

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**MAINE PUBLIC DOCUMENTS
1948-1950**

(in three volumes)

VOLUME II

FIFTIETH REPORT

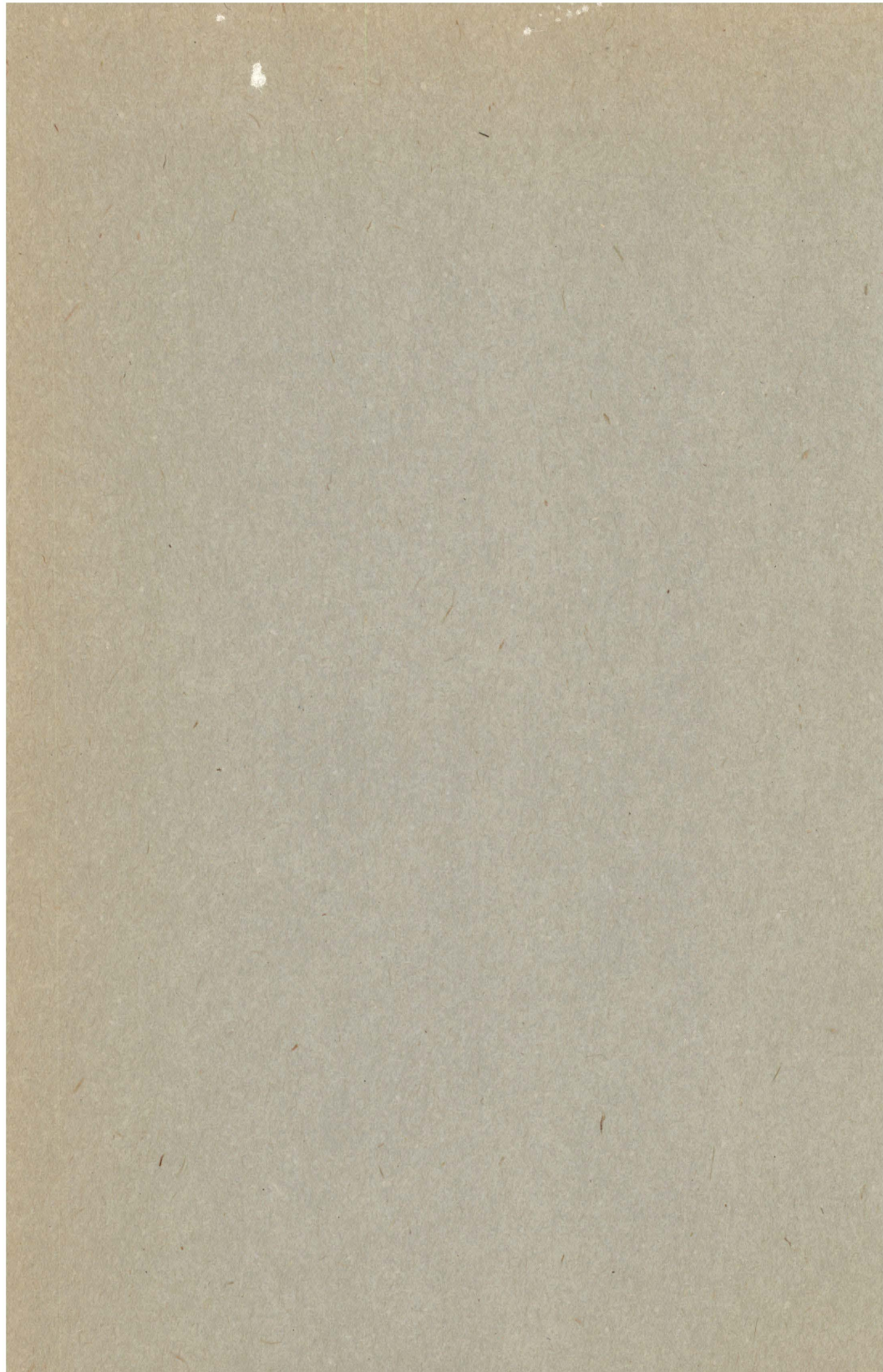
Maine State Library



July 1, 1948 to June 30, 1950

Augusta, Maine

1950



FIFTIETH REPORT

Maine State Library



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LIBRARIAN AND STAFF

June 30, 1950

Marion B. Stubbs, *Librarian*
Virginia Hill, *Deputy Librarian*
Jennie M. Cochrane, *Cataloguer*
Ruth W. Wood, *Classifier*
Marian Shaw, *Extension Librarian*
Margaret A. Whalen, *Research Librarian*
Edith L. Hary, *Law and Legislative Reference Librarian*
Florence A. Bessey, *Documents Librarian*
Alice Gilpatrick, *Distribution and Sales Librarian*
Hilda McLeod Jacob, *Library Secretary*
Clara T. Bean, *Library Assistant*
Hazel C. Millett, *Library Assistant*
Marian Brown, *Library Assistant*
Parker J. Smith, *Library Assistant*
Priscilla A. Foster, *Library Assistant*
Janice P. Butterfield, *Library Assistant*
Vacancy, *Field Advisory Librarian*

Other Staff Members

July 1, 1948-June 30, 1950

Cicely M. Hinton, *Deputy Librarian*, Resigned
Philip B. Foster, *Temporary Assistant*
Parker J. Smith, Jr., *Temporary Assistant*
Elfriede H. Towne, *Temporary Assistant*
Mary F. Whalen, *Temporary Assistant*

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the
State of Maine:*

In accordance with the provisions of chapter 38, section 12, of the Revised Statutes, I submit the report of the Maine State Library for the period July 1, 1948, to June 30, 1950.

MARION B. STUBBS
Librarian

Suggestions for Improvement

The law states that "the librarian shall report to the legislature biennially . . . and shall make in such report suggestions in relation to the improvement of the library."

The improvements most essential today for the continuance of good service to the residents of Maine divide into three classes:

Salaries

The Legislature should be seriously concerned over the state's failure to pay adequate salaries to certain classes of its professional employees.

So far as the Library is concerned, any technically trained member of its staff could get a higher salary, either in Maine or outside the state. Fledgling graduates of library schools, with no experience, command as much or more than does our Deputy State Librarian, who, in addition to professional training, must have the wisdom which can only be acquired by years of activity in library work.

If the classification and pay survey, now being conducted by the Public Administration Service, should recognize these inequalities, and propose proper adjustments, it will be within the province of the Legislature to correct them.

Bookmobile service

Nearly a third of the people of Maine have no access to free public libraries, except by mail.

Other states have met a similar challenge by the use of bookmobiles, and the 95th Legislature will be asked to establish such a service for Maine.

