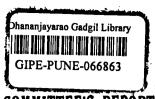
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IBRARY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT, BOMBAY

PREFATORY NOTES

The Government of Bombay appointed a committee for the purpose of exploring the possibilities of the establishment of a Provincial Central Library in Bombay as well as three Regional Libraries at Ahmedabad, Poona and Dharwar.

There are, and can be, no two opinions on the desirability of inaugurating a library movement in the Province. The organization of a network of libraries working in co-operation with one another and satisfying the needs of every individual citizen according to his education and equipment is overdue. In reality, it forms part of education itself; and its need is imperative at the present moment when with the broadening of the franchise, a great part of the population is being called upon to take decisions on a variety of questions affecting them in their daily life—a responsibility which they will be unable to shoulder unless they are afforded facilities for educating themselves, through the agency of libraries. It is, therefore, heartening that the Government of Bombay has realised the importance of the question and decided that a comprehensive library movement must be sponsored by the State. In the Press Note issued on the subject, Government envisages a chain of libraries scattered all over the province, libraries of varying sizes closely inter-related. Government also desires to establish a Central Library at Bombay, and three Regional Libraries at Ahmedabad, Poona and Dharwar wherein would be deposited a copy of every book published in the Province. The Regional Libraries would be in direct touch with the network of other libraries, including the village libraries, thus encouraging literacy on a wide scale.

We were entrusted with the task of considering also the possibility of ultilising the existing institutions for the purpose of the establishment of the libraries. The difficulties of a comprehensive scheme were many. First, there has never been any previous examination of the problem in the Province; even a comprehensive survey of the existing libraries has not been made, and there was also no previous material available on which we could base our report. Secondly, the

growth of libraries in India has been entirely on india and personal lines. Therefore any scheme for the india ment of the library movement in India must keep standing in view of the peculiar conditions prevailing here. Thirdly, although there are a number of libraries existing all over the country, their number, for various reasons, is very small and there is no co-operation between them. Such co-operation as exists in certain places, is based entirely upon individual considerations and not on any well-settled rules and conventions. Fourthly, many of the libraries possess very defective catalogues, and some of them, no proper catalogues at all, in the modern sense of the term. We had also to consider the somewhat complicated question as to the extent to which Government should shoulder the responsibility of financing and controlling the movement.

The Committee was appointed in December 1939. It commenced its work early during the year and prepared a questionnaire consisting of eight questions. This was sent out to some 1,800 individuals and institutions; however, the response to the questionnaire was not very encouraging, replies received being less than 10 per cent, of the copies sent out.

The Committee held a number of meetings in August and September and visited Baroda, Ahmedabad, Poona and Dharwar. The library system at Baroda is well developed. It is a matter of gratification to the Committee that in the space of some twenty years, a vast network of libraries has grown in the State of Baroda and we hope that the Province of Bombay also will very soon achieve a similar success. At Ahmedabad, Poona and Dharwar, although conditions differ materially, there is plenty of enthusiasm for and goodwill towards, the movement, and it is to be hoped that this goodwill translated into action will produce good results.

With regard to our recommendations, it may be stated that we propose the establishment of a Central Library at Bombay in close co-operation with the Royal Asiatic Society of Bombay, and the establishment of three Regional linguistic Libraries at Poona, Ahmedabad and Dharwar, on the fulfilment of certain conditions, It is necessary to emphasize that unless the conditions stated in our report are fulfilled, the establishment of the various libraries would not be possible. In our view the extension of the Library System to the villages should follow the successful working of the Central and Regional Libraries. It has been our endeavour in this report to present

t, with as much brevity as possible, modest an Goractical proposals for the inception of the library movement in the Province. Our scheme is one of progressive gradation; beginning with the utmost simplicity, it should be possible to take the further steps suggested by us for the progressive realisation of the object. We are of the opinion, not only that the movement should be sponsored by Government, as Government has already decided to do, but that Government will also have to bear possibly the major burden of the expense—at any rate for some time to come. We, therefore, recommend that wherever possible the existing institutions should be utilised for and form part of the scheme. That will not only make for efficiency but reduce to a certain extent the Government's share of the expense.

The scheme is one of progressive development in distinct stages. We think it both right and expedient that the start should be made with the Central and Regional libraries. In the cities in which they are to be located there already exist institutions and men capable of undertaking the task of organising them. The Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society which possesses a rich library of its own collected during a hundred and thirty-six years, should form the nucleus of the Central Library, and can be persuaded to undertake the task on suitable terms. Similarly the Municipal Library at Ahmedabad, the City Library at Poona and the Vidyayardhak · Sangha at Dharwar should be entrusted with the task of establishing and maintaining the Regional libraries. These Institutions should be given annual grants by Government and should have the right to receive copyright copies of the works published in the Province. The succeeding stages of the scheme envisage the growth of a network of libraries spreading to district towns, small towns, larger and smaller villages.

