

THE TOWN OF FLIN FLON

PUBLIC LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

1958

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To: The Chairman of the Board  
Flin Flon Public Library

The glowing terms of your own report recently made to the Town Council, Mr. Chairman, reflected the pride of those connected with the library in its rapid growth during the first eight months of its existence. Perhaps it would not be amiss, in this first report of a Librarian to the Flin Flon Public Library Board, to review briefly the events leading up to the present encouraging conditions.

#### HISTORY

A glance at the minutes of the District Council of the Home and School Association for the past several years shows what an active interest that organization took in the establishment of a Library. From the first tentative suggestions, through the trial of summer libraries from the University of Manitoba Extension Library, to the drawing and circulation of a petition, and to the presentation of this petition to the Council in April of 1956, the Home and School Association was the guiding force. It was no doubt most gratifying to its members when a Town by-law providing for the establishment of a Public Library was passed by a large majority at every poll in October of 1956.

The first Library Board was appointed in January of 1957, and had as its members:

O. F. Wright, Q. C. - Chairman  
Mr. J. B. Kines - Principal of Hapnot Collegiate  
Mr. G. Folkestone - member of the Flin Flon Town Council  
Mrs. R. Hopkinson  
Mrs. A. R. Fraser, who resigned in May of 1958 to become assistant librarian, and who was replaced by  
Mrs. R. A. McLachlan

Mrs. Hopkinson, Mrs. Fraser, and Mrs. McLachlan had all worked actively with the Home and School Association in its attempts to establish a Library.

During 1957, the preliminary work necessary in such an undertaking was done, and in December, 1957, a librarian was engaged and arrangements were made for her to proceed to Winnipeg in the new year where, under the supervision of the Provincial Librarian, she and librarians from Russell, Souris and Transcona ordered and processed the books.

In the meantime, the Board had arranged for the location of the Library in a 27' by 55' room in the newly completed Community Centre. Shelves for 4000 books were installed, a circulation desk was constructed, and reading tables and chairs were arranged.

#### OPENING

The Library was officially opened the evening of Wednesday, May 7th, 1958. Miss Marjorie Morley, the Provincial Librarian, had come several days earlier so that she could assist in the final arrangements, and here, as before and after the opening, her advice and help were invaluable.

The Mayor of Flin Flon, the President of the Community Club, a representative of the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company, the President of the District Council of the Home and School Association, and the representative of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League each spoke briefly. Representatives of many other organizations were present, including the Chairman of the School Board, the Senior Pin and Senior Stick of the Collegiate, and students from the public schools.

Miss Morley, on behalf of the Minister of Libraries, turned the key and the Library was open for public inspection.

#### LIBRARY SERVICE

For rules and regulations see Appendix 1 attached.

#### BOOKS

Children's, Young People's, and Adult sections of the library were desired. From the beginning, children and young people have been the most enthusiastic borrowers, and it has been a problem to process enough books to keep their shelves filled. On opening day, approximately 1200 books were on the shelves. By the end of the year some 3450 had been processed. The Flin Flon Community Club, which had formerly maintained a small lending library, allowed us to choose as many books as we wished from its stock. We selected some 500 books. The Ukrainian Self-Reliance League was anxious to have a Ukrainian language section, and established one with the gift of 70 books and a number of pamphlets. The Girl Guide Association donated a number of books of particular interest to Guides and Brownies. In addition, private individuals of Flin Flon and Winnipeg were most generous with gifts from their own libraries.

The books have been catalogued according to the Dewey Decimal classification. Paper jackets have been covered by plastic jackets, and this has proved to be well worth the approximate ten cents which it adds to the cost of the book. The older books were shellacked.

#### PERIODICALS

Some 25 magazines and periodicals have been subscribed to, and placed in a magazine rack.

#### REFERENCE SECTION

Our reference section is being used more frequently each day. Its includes the Encyclopedia Britannica, the Canadiana (a gift from James Richardson & Sons Ltd.), World Book, Canadian and World Almanacs, and at least one reference volume on a variety of subjects.

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS

The two local papers and the local radio station have been most generous in giving us space and time. The circulation is so gratifying that

we have not felt it necessary to encourage people to borrow books. However, when time permits, we hope to begin a series of book reviews in the papers.

The Librarian has taken book displays to several Home and School meetings, and has spoken briefly at each.

