

SESSION II.
1921.
NEW ZEALAND.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY LIBRARY.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LIBRARIAN FOR THE YEAR 1920-21.

Laid on the Table of the House of Representatives by Leave.

THE CHIEF LIBRARIAN to the CHAIRMAN of the JOINT LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit the following report for the year 1920-21 :—

RECESS LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The Recess Library Committee, under the chairmanship of the Hon. Sir William Hall-Jones, K.C.M.G., M.L.C., and later under the chairmanship of the Hon. Dr. Collins, M.L.C. (Députy Chairman), held three meetings during the recess. Lists of books suggested for order by the Chief Librarian were brought before the Committee and duly considered.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

The Accessions Register shows that during the period 1st August, 1920, to 31st July, 1921, the number of catalogued accessions was 2,687.

The total number of catalogued items, as shown by the Accessions Register, on the 1st November, 1921, was 102,725.

The Imperial Government has not as yet fully resumed the free pre-war supply of official publications, and, indeed, is now charging for certain publications formerly supplied gratis. American official publications are now arriving with their pre-war regularity.

An interesting and important addition to the Library is a set of choicely bound volumes containing the texts of the various Peace Treaties, which have been presented by the Right Hon. the Prime Minister. These have been placed in a specially designed case in the upstairs lobby of the Library.

STAFF CHANGES.

Mr. H. J. Millen, for some years an industrious and valued member of the staff, resigned his position, for personal reasons, in July last. In view of the need for economy I have not applied to the Minister in Charge of the Library for a successor to Mr. Millen.

The Library messenger, P. Forrest, also resigned his position in July last. He has been succeeded by a younger man, C. Brown, at a smaller salary. The saving effected in connection with the two positions is a little over £330 per annum.

ANNUAL STOCK-TAKING.

The stock-taking this year dealt with three classes—Class 000, bibliography, bound newspapers and periodicals, &c.; Class 100, philosophy, psychology, &c.; and Class 700, art, architecture, &c. The result shown by the stock-taking is very satisfactory. Since stock was last taken in Class 000, 1,315 volumes have been added to this class. The result of this year's stock-taking shows that only two volumes are now missing. In each case the missing volume is a catalogue of no great importance. In Class 100 every book catalogued was found to be either on the shelves or entered on the issue cards. In Class 700, when stock was last taken, eleven volumes were found to be missing. Since then 409 volumes have been added in this class. Five books are now missing. The total number of volumes checked in the three classes was 6,101.