war effort.

In September 1939, Churchill's voice was heard on that fatal Sunday morning announcing that Britain had declared war on Germany. Before long, into the small, ill-prepared city of Halifax and into the Maritimes, there poured the concentration of armed services which were required for the defence of Canada's eastern shores and for the convoy Support and Escort Groups which guarded the "Triangle Run" (Boston, Halifax, St. John's) and the "Atlantic Run" to the U.K. In addition, thousands of service personnel were collected regularly in Halifax for transport to Europe.

Mrs Cornell wrote two reports about the war years. In the plain, factual words written for her Library Committee, her heroic effort to serve the Medical Officers of the Navy, Army and Air Force and those visiting this East Coast Port shines through. No restrictions were placed on their use of the Library's materials. The daily count of readers in her Library climbed from a normal term-time average of 26 to an all-round year average figure of 40 a day, 53 a day in term-time. Attendance rose from 8,015 in 1940/41 to 15,239 in 1943/44. Local circulation bounced from about 800 in the mid-thirties to 2,617 in 1939/40 and 4,488 in 1942/43. This figure was not surpassed until 1949/50. In addition, there were the extra wartime refresher courses, and the 4-year medical course crammed into three years for the duration of the War. She also served Medical Service personnel at the various bases throughout the Maritimes. Mail service jumped from 88 items in 1938/39 to a high of 339 in 1943/44, which was not passed until 1954/55, this in turn not being surpassed until 1964/65.

War-time service hours included the entire day, every evening, all weekends, and holidays. The Library's traditional closing for both meal hours ceased and it only closed its doors for Christmas Day and New Year's Day. For six years, Mrs. Cornell carried on this magnificent effort. She accomplished this with the help of Student Assistants. She reported great difficulty fitting in her lunch hour, and that for much of the time the Library could not be left to students as they could not assist with reference services. It is just as well that civilian practitioners did not increase the use of her services - she couldn't have done much more. At any rate, these men were driven to exhaustion through the depletion of numbers of physicians in their communities, so that in-

creased use of the Library was too much to expect. It is staggering to consider these figures and envision the labour, both mental and physical, which they reflect. This incredible record received no recognition in the Library Committee's Minutes, but happily, service officers voiced their appreciation. The Committee must have taken this service for granted, for there is no evidence that it was thought necessary to give the Librarian additional assistance or to record recognition of her effort. Only a few librarians in Canada could have matched her record.

### Post-War Developments

In August 1945, World War II ended and the Library closed once more for meal hours. Little change seems to have occurred in habits, in attitudes, in understaffing, or in budgeting. Not until October 1961, when Mr. T. H. Rees became Librarian was there the decision that the Librarian could order books. Though there were certain restrictions, this ended decades of herding on the part of the Library Committee to persuade the Departments to spend their miniscule book funds. In addition, the Library Committee was informed by Dean Stewart at its meeting of 4th December 1962 that it would function hereafter in an advisory capacity and that the Librarian as a Department Head would be responsible to him for the administration of the Library. This policy continues.

The historic meeting called by ACMC/AFMC for February 1962 in Ottawa received brief mention at a November Committee Meeting in 1961, but no mention was made of Miss Simon's visit during the summer of 1962, and no subsequent reports were made by or requested from the Librarian for record in the Minutes. On the 10th May 1962, the first reference to library activities beyond the region's boundaries is entered, so that it is not surprising that the Simon Report came as something of a shock. Until this point, the Faculty were accustomed, only to consider standards for the School's teaching programmes and its teaching hospital services. The Librarians had rarely attended Medical Library Association meetings, so that the 1959 Medical School Group Meeting in Toronto was a red letter day when Miss Allan and several other librarians put in an appearance.

On the North American continent, many medical school libraries which had been established in the 19th Century possessed, by the 1960's, collections which were well over 100,000 volumes. Many of these had been supporting research programmes years before World War II, if not from the time they opened their doors. By an extenuated stretch of statistics and a considerable whiff of imagination, Canada had produced two collections out of seven possibilities which managed to pass the 100,000 mark by 1962 - McGill University and the University of Toronto. Three trailed badly at 30,000 volumes - Dalhousie, Manitoba and Queen's, while Laval held 26,533. Not until after 1945 did these latter Schools undertake research programmes of any size. Even by 1961/62, research grants on many campuses were not large. The Medical Faculty's decision in 1959 to develop a more active research programme at Dalhousie University was just beginning to show an effect by 1961/62. The speed with which development took place is indicated by the fact that the School's research funds reached \$1,300,000 by 1965/66.