Adequate space

Nothing has been done to relieve the crowded conditions which have so long existed in the Library. Very little improvement has been suggested by the Ernst and Ernst Space Survey recently conducted and no provision for growth or a reading room has been made. With at least a million and a quarter dollars already invested in a library, with a trained and competent staff, an eager and needy public, it is disgraceful and almost ridiculous that the state has neglected for twenty-five years to correct conditions which are uncomfortable and hazardous for both public and staff, and which seriously limit good service.

WORK OF THE BIENNIUM

Inventory

With the exception of a few mopping-up operations, the inventory of the Library's holdings, started in July, 1948, was finished on June 30, 1950.

Many books which had been missing were found and others which were actually lost were stricken from the records. Errors in lettering and on catalogue cards were corrected. Over two thousand books were discarded, and many were mended or rebound.

No previous inventory had been taken since 1911, when the Library was moved into its present quarters.

Each member of the staff spends at least fifteen minutes each day in checking the shelves for errors in shelving, so that the good accomplished by the inventory will not be lost.

Law and Legislative Reference

Over 40% of the members of the 1949 Legislature made active use of the Legislative Reference services and facilities—many of them in response to letters sent prior to the session urging early submission of problems requiring reference. Other legislative officials, counsel and agents had frequent recourse to library materials. The entire program of this section of the Library is based on the desire to provide adequate reference and research materials for the Legislature and its committees. At all times

citizens of the state are welcome to use this collection, but the needs of legislators are deemed of prime importance. Between sessions much time is spent in acquiring up-to-date materials for the forthcoming session. The newspapers are checked for mention of subjects having potential interest, and legislative developments in other states followed closely.

Large numbers of texts have been added to the law collection, and these were noted in a special list prepared for the 1949 mid-summer meeting of the Maine State Bar Association. The Reporter System and the state session laws and court reports were kept up-to-date. Subscriptions were placed for all Shepard citations accompanying the Reporter System not previously available in the library. A modest start toward the building-up of the collection of legal periodicals has been made by binding runs of several journals which had not been bound before. Rebinding of a set of the Maine laws in heavy duty library bindings also has progressed.