#### FINANCIAL PICTURE

See Appendix 11.

#### CIRCULATION

On opening day, 240 borrowers cards were signed. By December 31st, some 2382 were borrowing books. Of these, 108 are residents of the neighboring communities of Creighton, Sask., and Denare Beach, Sask. Two residents of the Manitoba community of Cranberry Portage, forty miles distant, come twice a month to get books, and have yet to be late in returning them.

The average daily circulation had reached 176 in October and November, and 154 in December. The largest circulation thus far was 290.

#### STAFF

Librarian - Mrs. G. V. Watson, B. A.

Assistant Librarian - Mrs. A. R. Fraser, a member of the original Board.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Library has been the recipient of a number of gifts, including a framed picture of Her Majesty, the Queen, from the I. O. D. E.

The help given by Miss Marjorie Morley, the Provincial Librarian, is gratefully acknowledged. Miss Morley still assists in the selection and cataloguing of books, and gives generously of her time and advice whenever it is requested.

#### CONCLUSION

The Librarian has enjoyed very much her year of association with the Library and the Library Board. Although the work has perhaps been more arduous than she had anticipated, this has been more than compensated for by the thought that she has been of some assistance in the beginning of such a worthwhile enterprise.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. Watson  
(Mrs. G. V. Watson, Librarian)  
FLIN FLON PUBLIC LIBRARY

December 31, 1958

## APPENDIX 1

### FLIN FLON PUBLIC LIBRARY

WELCOME -----

You have just registered as a borrower at your Public Library. The regulations listed below have been made with a view to providing the best possible service at all times. May we urge you to keep this sheet handy - you will help us to help you.

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#### Regulations and Information.

1. Registered Adult borrowers may take any 2 books of their choice, and Boys and Girls may borrow any 2 at a time, from the Boys and Girls section of the Library.
2. Regulations Governing the Loan of Books and Periodicals:
  - (a) All New Fiction and Mysteries may be borrowed for a period of two weeks.
  - (b) In the Boys and Girls Department of the Library, all books may be borrowed for a period of two weeks. If renewal is desired the borrower must appear with the book and his or her borrower's card; no renewals can be made by telephone.
  - (c) All Magazines and Periodicals may be borrowed for two weeks but may not be renewed unless the borrower appears with his or her card and the magazine. This does not apply to current periodicals which may not be taken out of the library.
3. A fine of two cents per day per book is charged on all books that are retained beyond the due date. No other book may be taken out until this fine is paid.
4. Borrowers are responsible for the books taken from the library and must return volumes in good condition. A repair charge is made on damaged books. If a borrower notices any damage to a book before taking it out of the Library it would be appreciated if he would report such damage to the librarian at the desk so that he will not be held responsible. Borrowers are responsible for any book lost.
5. Reservations may be made on books at any time at the Circulation Desk. When the book that has been reserved is returned to the Library the next borrower will be notified by telephone or notice through the mail.
6. Please bring your borrower's card with you each time you visit the Library as we need your card number to complete the loan transaction.
7. The Library's hours are:  
Tuesday to Saturday inclusive: 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Closed Sunday and Monday.

APPENDIX 11 -

FLIN FLON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD

Financial Report covering period of January 1 to December 31, 1958 ---

Moneys Received from Municipal Levy -

1957	\$ 7,063.85	
1958	<u>7,153.83</u>	\$ 14,217.68

Moneys Received from Prov. Government -

1958	\$ <u>2,000.00</u>	\$ <u>16,217.68</u>
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Expenditures:

Books	\$ 5,379.63		
Periodicals	150.46		
Office Supplies	722.11		
Telephone	43.30		
Brokerage	40.45		
Freight & Express	369.68		
Furniture	2,108.71		
Equipment	198.43		
Fluorescent Lighting	1,213.32		
Acoustic Plaster	985.00		
Lights	166.50		
Rent	<u>675.00</u>	12,052.59	\$ 4,165.09

Miscellaneous Expenses:

Sundry wages	360.20		
Labour	260.32		
Advertising	10.88		
Librarian's Expenses	<u>311.83</u>	943.23	\$ 3,221.86
Salaries		2,825.00	\$ 396.86
Balance On Hand December 31, 1958 -			<u>396.86</u>

(Signed)

J. B. Watson

(Mrs. G. V. Watson, Librarian)