We expect the cost to Government will be Rs, 60,000 per annum in the first stage and a maximum of about Rs, 15,00,000 in the final stage, in which every village will have its own library. The supervision of the library movement should be entrusted with a Central Advisory Board, while Library Associations should be formed to help in popularising the movement. We venture to hope that Government will give to the scheme the consideration which the importance of the subject demands and at an early date make a start with the movement and thus inaugurate a new era in the cultural history of the Province.

The limitations of the report presented by us realised; in fact these proposals are only of a tentage character, to be modified from time to time in the light of fresh and greater knowledge. As at present advised, we are deferring the village library system to be worked out at a later date, because we feel that unless the Central and Regional Libraries are properly established, the village library scheme alone will not work satisfactorily. We also propose the creation of a proper Library authority to control and direct all schemes from the Centre.

In conclusion, we would like to testify to the enthusiasm, at every centre, of the people whom we met and the institutions which we visited for the immediate inception and development of the library movement; and in the words of the Report of the Public Libraries Committee, 1927, "There can be no greater proof of the fitness of the people for these institutions than their own:independent efforts to create them" (paragraph 17). We strongly feel that all Regional Centres the people in charge of the various libraries will fully co-operate with Government to achieve the objects to which Government is pledged,

REPORT OF THE LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

CHAPTER I.

Introduction

The Government of Bombay, by Government Resolution, General Department, No. 3414/33 dated the 19th December 1939, appointed a Committee to consider and report on the question of the establishment of a Central Provincial Library in the City of Bombay and threee Regional Libraries for each of the linguistic centres, viz., Poona, Ahmedabad and Dharwar.

2. The following persons were appointed members of the Committee:

Chairman.

(1) A. A. A. Fyzee, Esquire, M. A. (Cantab.), LL.B. (Bom.), Bar-at-law, J.P., Principal, Government Law College Bombay.

Members.

- (2) Dr. P. M. Joshi, M. A., Ph. D., Librarian, University of Bombay.
- (3) S. L. Kapadi, Esqr., B. Sc., Librarian, Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Bombay.
- (4) R. P. Karwe, Esqr., Advocate, Registrar, Government Law College, Bombay. (Secretary).

Terms of Reference.

The following were the terms of reference:

- (i) What should be the nature of the Central Library to be established in Bombay and of the Regional Libraries for Poona, Ahmedabad and Dharwar.
- (ii) Whether the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society's Library should form the nucleus of the Central Library in Bombay.
- (iii) Whether new Libraries should be opened in the Regional centres, or certain existing libraries, one in each centre, should be given the right to receive copyright books and become closely associated with the Central Library.
- (iv) If existing libraries are to be given the right, what should be the terms on which they should become part of the scheme.
- (v) What should be the establishment for the Central Library in Bombay.
- (vi) What arrangements should be made for the housing of the Central Library.
- (vii) Any other questions which the Chairman may consider necessary, as arising out of these matters, should also be dealt with.

Questionnaire and Replies.

- 3. After carefully considering all the questions that were likely to arise in their investigation and obtaining the necessary information from previous records, the Committee issued a Questionnaire covering the main ground of the terms of reference and allied problems in order to elicit the views of the public (Appendix B). The Questionnaire was sent to about 1,800 persons and Institutions as under:
 - 1. Editors of Newspapers.
 - -2. Libraries and Library Associations.
 - 3. Literary and Scientific Institutions.
 - 4. Boards of Adult Education.
 - 5. Members of the Provincial Legislature.
 - 6. Municipalities and Local Boards.
 - 7. Educational Institutions.
 - 8. Members of the Senate of the University of Bombay.
 - 9. Colleges and High Schools.
 - 10. Religious, benevolent, communal, social Institutions.
 - 11. Women's Associations.
 - 12. Commercial Institutions like Chambers of Commerce.
 - 13. Heads of several Government Departments in Bombay.
 - 14. Other Provincial Governments in India.
 - 15. A large number of representative men and distinguished ladies likely to take an interest in the Library Movement.

We would like to put on record our gratitude to the Press, who very willingly gave wide publicity to our Questionnaire and the explanatory note sent along with it. Our thanks are also due to the Director of Information, Bombay, who also helped us in this matter.

- 4. The questionnaire was issued in April 1940, and the replies were to be received up to the end of June. We, however, accepted and considered all the replies that were received till the end of September 1940; but the total number received was only 156. Out of these, 1, were received direct from Officers of the Department of Public Instruction. We expected a helpful reply from the Head Office of the Department as the Department was concerned with libraries in the Province for some years and as the subject is one intimately connected with education. It appears, however, that in some cases replies sent through the Head Office were not forwarded to the Committee.
- 5. When the replies were examined, it was found that certain Institutions were recommended for being converted into

Regional Libraries at Poona, Ahmedabad and Dharwar. The Committee, therefore, decided to visit these places and see these institutions and meet their organizers or committees in order to explore the possibilities of recommending any of them for this purpose. We also decided to visit Baroda on the way to Ahmedabad, in order to obtain first hand information of the Baroda Library movement. Accordingly, the Committee obtained the sanction of Government to visit these places and for the necessary travelling expenses (as per Government Resolution, General Department, No. 3414/33 of 1st May 1940).