The Index to members of the Maine Legislature, covering 1820-1934, presented to the Maine State Library by Bowdoin College, has been housed for ready consultation and brought to date by the addition of entries for the period 1935-1950.

A special list of materials on taxation and finance was prepared for distribution at the public meeting held by invitation of Governor Payne to discuss taxation problems in Maine.

The librarian for this section, Edith L. Hary, was granted a year's leave of absence for special study beginning September 22, 1949. She completed in June a full scholastic year of post-graduate work in the field of law and legislative reference librarianship. The remainder of her leave will be spent in visiting state and law libraries in New York, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Washington, to observe their administrative and other procedures. One week will be spent in attendance at the annual sessions of the American Association of Law Libraries in Seattle. Upon completion of an acceptable report on these visits she will be awarded a Master of Science degree by Simmons College.

Circulation

All the library processes of book selection, purchase, cataloguing, reference and research come to fruition in the personal con-

tact between library assistant and patron. The lending of a book, therefore, represents "far more than the eye can see," for it is the culmination of the efforts of an efficient and professionally competent staff.

The fact that the circulation of books and periodicals has increased 25,697 over the previous biennium is gratifying proof that our Library has the kind of books that the people of Maine want. The details are as follows:

	1948-49	1949-50	Total
General library loans	42,347	41,351	83,698
Traveling library loans	141,000	132,000	273,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	183,347	173,351	356,698

These figures show an increase over the previous biennium in general library loans of 21,507 and in traveling library loans of 4,190.

Books from the general library went to 525 localities in the state, and, through inter-library loan, to 26 libraries in other states.

Shipping

Shipments of loans to patrons vary in size and content from a small pamphlet to a box of fifty or more books.

In addition to loans, there is a continuous mailing of state department publications, session laws and other legislative publications to public officers and libraries authorized by law to receive them.

During the current biennium 15,358 packages were sent out and approximately 10,000 received.

Binding

From July 1, 1948, to June 30, 1950, 3329 items were bound:

1027 magazines	in 265 volumes
1748 town reports	in 85 "
554 books (rebound)	in 554 "
	<hr/>
Total	904 volumes

No newspapers were bound, but microfilm rolls of the Bangor Daily News, Daily Kennebec Journal, Portland Press Herald, Portland Sunday Telegram and Maine State Labor News were purchased. A gift of "30 memorable pages from the New York Times" was also added to the microfilm collection.

Documents

The following documents were received and distributed to the public officers and libraries entitled to receive them:

State Department Reports	4870
State Department Miscellaneous Publications	3893
Laws of 1949	2300
Legislative Publications	42,318
Otisfield Vital Records	250
	<hr/>
	53,631

Discarding

The work of withdrawing old and worn books is a continuing one, but because of the congested condition of the Library a very detailed scrutiny of all classes of books is now in process. Historical Society transactions, Civil and Indian wars rosters and similar publications of Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, Illinois, Iowa and Kansas had very little use and were offered to the states of origin. Some were accepted and the remainder were destroyed by authority of the state concerned.

Several years of the Journal of the American Medical Association and of the New England Journal of Medicine have been transferred to the Augusta State Hospital Library, together with the series of volumes known as International Clinic and Allbutt's System of Medicine. They will still be available for use by patrons of this Library.

To various divisions of the State Bureau of Health were transferred eleven volumes of Tice's Practice of Medicine, eight volumes of Nelson's Loose-Leaf Living Surgery, and numerous issues of Dental Hygienist, American Journal of Nursing and Public Health Nurse.

All of these may be consulted by the Library staff.

875 extra copies of various publications, either purchased or printed by the state, were given to public libraries, in order of application, after a list of the books had been mailed to each librarian.

Advertising

A great many people who might make use of the Library do not know about it. Many inexpensive ways of advertising have been tried in the past and the best are being continued. Exhibits of books were made at the conventions of the Maine Teachers' Association in 1948 and 1949, and pamphlets describing the Library's service were freely distributed. The members of the staff who were in attendance were kept constantly busy answering questions and they brought home each year an average of 175 requests for reference service, traveling libraries and special books.

The bi-monthly lists of new books, and the quarterly lists of state publications have been issued in mimeographed form as in previous years, and distributed to public, college and school libraries, to state officials and to individuals.

Occasional lists have been prepared as follows:

“Selected Materials on Taxation and Finance”

Distributed to Governor Payne's meeting on taxation problems January 31, 1949.