**Canadian Medical School Research Grant Funds 1961/62**

**Atlantic Provinces**

Dalhousie.....\$ 357,126

**Quebec**

Laval..... 481,453  
 McGill..... 1,878,962  
 Montreal..... 800,000  
 -----  
 \$3,160,415

**Ontario**

Ottawa.....\$ 240,495  
 Queen's..... 800,000  
 Toronto..... 1,250,000  
 Western Ontario..... 696,263  
 -----  
 \$ 2,986,753

**Western Provinces**

Manitoba.....\$ 893,456  
 Saskatchewan..... 421,718  
 Alberta..... 780,000  
 British Columbia..... 1,162,135  
 -----  
 \$3,257,309

Source: Simon Report, Table VIII, p. 102.

Miss Simon reported that the Dalhousie Medical Library owned a better pre-1939 collection than it did a post-1945 . . . one (3) At present, the Dental School collection remains a teaching collection, but plans for an extension of the present building will allow for increased post-graduate education and research activities which will affect the collection immensely. The collection now expands at the rate of approximately 200 volumes a year and contains 4,400 volumes.

**Book Collection**

Nova Scotia doctors have willed their private collections to the Library time and again, the latest being Dr. Ian MacKenzie, Head of the School's Department of Surgery, who died in October, 1966. Many physicians have donated books and journals regularly during their lifetime. These contributions obviously are both welcome and greatly needed. From time to time the Faculty held rigorous weeding sessions. In 1935, 1938, 1944 and 1951, sizeable quantities ranging from 378 to 700 volumes were discarded. From a reference service point of view, one wonders what was pitched out. It certainly explains in part the low volume count, and why Miss Simon could state that the collection contained the least dead wood of any she had examined (3).

**Journal Collection**

The heart of a medical or dental collection is its journal files, so that close attention is always paid to this aspect of any such collection.

Year by year the subscription list was gradually built up a few titles at a time and carefully back-filed. By 1921, there was a decision, to buy the German and French physiology and biochemistry journals. These were back-filed in strength and provide a sturdy foundation for the collection today. Some of these scarcely ever appear now on the current market and if so they command fantastic prices. One is in the Cadillac class currently valued at \$9,600.

By 1925, Committee Minutes noted the switch in emphasis from books to journals, and by 1928 there began the ever recurring complaint about the rising cost of subscriptions and the unpopular habit which the German

publishers still have in 1967 of adding extra volumes. In 1934 as the Depression deepened, it was noted with relish that German prices had been slashed 34%. Even so, this did not prevent the need to drop these subscriptions in 1935/36. Fortunately, the gifts from doctors enabled funds to be spent on other than basic clinical journals for a period of time.

The Second World War affected libraries everywhere, but in view of the role that this small Library played in the conflict, the loss of journals was even more acutely felt. Prices after 1945 skyrocketed - and are still doing so. Following the Simon study, the Faculties have twice revised the subscription list - in February 1964 and again in the summer of 1966. The result of improved financing has not only increased subscriptions sharply, it has also boosted the spirit of the Faculty.

#### Dalhousie Medical-Dental Library Journal Titles

|         | Purchased     | G & E    | Total |
|---------|---------------|----------|-------|
| 1963/64 | Med. 327      | 208      | 535   |
|         | Dent. 39      | 47       | 86    |
| 1966/67 | Med. 890 app. | 287 app. | 1,177 |
|         | Dent. 57 app. | 67 app.  | 124   |

When the present sprint finishes with the 1967/68 Budget, the subscriptions list will contain about 1200 titles and the gift and exchange list about 350. The dental titles will continue to be added at a regular pace.

Not only are the major foreign language titles now included in the collection, but attention has been paid to the control of the literature through review journals and series - very much a post-1950 phenomenon.