- 6. The Library movement in Baroda has developed to a considerable extent. We visited at Baroda the Central Library, a Mahal Library (Padra), a Village Library (Chhani) and a Village Reading Room (Samiala). We also interviewed people interested in the movement, and we would like to express our grateful thanks to the officials who were extremely courteous to us and rendered us every help. The Dewan Saheb of Baroda, Sir V. T. Krishnamachariar, was kind enough to give us a very helpful interview. The Commissioner of Education, Dr. J. M. Mehta, made special arrangements for our stay at Baroda and for putting us in touch with the movement there. Mr. T. D. Waknis, Curator of the Central Library, spent a considerable portion of his time in showing us round and gave us very useful information. The Curator of the Central Library as well as the Assistant Commissioner of Education, Dr. B. C. Lele, facilitated our obtaining all the other information that we wanted. At Ahmedabad, Poona and Dharwar, we visited the following libraries and institutions, and had an opportunity of meeting their Managing Committees or representatives:
 - 1. The Library of the Gujrath Vidyapith, Ahmedabad.
 - 2. The Library of the Gujrath Vernacular Society, Ahmedabad.
 - 3. Sheth Maneklal Jethabhai Municipal Library, Ahmedabad.
 - 4. The Library of the Hemabhai Institute, Ahmedabad.
 - 5. The Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona.
 - 6. The Library of the Servants of India Society, Poona.
 - 7. The Marathi Grantha Sangrahalaya, Poona.
 - 8. The City General Library, Poona.
 - 9. The United Service Library, Poona.
 - 10. The Deccan Colleg Post-graduate and Research Institute, Poona.
 - 11. The Bharat Itihasa Samshodhak Mandal, Poona.
 - 12. The Bai Jerbai Wadia Library of the Fergusson College, Poona.

- 13. The Lord Reay Industrial Museum, Poona.
- 14. The Karnatak Research, Institute, Dharwar.
- 15. The Karnatak College, Dharwar.
- 16. The Karnatak Historical Research Society, Dharwar.
- 17. The Peoples' Library, Dharwar.
- 18. The Karnatak Vidyavardhak Sangh, Dharwar.

At all these places, we received ready co-operation from the Institutions concerned, and we would like to put on record our appreciation of the courtesy shown to us by them. We had also the advantage of detailed discussions with a number of individuals at these places. In particular we are also grateful to the following gentlemen for having given us considerable help;—

- 1. Principal Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao, M.A., Ph. D. (Cantab.), Ahmedabad.
 - 2. Professor K. L. Joshi, M.A. (Bom. & Lond.), Ahmedabad.
 - 3. Professor D. R. Gadgil, M.A., M. Litt. (Cantab.).
 - 4. Professor D. V. Potdar, B.A., Poona.
 - 5. Mr. D. V. Kale, M.A., Poona.
 - 6. Mr. R. S. Parkhi, Poona.
 - 7. Mr. G. R, Nalavadi, B.A., LL.B., Dharwar.
 - 8. Dr. K. S. Kamalapur, M.B.B.S., Dharwar.
 - 9. Professor D. P. Karmarkar, B.A., LL.B., Dharwar.

Government Press Note on the Library Movement.

- 7. In the report, we have generally restricted ourselves to the terms of reference and the points reterred to in the Government Press Note No. P. 494 of 26th October 1939 on the subject of the Library Movement (Appendix A), in which it is stated (paragraph 4) that
- "One important question that has to be considered in this connection is what arrangement will be necessary for the management of these Libraries at the minimum of cost and with the maximum of efficiency. If these Libraries are to be of any real practical use and value to scholars and research workers, a very substantial amount will be needful for (i) building and the provision of furniture and shelves, (ii) cataloguing and indexing, and (iii) expert staff. In view of the importance of the questions involved, Government considered it desirable that a small committee should first be appointed to consider and report on these questions ". There are however certain other matters in the report which, although strictly outside the terms of reference, are yet so closely connected with

the questions under consideration, that we have felt it our duty to deal with them.

- The Government Press Note indicates that Government has in view a wider library movement, and that the establishment of a Central Library and the Regional Libraries are only parts of the whole scheme. We have taken into consideration the present After considering all financial condition of the Province. the replies and suggestions received, we have also considered the peculiar conditions prevalent in the Province as compared with the library places outside the Province, where the library movement is being fostered. The library movement is capable of almost unlimited growth, but that necessarily implies corresponding expenditure; our recommendations, however, are of a very modest character consistently with the funds that may be available for the purpose, and they would appear particularly so when one recalls the expenditure on libraries in other countries. recommended a Scheme of progressive gradation and Government may adopt any one or more of the steps to start with, according to the money that can be made available for the purpose.
- 9. There are no two opinions regarding the utility of libraries. All the replies that we received favour the movement. The only difficulty raised is that of finance. Co-operation is forthcoming, or is promised, from all quarters, and the enthusiasm of all the institutions and persons interviewed by us lead us to the conclusion that if the movement is taken up by Government, it will certainly be a success.