“Recent Books on Home Making”

Distributed at meeting of Home Demonstration Agents, Orono, February 3, 1949.

“List of Periodicals Currently Received”

Mailed to libraries and patrons July, 1949.

“Selected List of Law Books”

Distributed at summer meeting of Maine State Bar Association.

“Books on Family Relations which may be borrowed from the Maine State Library”

Distributed at meeting of State Council on Family Relations, June 18, 1949. A small exhibit of books was on display.

“Recent Gardening Books”

Published once in Maine Federation of Garden Clubs' Portland Sunday Telegram column.

“Books to Enjoy”

A mimeographed list of books published in 1948 for boys and girls of Grades 1-8. A similar list was made for 1949. Distributed at Round Tables and upon request.

Talks

The Librarian has given the following public addresses:

August 19, 1948, to the Maine Writers Research Club. Books were exhibited dealing with writers' craft and Maine Indians, a subject of special interest to the club.

October 26, 1948, to the North Livermore Reading Club, urging free opening of the library to all residents. A special exhibit of illustrated juvenile books was shown.

November 19, 1948, over Radio Station WLAM, in the series given by heads of state departments, describing the Library's service.

February 3, 1949, to the Home Demonstration Agents at their annual meeting in Orono.

March 3, 1949, to the Maine Women's Legislative Council at Augusta on service to rural areas.

In February, 1950, the Deputy Librarian addressed the Fryeburg Woman's Club on the advantages of making a library free to all the residents of a town. It was rewarding to hear that at a subsequent town meeting an appropriation was made toward the support of the public library so that all Fryeburg residents might use it without charge.

Meetings

The Library was represented at meetings of the New England Library Association, Swampscott; Massachusetts Library Association, Boston; American Association of Law Libraries, Detroit; New England Chapter of American Association of Law Libraries, Boston; Larger Libraries, Waterville and Lewiston; Maine Library Association, Portland and Augusta; Maine Historical Society, Portland; Institute for Regional Librarians, Brattleboro.

The Maine Library Association met in Augusta September 22-23, 1949, with the Lithgow Library and Reading Room and the Maine State Library as joint hosts.

Aid to Local Libraries

Advice and help is given to librarians and trustees, upon request, by correspondence and by personal visits. Visits for this purpose have been made to Dover-Foxcroft, Presque Isle, New Gloucester, Westbrook, Machias, Northeast Harbor, Paris Hill, Thomaston, Bingham, North Livermore, Belgrade, Farmington, Yarmouth, Mount Vernon, Waldoboro, Topsham, and to the Training Section of the Saco-Lowell Shops in Biddeford.

Assistance by correspondence is frequent and many times extensive. An average of three hundred letters of this type are written each year, and each one usually runs to more than a page in length.

The number of towns receiving financial state aid for the support of their public libraries was 196 each year. A total of \$10,-627.41 was expended for this purpose in 1948 and \$10,816.78 in 1949.

Traveling Libraries

Traveling libraries were lent as follows:

	General	Juvenile	Children	H. Sch.	Nature	Special	Total
1948-49 ..	104	370	167	42	13	14	710
1949-50 ..	89	368	151	42	9	17	676

Books in traveling libraries circulated as follows:

	Adult fiction	Adult non-fiction	Juvenile	Total
1948-49 ..	28,500	12,500	100,000	141,000
1949-50 ..	26,800	10,600	95,000	132,000

The total of 1386 sets represents an increase over the previous biennium of 97, and the total of 273,000 books circulated is a 4190 increase.

There were also lent, for exhibit purposes only, fifteen of the Illustrated Juvenile Collections, containing 182 books, and three of the Colored Prints Collections.

Round Tables

The increased attendance at these one-day meetings, and the spirited discussions, attest to their value to librarians and trustees. Miss Marian Shaw and Miss Virginia Hill of the State Library staff have conducted all the Round Tables, and the Librarian has been in attendance at seven. They have been held

as follows: July 28, 1948, at Fort Fairfield, with sixteen present; May 5, 1949, at Brunswick, with twenty-four present; May 12, 1949, at Sanford, with thirty-seven present; May 18, 1949, at Blue Hill, with thirty-four present; May 26, 1949, at Rumford, with thirty-two present; June 1, 1949, at Dover-Foxcroft, with twenty present; July 27, 1949, at Presque Isle, with nineteen present; May 4, 1950, at Pittsfield, with twenty-eight present; May 18, 1950, at North Livermore, with thirty-eight present; May 25, 1950, at North Haven, with fourteen present; June 8, 1950, at Yarmouth, with thirty-six present.