Miss Simon's Report pointed up weaknesses in many Canadian collections in this area (Table VII, p. 101). From a check-list of 103 titles, the following are the figures for the two highest and the two lowest percentage figures:

|           |                  |       |
|-----------|------------------|-------|
| U.B.C.    | 88 (complete 67) | 85.4% |
| Alberta   | 62 (complete 40) | 60.1% |
| Ottawa    | 62 (complete 41) | 60.1% |
| Dalhousie | 29 (complete 17) | 28.1% |
| Montreal  | 28 (complete 27) | 27.1% |

The list of review titles has lengthened considerably since 1962, so that the fact that the Dalhousie collection now contains 82 review titles does not equate it with the 1962 figures, but at least it shows a healthy improvement.

#### Reference and Bibliographic Collection

In the Minutes of 18th September, 1916 the first title on the first list of journals recommended for purchase was the *Index Medicus* which showed acute judgement about its value compared with the *Quarterly Cumulative Index to Medical Literature* which was added to the list on 13th December, 1918. The tragedy of the situation was that the purchase of the *Index Medicus* was postponed until 1923. This sets the picture for the development of the Library's Reference Collection. During the Depression, four abstract series were dropped before any of the journals, and these were never picked up again. This lack of understanding about bibliographic materials is to be found in many libraries. Once again, the Simon Report pointed out the extreme weakness of several Reference Collections. From a list of 95 Index and Abstract Services, the two highest and two lowest figures are produced from the Table VII:

|           |                         |       |
|-----------|-------------------------|-------|
| U.B.C.    | 79 titles (57 complete) | 83.1% |
| McGill    | 60 titles (53 complete) | 63.1% |
| Dalhousie | 29 titles (18 complete) | 30.5% |
| Manitoba  | 17 titles (9 complete)  | 17.8% |

Since 1962, the introduction of computers has influenced the production of bibliographies. Medicine always has maintained the best bibliographic control of its literature of any subject field, although one must admit that one single service - *Chemical Abstracts* - holds a unique position and has no peer of its kind. The number of available titles has greatly increased, so that the Dalhousie collection now receives 121 indexes, abstracts and running subject bibliographies to help its patrons compass the tide of the literature flow. Many of these titles are gifts and available for the asking. Investment in this part of the collection has been sizeable and inevitable. Research programmes make demands which teaching ones do not. The next part of the programme will be an educational one - how to use this material. Eventually we shall turn to computer searching of MEDLAR'S tapes.

## History Collection

During the 1924/25 and 1925/26 sessions, the Osler Medico-Historical Club donated sixteen volumes to the Library which created the nucleus of a History Collection. Imprint dates ran from 1483 to the 17th Century. In 1928, those books having historic value were removed from the general collection and set aside with the Club's gift. This Collection now contains some 500 volumes. The works of John Abernethy, Matthew Baillie, T. Lauder Brunton, William Cullen, Charles Darwin, Morgagni, Alexander Munro, Sir William Osler, and Thomas Sydenham, are represented, to mention only a handful of the notable authors whose writings are represented. There is no "Friends of the Library" group to support the Collection at present and no funds in the current Budget to support it. With the School's Centennial Celebration in 1968, it is anticipated that some interest in this aspect will be developed. A History Room has been included in the W. K. Kellogg Library and office space has been provided for a Professor of the History of Medicine who has yet to be appointed. Of tremendous value to the Collection are the long journal files running back into the 19th Century. Certain bibliographic services and reference materials have been acquired recently to assist the development project which has

been launched. Fifteen thousand dollars will be spent to develop a working collection for general use from the Grant which has already been mentioned.

## Public Services

Traditionally, the services provided by the Staff to the Faculty and the physicians of Halifax have been those of a private medical society library where fee-paying members could demand certain services and receive them—but no fees were paid. For better or for worse, this type of service disappeared from most medical school libraries during World War II, and now the majority of these libraries provide "Quick Reference" and "Short Search" services only. If patrons wish bibliographic searching done in depth or breadth, then the libraries are either specifically staffed and financed to provide such services for a fee or patrons do their own searching. At Dalhousie, the demand for searching services, verification of references, and the paging of material left the small staff with little time for fundamental housekeeping duties. Needless to say the recent switch towards self-service has been rather a trial, but human nature is adaptable and adjustments come in due course. When staffing permits, regular Information Services will be restored. It is hoped that this will be possible

when the new library opens for the 1967/68 term.