The Committee's Thanks

- 10. We would like to express our gratitude to all those who have helped us in our investigations including those who sent replies to our questionnaire, to the officers of all the institutions we visited, and to many other individuals who so kindly helped us in many other ways.
- 11. The Committee's special thanks are due to Mr. R. P. Karwe, Secretary to the Committee, for willingly doing the lion's share of the work in spite of his own heavy office duties. The Committee would like to express their gratitude for the expeditious way in which he collected all the material and information that was necessary and drafted the Report.
- 12. The Government Press Note and the Questionnaire issued by us form part of the Appendix to this report (Appendix A and B).

CHAPTER II.

HISTORICAL

- 13. Even in the West the library movement is of recent growth. though libraries have been known to exist since ancient times. In the West as well as in the East, libraries were mostly to be found in the possession of educational institutions, which were generally religious institutions, or in the possession of certain wealthy individuals. Travellers in ancient India have described the famous libraries of the Buddhist Universities of Taxila and Nalanda. Visitors to Fatehpur Sikri and to Delhi must have seen the libraries, or rather the library buildings of Akbar and Humayun. Pathashalas. temples and masjids and wealthy persons, noblemen and scholars had their own libraries. None of these libraries were however public libraries. They were only accessible to their owners or the students of the particular educational institutions. Such libraries have lived down to our own day, e. g. the Patan Bhandar in our Province. There are also hereditary collections belonging to learned men or religious heads. All these collections, some of them very valuable, are yet inaccessible to the public. They are mostly manuscript collections and are not available to strangers for study. We find that a very large number of Indian manuscripts have, however, already found their way to the libraries in the West either by means of purchase, presentation or otherwise, and it is only during the last few years that the possessors of these manuscripts are realising that it is really in the interest of knowledge to make their possessions available for the use of others. It need not therefore be added that there was naturally no "Library movement' in India in the present accepted sense of the term. Even in Europe and America it does not go back to more than two centuries; and in our country the modern Library idea has taken root only during the last fifty years.
- 14. With the advent of the printed book, it is becoming easier for the ordinary man to have a small library of his own, and the importance of these private collections of manuscripts to him is decreasing as most of these manuscripts are being gradually printed. The field of knowledge also has generally grown so vast that for ordinary purposes the manuscript library is gradually receding into the back ground. But on the other hand, though any one can possess a small library if he so desires, book production has increased to such an extent and knowledge has become so vast, that it is impossible for any individual to purchase every book that he requires for his study. The only way to remedy this is the establishment of suitable libraries.

LIBRARIES IN THE WEST.

15. In the West, America is said to be the home of libraries, and. the library movement can be best seen in that country. The Library of Congress which is the premier library in country, is well known all over the world, and is in the forefront of the American library movement. The libraries' of Germany are also famous for their excellence, both of material and management. The Bibliotheque Nationale of Paris which is the premier library of France, is larger than the library of the British Museum in London. All these countries have many other large libraries as well as well-organized library systems. Italy, Holland, Sweden, Norway and other countries in the West. and Japan in the East have also several kinds of excellent libraries, and the library system of Russia is growing so fast that many other countries will be left far behind soon if it keeps up the present pace. The Library of Congress, contained 5.5 million printed books and pamphlets in 1938, whereas the Lenin Memorial Library at Moscow, contained 5.6 million in that year, and the public library at Leningrad also contained 5 million of books. Besides this, the libraries of the several Academies and a number of Government Departments contain books by the thousand.

LIIRARIES IN ENGLAND

16. In England, the library of the British Museum, founded in 1753, is well known all over the world. The other libraries like the Bodleian and the other University libraries are also famous. But. the public library movement really dates from 1849. Not less than eight Acts were passed regarding Public Libraries from the year 1850 to 1892 in which year a consolidated Public Libraries Act was passed. This Act was again modified in 1919. The Act empowers local authorities to levy a special cess for the establishment of libraries. The annual public expenditure on libraries in England is about £ 20,00,000 in addition to what Universities, Colleges and Schools and private libraries spend from their own resources. Even here, however, organized co-operation between libraries is a development of recent date. The British Museum Library is only a Reference Library as it does not lend out any books, and though it gets a copy of every book published in the British Empire, it cannot be expected to have all the books published elsewhere. Lending libraries could give to their subscribers only what they had. The result was that though there were many excellent libraries in England including reference libraries, large lending libraries, libraries to serve special interests like Science, Industry, Commetce, History, Fine Arts, Music, etc., no student or reader was in a position to

obtain for his study, all the books that he wanted. Therefore it seemed necessary and desirable that there should be some sort of a co-operation between the various libraries, and that there should be a central agency through which this co-operation could be made effective, so that libraries could exchange books for the use of their readers when necessary, on certain conditions. This is why the National Central Library (paragraphs 18-19) came into existence. Before that there was no means of knowing where a certain book could be obtained, if it was obtainable at all in England. Every library undoubtedly has its own catalogues, but nobody could inquire of all the libraries for a particular book. And even if it was known that the book was in a particular library, a student was not sure that he could get the book unless he became a subscriber to that particular library. It was only as a matter of courtesy or influence in many cases that the reference or access could be obtained.

