

RECESS PRIVILEGE

The number of privilege holders this recess is smaller than for some years past, 350, as compared with 871 in the previous recess.

The recorded occupations of the recess privilege holders are as follows: accountants, 5; agents, 1; agricultural economists, 1; architects, 1; auditors, 1; authors, 1; booking managers, 1; chemists, 2; civil engineers, 4; Civil servants, 70; cleaners, 1; clergymen, 2; clerks, 28; company directors and secretaries, 2; convent sisters, 1; cranemen, 1; dancing teachers, 1; dental surgeons, 1; district investigating officers, 1; domestic duties, 27; doorkeepers, 1; draughtsmen, 3; editors, 2; fitters and turners, 1; foremen, 1; historians, 1; journalists, 5; lecturers, 3; library assistants, 7; machinists, 2; mechanicians, 3; medical practitioners, 2; messengers, 7; meteorologists, 1; monotype-operators, 1; musicians, 1; naval officers, 1; no occupation, 34; painters, 1; photographers, 1; police officers, 2; radio assemblers, 1; research assistants, 5; retired, 16; school-teachers, 13; school inspectors, 2; soldiers, 3; solicitors, 4; staff supervisors, 1; stenographers, 2; students, 60; typists, 6; waterside workers, 1; wireless operators, 1.

Books posted to Members and to other libraries during recess amounted to 73 baskets and 327 parcels, as compared with 63 baskets and 180 parcels in the previous year.

BINDING

We have again had excellent service from this department, which has made rapid progress in catching up the arrears incurred during the war. The promptness with which new books are made available for issue is of great benefit to the Library in all branches of research work, where it is essential that source material, even if unaccessioned, should be readily at hand. Both new books and unbound material, which comes into the Library in considerable quantities through copyright and under international exchange, are often required for use without delay.

COPYRIGHT

The operations under this heading remain at about the same level as in previous years. During the year 348 receipts were issued, compared with 335 in the previous year. Great vigilance is required on the part of this division to avoid missing new publications emanating from the press in New Zealand. A considerable amount of correspondence is entailed in collecting the particulars of bibliography necessary for cataloguing purposes. This division furnishes for the National Library Service the entries upon which its weekly list of new publications is based.

The return of members to the staff has enabled us to develop considerably the copyright lists. We are now issuing a quarterly list three times a year in addition to the annual cumulation. Early in the year we issued a mimeographed list of the newspapers currently received at the Library. The annual copyright list is much larger than usual, and has as an appendix a list of the New Zealand periodicals received at the Library.

NEWSPAPER COLLECTION

This important section of the Library is now sadly cramped for space. For some years past, in order to make space for the annual growth of the collection, we have been compelled to stack on the floor sets which were not much used. At the moment we have been given access to a small adjoining cellar, which it is hoped will ease the situation when shelving is available.