Workshops

A public library workshop was conducted July 6-10, 1948, as part of the summer session of the University of Maine under the joint sponsorship of the Maine Library Association and the Maine State Library, with the cooperation of the University of Maine. It was offered to librarians and library assistants employed in small public libraries. The Director was Miss Katherine Wead, Consultant in Libraries of the Connecticut State Department of Education Division of Libraries. Instructors gave lectures on various phases of library work, including classification and cataloguing, book selection, reference, work with children and story telling, and public relations. The students did as much practice work as was possible in the brief time allotted. The instructors included Mrs. Marion Stubbs, Miss Marian Shaw and Miss Virginia Hill of the Maine State Library. Forty-two librarians attended, including two or three school librarians.

This first workshop was so successful that a second one was held at the University of Maine, July 5-9, 1949, with Miss Wead again the Director. There was an enrollment of thirty librarians, ten of whom had attended the previous workshop. There were eight school librarians and one from the Bangor Theological Seminary, in addition to librarians from public libraries. Concentrated study of a few library subjects, rather than summaries of nearly all subjects, was the purpose of this workshop. The subjects taught were reference, cataloguing and children's work, with one lecture period each for library administration and the library in the community. Among the instructors were Miss Virginia Hill and Miss Marian Shaw of the Maine State Library.

The librarians who attended these workshops returned to their libraries with a much better knowledge of proper technical methods and an increased understanding of good community library service.

Correspondence Course

A correspondence course in library methods conducted for many years was discontinued during the second World War. In August 1948 a new correspondence course for untrained librarians was started by Miss Virginia Hill, Deputy Librarian. There are twelve lessons covering nearly all phases of library work, including circulation, administration, book selection, classification, cataloguing, reference, children's work, publicity and care of the book collection. When a librarian has completed all the lessons satisfactorily, the Library grants a simple certificate.

Although the course is intended primarily for librarians in public libraries, so many requests were received from school librarians, that the course was also offered to them. The State Department of Education grants three credit points to school librarians who successfully complete the course.

Sixty-six librarians have started, but some have withdrawn before they finished it, for various reasons. They either left their library positions, moved away from the state, or found the course required more time than they could devote to it. At present, forty are enrolled. Eight public librarians and two school librarians have graduated and been granted certificates.

Town Reports

The effort to complete the files of Maine town, city and plantation reports has continued. Letters were sent to clerks of some towns, asking them to print in the town report for the current year a list of that town's reports which the State Library lacked. The response from these notices was so favorable, that similar requests will be made of all municipalities as soon as practicable. Old reports were obtained for the following towns: Athens, Aurora, Belgrade, Brooks, Brooksville, Caswell Plantation, Cornish, Deer Isle, Fairfield, Glenburn, Greenbush, East Livermore and Patten. In two instances, the reports received completed the Library's file to date.

Gifts

List of vessels built in the vicinity of Gardiner, Maine, compiled by William S. Danforth, and presented by him. It gives the name, tonnage, over-all measurements, builder and place and date of building.

Records of State War Chest, Inc. (Maine), deposited by Miss Ruth T. Clough, Administrative Secretary.

King George II's order, signed by Henry Pelham and Henry Fox, authorizing the raising of the troops that attacked Louisburg; the *Canada Subdued Medal*, issued under William Pitt and given to those who served under Wolfe in the capture of Quebec; a bound first edition of *Arundel* with longhand revision on every page; a cased revision of *Rabble in Arms*, a bound set of galley proofs of the revision of the Revision, and a bound set of page proofs revised for repetitions; and a rare print of a Benedict Arnold mezzotint; all on indefinite loan from Kenneth Roberts as a permanent display.

Two colonial cut glass lamps with double whale oil burners and pewter collars from Western Reserve Academy, Hudson, Ohio, by courtesy of Representative Rodney C. Roundy of Portland. A notation pasted on them states "These lamps were part of the Governor's Room in the first Capitol Building of the State of Maine."

Journal of Brunswick Convention of 1816, from Portland Public Library.

Christian Mirror, four volumes from Bowdoin College Library.

Mary Chandler Lowell Papers, from Bowdoin College Library. Five large loose-leaf notebooks and miscellaneous papers, the results of Dr. Lowell's research into the genealogy of towns in the vicinity of Dover-Foxcroft.