LIBRARY CO-OPERATION IN ENGLAND.

- 17. We may briefly outline here the system of Library Co-operation in the British Isles. The starting point of this system is the Urban or the County Library. An Urban Library is established by a Municipal authority to serve the needs of the area under its jurisdiction and a County Library is provided by the Education Committee of a County Council to supply the reading needs of people dwelling in rural areas who have no access to Municipal collections. But the urban and county libraries are scattered units and if their resources are to be fully utilised by students throughout the country some co-ordination is necessary. That is how the Regional library system came into existence. Under this system the whole of England and Wales is divided into eight regional areas, each of which is administered by a regional library bureau with its headquarters at some convenient centre in the area. Thus, for instance, the Regional Library Bureau for the West Midland region is housed at the Birmingham Public Library. The most important work of the Regional Library Bureau is that of maintaining a Union Catalogne of all the non-fiction books in the libraries under its jurisdiction.
- 18. Besides the Urban and County Libraries there are other libraries of a highly specialised nature which do not come within the orbit of a regional library system. These are also willing to place their resources at the disposal of students all over the country. But they prefer to do so through the National Central Library. The National Central Library, as its name implies, is at the apex of the library system of the British Isles. The work of this library may be

grouped under three heads: the lending of its own books; the tracing of books in other libraries and arranging for their loan; and the supply of books needed by students attending adult classes in England.

49. It will thus be seen that the National Central Library came into existence to co-ordinate the resources of the various existing libraries, including the special libraries, so that any ordinary student of any subject may know what books are available on his subject in other libraries in addition to what his own library has got, and may obtain the books if necessary. This kind of co-operation between different libraries would automatically increase the resources of even a small libary enormously, and save unnecessary duplication of the cost of purchasing costly books in particular by libraries; and the subscriber of a small library, which could not afford to buy a costly book or books on any special subject, was enabled to obtain a loan on suitable terms from another library which had the book. It can be easily seen that the first necessity for such agreed co-operation between libraries is that every co-operating library must be in a position to know what books the other libraries possess. But at the same time, it is not practicable for every library to obtain duplicates of all the Catalogues of all the other libraries. however, such catalogues are brought together, at one Central place or Agency, and kept up-to-date, information can then be obtained by every library as to where a particular book is available, and in case it was available at many libraries at which nearest library. This collection of catalogues, in practice, usually takes the form of a consolidated card catalogue housed at one institution, and has always to be kept up-to-date by the continuous supply of cards of books that are being added to the co-operating libraries. Such a combined catalogue is called a Union Catalogue. It is with the help of this important tool that the National Central Library is able to do its work. To prepare and maintain such a catalogue and to act as an Exchange Bureau for libraries in a country or province is not a small task; and the difficulties in the problem are many. The estimates made in our own Province of Bombay by a previous committee on the Subject of a Central Library indicate the same fact. At a confernce of representative libraries in Poona, we were told that it had been proposed to prepare a Union Catalogue of the contents of some of the important libraries in Poona for the benefit of students, but the scheme had to be given up as the estimated cost ran up to seven thousand rupees. Even in a wealthy country like England, the National Central Library was given a grant of £3,000 to enable it to begin the work.

- 20. The National Central Library or the Regional Library is not expected to keep all the books that are required by the readers though the regional libraries are themselves generally very well equipped. Their main function is to obtain the book from some other library as a loan, but such books as may be in demand, and may not be available at other libraries, are very often obtained and kept in the National Central Library or the Regional Library. This does not mean however that any small library can supplement its collections of ordinary books by calling upon the Regional or Central library to supply their readers with all kinds of books that the small library can and should buy for itself; and with this object, books below a certain price are not generally interloaned in this way.
- 21. The function of the Central Library and the Regional libraries in India will have, however, to be different from the Central and Regional libraries of England in the present conditions in this country. In England, there are large reference libraries, efficient special libraries on different subjects, copyright libraries and generally a vast library system. In India, libraries are very few, and very small. It seems therefore that as a matter of convenience and compromise, the Central and Regional libraries here will have also to take up the functions of all these classes of libraries mentioned above.

CHAPTER III.

THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN INDIA.