The Dalhousie Medical School teaching methods have been under study during the last three years. Early in 1966, the Committee on Medical Education submitted its final report to Faculty concerning new teaching methods and subject inter-relationships which have developed since 1955 when a previous study was made. The Faculty has approved the Committee's recommendations which will mean an increase in the use of workshops, seminars, study-in-depth, and an increased emphasis on research methods. Needless to say, this will place the Library in the centre of the teaching system as a laboratory. As both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes are extended, the bibliographic collection will be used to the full. Mrs. Cornell introduced didactic bibliographic instruction for medical and dental students in 1939 and this was carried through Mr. Rees' incumbency. It is hoped that a different approach to teaching bibliographic techniques can be introduced as the new teaching programme gets underway, one which will be carried out jointly between Faculty Departments and the Librarians.

#### Regional Service to the Atlantic Provinces

A valiant effort was made by Miss Charlotte Allan in 1953 to recommend a properly planned, financed and staffed service in the Atlantic Provinces (10). At the request of Dean Grant, she prepared a report concerning Extension Service for the Committee meeting of 11th March 1954. It was decided that copies should be distributed to all Medical Societies in the four Atlantic Provinces to get

their reactions. One gathers that the reaction was nil for the Report was never discussed again. Like so many instances elsewhere—where there's a price tag, and no proselytizing in advance, the results will be negative.

Information about service to the physicians throughout the four Atlantic Provinces is sketchy perhaps because several cartons of records are stored at this time and there is no access to them. Service has chiefly taken the form of extramural loan mail service but a certain amount of bibliographic searching has been done regularly. Considering the number of physicians in the region, the Library has never been heavily used in peacetime but the use of the services has gradually been increasing and at times has weighed heavily because the Library has never been specifically staffed to provide such service.

Annual regional circulation statistics have been summarized as follows: the 1930/31 - 1938/39 statistics ran between 30-88; these climbed to 106 in 1939/40 and to 339 by 1943/44, then declined to 214 in 1946/47; during the next five years they never passed 150; in 1953/54 they increased to 235, and in 1954/55 reached 448, thereby reflecting the success of the continuing medical education programme; statistics for 1956/57 - 1959/60 are lacking; in 1960/61 they hit a high of 566; none has been found for 1961/62 - 1962/63. Since 1964 no attempt has been made to publicize these services beyond providing 40 hospitals with the Library's current Acquisitions lists which were instituted in October 1965.

Service statistics for the last three years are as follows:

|               | Material |        |        | Xerox Copy (Sheets) |        |        |          |        |         |
|---------------|----------|--------|--------|---------------------|--------|--------|----------|--------|---------|
|               | 1963/4   | 1964/5 | 1965/6 | 1963/4              | 1964/5 |        | 1965/6   |        |         |
| Halifax Area  | 12       | 61     | 75     | ?                   | *594   | (7368) | 74       | (2496) |         |
| New Brunswick | 42       | 48     | 39     | 13                  | (58)   | 12     | (58)     | 11     | (163)   |
| Newfoundland  | 30       | 8      | 13     | 9                   | (139)  | 22     | (112)    | 9      | (82)    |
| Nova Scotia   | 89       | 141    | 225    | 32                  | (126)  | 213    | (2291)   | 75     | (769)   |
| P. E. I.      | 32       | 10     | 6      | 3                   | (13)   | .....  |          | 41     | (395)   |
|               | 205      | 268    | 358    | 57                  | (336)  | 841    | (10,660) | 210    | (3,805) |

\* "Off-Campus" interpreted strictly: 1965/6 figure excludes Teaching Hospital Personnel and Faculty.



An interesting example of a regional medical library service is that of the British Columbia Medical Library Service administered by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia in conjunction with co-operating hospital libraries. When the premises and the collection of the Vancouver Medical Association Library were transferred to the College in 1960, it began with a staff of four, a central Budget of \$36,360.00 and a Regional Budget of \$18,840.00. The statistics for its trial-run

years of 1960 and 1961 together with those for 1965 are provided (11). Two years of concentrated preparation went into planning the Service before it began. Since 1962, local collections in many hospitals have been created or improved throughout the entire province and the Service has expanded rapidly. This Service was operating successfully when the University of British Columbia's Continuing Medical Education programme began to gather momentum in 1962/63.