Penobscot Tribe of Indians treaties and miscellaneous items. By order of the presiding justice of the Superior Court at the 1949 January term held in Penobscot County, and upon agreement between the Tribe and the Bangor Public Library, these papers were placed "in the custody of the Maine State Library at Augusta, there to be held." Through the courtesy of the Bangor Public Library, photostatic copies are available for study by the general public.

Maine histories and genealogies from Mrs. Katherine Hill Merrill, daughter of the late Governor John F. Hill of Augusta, Maine. One hundred seventy-five very useful books. There were many family histories, a few town and county histories, some Maine laws, and sixty-nine copies of *Old Kittery and her families* in mint condition. These latter were given to public libraries in the state.

German Bible, 1671, volume 2, from W. H. Pierce, Arlington, Massachusetts, and F. W. Pierce, Augusta. The Library received the first volume from another source, some years ago.

Pictorial records of the Damariscotta centennial, from Mr. Edward B. Denny.

Many single gifts of books and pamphlets make a list too long for inclusion in this report.

Personnel Changes

Miss Cicely M. Hinton, formerly with Harford County Library, Maryland, who became Deputy Librarian on May 10, 1948, resigned in April, 1949, to take a position in another state.

Miss Virginia Hill, Field Advisory Librarian, was appointed Deputy, January 2, 1950.

Miss Florence A. Bessey, formerly with the Wellesley, Massachusetts, Public Library, and a resident of Union, Maine, became Documents Librarian September 21, 1949.

Mrs. Ruth W. Wood, Distribution and Sales Librarian, a half-time worker, was transferred to the position of Classifier February 6, 1950.

Miss Alice Gilpatrick, Library Assistant, was promoted to Distribution and Sales Librarian February 6, 1950.

Miss Janice P. Butterfield, a recent graduate of the University of Maine, became a Library Assistant April 6, 1950.

Apprentice Course

Priscilla A. Foster of Rockport graduated July 28, 1948, and the next day became an Assistant in the extension section of this Library.

Barbara Stonier of Gardiner enrolled January 1, 1949, and graduated in January, 1950. She is now an Assistant in the Gardiner Public Library.

Jean Howe of Norway is the only person taking the course at the present time. She enrolled September 6, 1949.

ACCESSIONS
General Library

	Bound Vols.	Unbound	Total
By purchase			
1948-49 for main library.....	1765	277	2042
1949-50 for main library.....	1652	287	1939
1948-50 for traveling libraries ..	2968		2968
			----- 6949
By exchange			
1948-49 for main library.....	169	1265	1434
1949-50 for main library.....	261	1099	1360
			----- 2794
By gift			
1948-49 for main library.....	111	281	392
1949-50 for main library.....	100	100	200
			----- 592
From U. S. Gov't			
1948-49 for main library.....	139	1250	1389
1949-50 for main library.....	159	1015	1174
			----- 2563
Total for main library.....	4356	5573	9930
Total for traveling libraries.....	2968		2968

Grand Total.....			12,898
Withdrawn			
July 1, 1948-June 30, 1949 from main library.....			1705
July 1, 1949-June 30, 1950 from main library.....			652
July 1, 1949-June 30, 1950 from traveling libraries....			2487

Total.....			4844

EXPENDITURES, 1948-49

Salaries	\$36,320.38
Books:	
General	\$5,894.26
Traveling libraries	2,699.87
	} 8,594.13
Periodical and newspaper subscriptions	1,380.52
Binding books and periodicals	493.66
Postage	1,382.88
Express and freight	946.23
Office supplies	1,596.76
Telephone and telegraph	254.29
Repairs	34.48
Printing	279.23
Travel	648.78
Furniture and typewriters	248.45
State aid to free public libraries	10,627.41
Ancient Vital Records	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	125.95
	<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
Total	\$63,933.15

EXPENDITURES, 1949-50

Salaries	\$38,452.67
Books:	
General \$7,297.14	} 10,255.36
Traveling libraries 2,958.22	
Periodical and newspaper subscriptions	1,392.83
Binding books and periodicals	984.71
Postage	1,964.83
Express and freight	502.58
Office supplies	1,599.49
Telephone and telegraph	306.09
Repairs	10.78
Printing	131.70
Travel	794.61
Furniture and typewriters	1,118.03
State aid to free public libraries	10,816.78
Ancient Vital Records	815.00
Miscellaneous	102.73
Total	\$69,248.19