- 22. Up to the beginning of the present century, the number of public libraries in India was small, and the number of moderately large ones could be counted on one's fingers. With the spread of literacy, growth of literature in regional languages, and the multiplication of printed books and newspapers, their number has slowly increased. The condition obtaining in the country, however, is to preclude a rapid development of the movement unless it receives direct impetus from the Government. In the first place, only 10 per cent. of the population is literate, and even compulsory primary education, which has been introduced in certain regions and and may be adopted on a wider scale hereafter, will not appreciably add to this percentage unless adequate measures are taken to ensure that the people who have been educated receive easy facilities for continuing in the habit of reading, in order to prevent them from relapsing into illiteracy. Secondly, the economic conditions in India are hardly favourable for building up many large libraries. The building up and maintenance of such libraries is costly, and even in a country like England, assistance from the Carnegie Trust was found necessary for the establishment of some of the libraries, and for the development of the National Central Library. Moreover, the vast mass of the Indian population lives in villages, and the small village is not a suitable place for locating a good library. The scheme that has to be devised has to meet these conditions, and to make the best of the material available.
- 23. Before formulating such a scheme, we shall notice in brief what is being done in the different Provinces and States in India.

Bengal.—The premier library in Bengal is the Imperial Library which contains more than three hundred thousand books. This library is financed by the Government of Bengal as well by the Government of India. There are other important libraries at Calcutta, like those of the University, the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal, the Government Commercial Department, and the Indian Museum. The Dacca University Library is a growing one and various other private libraries are in existence, though there is no organized library movement in the Province. The Bengal Library Association has been trying to do its best to create popular interest in the subject. The Indian Library Association has been giving library training to aspiring future librarians, and trying to further the library movement in India.

- 24. United Provinces.—The Province is fortunate in having 5 Universities, that is, Allahabad, Aligarh, Agra, Benares and Lucknow, which have their own libraries. The Nagari Pracharini Sabha at Benares as well as the Gurukul of Hardwar possess good libraries. There are other libraries in the Province also and the Government has recently taken up a programme of developing libraries and Reading Rooms especially in the rural districts, by giving suitable grants. There is a library Association called the U. P. Library Association in the Province.
- 25. Central Provinces and Berar.—Important cities in the Province have their own libraries. In 1928-29 Government sanctioned a scheme for establishing 22 Village Public Libraries, one for each district, attaching them to suitable schools. Finding that the scheme was popular, the number of libraries was doubled in 1937-38. Next year again it was further extended. These libraries are free libraries. A suitable grant is made every year and a special committee selects books and periodicals for purchase by these Libraries. The Nagpur University possesses a good library. There are also libraries of the Mahakoshal Research Society at Bilaspur and the Vidarbha Sahitya Sangha at Yeotmal.
- 26. Assam.—The only public library maintained by Government is the Public Library at Shillong, which is a free library. The Inspector of Schools conducts circulating libraries in the Assam Valley circle. The movemedt was started in 1935. In 4 years' time it was divided into 13 divisions and 225 centres. There are no other libraries except those of Schools and Colleges.
- 27. Bihar.—The Khudabux Oriental Library at Bankipore is a valuable collection of Arabic and Persian manuscripts. Patna has a University Library and two other public libraries. There is also a Library Association called the Bihar Library Association at Patna. The Bihar Government made a provision of Rs. 30,000 for libraries in their Education Budget in 1939-40.
- 28. The Punjab.—This was one of the first provinces giving its attention to the question of libraries. Government encourages Municipalities and other local bodies to estblish libraries in towns and villages. Village Co-operative Societes also have their own libraries for the benefit of their members. In addition to the University library the Punjab possesses a very large public library, known as the Punjab Public Library at Lahore. That city also has half a dozen additional libraries of importance, notable amongst which are the People of India Society's Library and the Dwarkadas Library. There is a Library Association in the Province "The

Punjab Library Association" which conducts a journal called 'The Modern Librarian'.

- 29. Travancore.—There are 45 reading rooms and libraries to which grants are given by the Government. Of these libraries, 13 are rural and the rest urban. In addition to this, library development centres have been opened under the supervision of the Educational Department. There are 15 centres in each of the four divisions. Rs. 100 are sanctioned in the first instance for each of of these centres, for expenses including furniture, books, periodicals, etc. There is a public library at Trivandrum and mossisil libraries affiliated to this. The library movement is fostered by the State.
- 30. Baroda.—The Baroda library system is too well-known by now to be described in detail. The library movement in Baroda was started in 1910, when primary education also was made free and compulsory. Originally the library movement was started by private agency but later on it was taken up by Government, and to-day there is close co-operation between the Government and the people. The annual expenditure on the library department is about Rs. 2,00,000.

The Central Library is the centre of all library activities. There is a Library Association, a non-official body, which does propaganda work and other educational work regarding library matters. For starting a village library, the particular village, the Local Board. and the Government contribute one-third each. Mofussil libraries can borrow books from the Central Library. For the benefit of smaller villages or for places where regular library provision cannot be made, travelling libraries in the form of suitable book boxes have been introduced. Village libraries are very often in the charge of school teachers and sometimes housed in the schools themselves. The libraries are free and open to all. There are separate libraries or separate rooms in the library for women. A number of libraries have sections for children, designed for their recreation, development and growth of knowledge. These special sections are in charge of special librarians. There is also a special Library Legislation in the State, and arrangements are made for training of librarians by the Library Department.