### B. C. Medical Library Service

|        |  | Circulation |      |      | Ref. Service |      |
|--------|--|-------------|------|------|--------------|------|
|        |  | 1960        | 1961 | 1965 | 1961         | 1965 |
| Zone 1 | Lower Vancouver Island<br>(Victoria Med. Soc. has its own library) | 70          | 72   | 206  | 31           | 58   |
| Zone 2 | Upper Vancouver Island   | 152         | 146  | 344  | 30           | 87   |
| Zone 4 | Fraser Valley  | 458         | 442  | 872  | 93           | 360  |
| Zone 5 | Okanagan Valley  | 316         | 565  | 731  | 57           | 151  |
| Zone 6 | Kootenay Valley  | 162         | 85   | 382  | 17           | 105  |
| Zone 7 | Prince Rupert/Prince George  | 104         | 221  | 725  | 43           | 119  |
|        |  | 1262        | 1531 | 3260 | 271          | 880  |

Zone 3 omitted - North Vancouver, West Vancouver, Vancouver City.

In the mid-1950's, the W. K. Kellogg Foundation funds permitted the Dalhousie School of Medicine to initiate a pioneer experiment in continuing medical education which would take teaching programmes to the practitioners throughout the Atlantic Region. This programme obviously had an effect on the use of the Library as the statistics indicate. So successful has the Continuing Medical Education Programme been, that the School is about to shift into a second phase by using certain Regional Hospitals in its teaching programme. It is at this stage that regional library service becomes particularly important. Because the Dalhousie Medical Library has always provided library service to physicians throughout the Region, the W. K. Kellogg Foundation contributed U. S. \$425,000 in 1965 towards the Library's new quarters in the Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building. In the planning of it, space has been assigned for staffing a regional service and for housing the necessary collection so that the W. K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library could be the base from which a service could be administered. Local

working collections would be developed in all community hospitals which participate in the School's teaching programme, and in any other hospitals which wish to be included. Needless to say, much planning and co-operative financing would have to go into the launching of such a service, at a time when new developments such as long distance xerography and communication via linked computers provide some interesting and promising prospects for regional medical library services to use a few years hence. A report on a proposed Regional Service for the Health Sciences is presently being studied and should result in preliminary discussions with various key administrations before too long. There is hope that initial steps can be taken by 1968/69.

### The W. K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library

The Dalhousie Medical-Dental Library will move from its old three-storey house during July 1967 and in the process of transferral to its new quarters will be transformed to the

W. K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library. Faculty planning has shifted so rapidly since the erection of the Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building began in September 1965, that one Faculty member cheerfully predicted that the Library might be evicted before too long and that it would be necessary to plan another one!

With 20,000 square feet of floor space, the stack capacity is 100,000 volumes and the seating capacity about 170. The Dental Faculty and the Faculty of the Health Professions, which includes Pharmacy, Nursing, Physiotherapy and Physical Education, will both be providing libraries and setting aside study areas for their students in their new buildings which are scheduled to be built in two or three years time. Medical students will have their own individual study cubicles and use a 24-hour study room located close to the Library so that it is hoped that the latter will be used mainly for library purposes. In department reading rooms, postgraduate fellows will have study quarters provided throughout twelve floors of the Building, so that the Library's seating facilities should suffice for some time. There is an assortment of group studies, closed carrels, and open carrels available apart from single study desks. In anticipation of the future, the Library is equipped to handle Telex and a computer station. There will be Xerox service by a staffed Xerox 720 machine and a coin-operated Xerox 914. Decor will be modern, the ground floor will be carpeted, and considerable use will be made of colour and textures to provide relief from the laboratory and hospital atmosphere in which patrons spend so many hours.

And so as the Library prepares to step into its second century of service to the health sciences community, a metamorphosis will have been accomplished climaxed by the unique juxtaposition of two Centennial celebrations 1967 and 1968 in a row.

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