Out of the 3,000 villages in the State, 2,800 are served by the library system. It may be mentioned that there are 2,600 schools in these villages. There are 46 town libraries and 1,200 village libraries. The travelling libraries number 390, and simple newspaper reading rooms are 222.

- 31. Madras.—In 1938-39, there were 1,125 public libraries in the Province, 3 being specially for women. 802 libraries were under the management of the Local Boards, 39 under Municipalities, 41 attached to Co-operative Societies and 243 under private management. Grants are given by Government from the money allotted to the Educational Department since 1921-22. School libraries have also been in many cases made accessible to the public under certain conditions. The Madras Library Association is a very vigorous Association which is trying to carry the message of the Library far into the small village by encouraging travelling libraries, extension lectures etc. The University and the Madras Library Asso. ciation are in close co-operation. The University has a scheme for training librarians. There is in Madras another Association called "The Andhra Library Association" which is also doing very good work. The city of Madras contains two-important libraries, the Connemara Public Library and the Madras University Library, in addition to many other smaller ones.
- 32. Mysore, Cochin, etc.—These States also have been paying much attention to the growth of libraries in their territories.
- 33. Bombay.-The Library effort in the Province has been mainly private. Government has not been able to direct its attention to this question, possibly through want of funds. It has however been giving small grants to some libraries like that of the Royal Asiatic Society, and since 1921, the library of the Director of Information, Bombay, has been made available to readers free of charge. Government has its own library at the Secretariat, and the heads of Departments have their own libraries as well. The College and High School libraries are also receiving financial assistance from Government. There are libraries for subscribers in District towns and also in many of the Taluka towns. Very few villages have any libraries, the smaller ones not having even reading rooms. Occasionally we find Municipalties giving some facilities or a very small grant to libraries. The Municipality of Ahmedabad, however, stands alone in the Province as a city possessing a large Municipal Library of its own, and it is now devoting its attention to a further development of the library movement within its jurisdiction. We hope that the example of Ahmedabad will be followed by other Municipalities.
- 34. There are three Library Associations in the Province of Bombay, one in Gujarat, another in Maharashtra and a third in Karnatak. But, they have not been able to do much. The important libraries in the Province are:

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- (1) The Library of the Bombay Branch Royal Asiatic Society, Bombay.
 - (2) The Library of the University of Bombay.
 - (3) The Library of the J. N. Petit Institute, Bombay.
 - (4) The M. J. Municipal Library, Ahmedabad.
 - (5) The Servants of India Society's Library, Poona.
 - (6) The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona.

Among the smaller libraries of special interest, the following may be mentioned.:—

- (1) The Gujarat Vidyapitha Library, Ahmedabad.
- (2) The Bharat Itihasa Sanshodhak Mandal's Library, Poona.
- (3) The Library of the Philosophical Institute, Amalner.
- (4) The Marathi Granthalaya, Poona.
- (5) The Anjuman-i-Islam Library, Bombay.
- (6) The Library of the Cama Oriental Institute, Bombay,
- 35. Among the technical and professional libraries may be included libraries of the College of Agriculture, College of Engineering, College of Commerce, the Royal Institute of Science, the University Department of Chemical Technology, the V. J. T. Institute, the Medical Schools and Colleges, Sir. J. J. School of Art, and the Law Colleges.
- 36. The libraries mentioned above are generally open only to their members, and the libraries of educational institutions are generally accessible only to the professors and students.
- \37. Free libraries are being opened in some places, but these are often very small libraries or mostly ordinary reading rooms, notable exceptions being the People's Free Reading Room and Libraries in Bombay conducted by the Sukhadwala Trust.
- 38. It will thus be seen that for ordinary readers there are not many library facilities in the Province, and as for the question of co-operation between these libraries attention has not yet been given to the matter, though the desirability of such co-operation was discussed between the Bombay Branch Royal Asiatic Society's Library, the Bombay University Library and the Library of the Cama Oriental Institute of Bombay, and co-operation of a certain kind does exist between the first two libraries. In 1920 a Committee was appointed by Government (Government Order, Educational Department No. 4219, dated 6th October 1920) for exploring the possibility of co-operation between libraries of the Province of

Bombay, Baroda, the Central Provinces and Central India. The Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society had then agreed to act as a Central Library for the purposes of this co-operation but the deliberations of this Committee came to nothing as some of the Governments concerned did not accept the Committee's financial recommendations.

- 39. In this Province, therefore, we have to visualise the building up of an efficient library system on the basis of what material we actually possess at present. We have already mentioned some of the existing libraries above. In addition to these the Government list of Registered Libraries contains 339 names. Compared with other Provinces, let alone the West, we find that this Province is far behind the others in the matter of libraries. In the Press Note referred to already (Appendix A) Government announced its intention of making a provision in the current year's Budget for the development of rural libraries, but advantage does not seem to have been taken of this by any Association, Taluka, or Village. It seems, therefore, that unless the question is taken up by some interested association, like the Library Association, who can move in the matter, the good-will of Government will not bear fruit. The Municipalities and the Local Boards have sufficient powers even under the present law to devote some of their money for establishing libraries, but the importance of this question must be brought home to them. Government must also be prepared to give sufficient help where it is needed. To the Registered libraries Govvernment used to present copies of the Government Gazette and some other Government publications; but this does not help the ordinary libraries in any way. We venture to think that Government should be prepared to do much more in the matter than it has hitherto done.
- 40. We are persuaded that an efficient library system can only be built up in the Province with the free assistance and under the ægis of the Government. The building up of such a system even on the very modest scale we propose in the following pages, involves the expenditure of money which it would not be possible to raise solely, or even substantially, through private agencies. Secondly, it would involve the co-operation of local bodies which it would be easier to obtain through the Government. We visualise a steady growth of the movement through successive stages through a number of years; and for the realisation and maintenance of the progress according to plan, for overcoming diverse kinds of difficulties that may arise from time to time, we think it indispensable that the movement should have active aid and sympathy from Government. We venture to think, also, that the

Government should freely give this aid, and that the library movement, which must necessarily make for the cultural advancement of the community, should evoke Government's particular concern.

LIBRARIES AND EDUCATION.

- 41. For several decades now, Government has been steadily adopting schemes designed to afford wider facilities for Primary education in the Province. Compulsory Primary education has been already introduced in certain areas, and the areas of compulsion are being widened. 'Adult education has also engaged the attention of Government. But unless steps are taken to ensure that the people who are thus educated are given facilities and encouraged to continue their acquaintance with letters, they must necessarily relapse into the stage of illiteracy. Moreover, the ultimate purpose of those schemes of education, we assume, is not merely to make the masses literate—that cannot be an end in itself, but only a means to the end—but also to educate them, to put them by placing within their reach literature and the sciences, on the path to a fuller life and prospects of economic betterment. But, at present, the average villager has no opportunities to read a book or paper after he leaves the school for the field; and unless he is given these opportunities in a sufficient measure, the money spent on his education must be deemed to have been spent to no purpose. Such opportunities can only be given to him through an organized network of libraries. Similarly, every citizen of the State has a right to adequate opportunities for cultural advancement and development of his personality, commensurate with his education and equipment. especially since he has a voice in the decision of problems vitally affecting the community, so that the library movement with a network of libraries serving persons of different interests and at different stages of development, is not only intimately connected with the literacy movement, but can be properly said to be an essential concomitant of the eductional system. We, therefore, note with pleasure the decision of the Government that it should itself sponsor the movement.
- 42. We turn now to the question as to what can and should be done in the immediate future, having due regard to the conditions obtaining in the Province. In England, there are various kinds of libraries, such as Copyright or Deposit Libraries, Reference Libraries, General Libraries for reading and circulation, and Special Libraries, for reference and research.: It is not necessary to establish all these several kinds of libraries in the Province, at any rate in the immediate future. The libraries in the Province are general, and

the special libraries are more or less private. The establishment of free public libraries must be preceded by an intensive effort to educate public opinion regarding their utility. This is so, because although Government proposes to sponsor the movement, it may not be able to find all the money necessary at the successive stages of development; and Government's outlay will have to be 'supplemented by other means, e.g., voluntary contributions' from private individuals and from institutions, and even from fresh special taxation. And in order thus to educate public opinion, it is necessary that proper agencies are blished at suitable centres selected by Government for the establishment of Central and Regional libraries. The Library movement in Gujarat, thus, can be developed by the Regional library at Ahmedabad with the help of a suitable Library Association. These two bodies can then secure the help of local working institutions and individual workers. The needs of the Marathi-speaking province can be attended to from Poona, and the centre of activities for the Karnatak districts can be located at Dharwar, and the efforts of these three centres can be co-ordinated from Bombay. So that if a Regional library is established at Ahmedabad, it will have to bring about the co-operation of the existing libraries in that region and try for the establishment of more libraries in Gujarat. As the libraries in our outlying districts are too poor, they will very often apply for costly or rare books to the Regional Library. Our Regional libraries must, therefore, possess a large number of books for lending them to the smaller affiliated or co-operating libraries.

COPYRIGHT LIBRARIES

43. Then again the question of keeping copyright books at these centres has been raised. Really speaking, a copyright library is a library where books are registered on publication to ensure a copyright in their authors or publishers, so that every publication is necessarily deposited in the Copyright Library. In India a book need not be registered for the purposes of obtaining this right. However, under Sections 9 and 11 of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, three copies of every publication are sent to the Provincial Government by the Printer; two of these are sent to England, one for the British Museum and another for the India Office, and the third copy remains with the Government. The Provincial Government, therefore, gets one copy of each book published in the Province. Many of the books collected in this way are lying at the Government Record Office, Bombay, but though in theory they are accessible to the public, they are practically buried in the Record Office as there is no proper catalogue of this

- collection. Books published in this Province are mainly in the three principal languages of the Province, Gujarati, Marathi and Kanarese. A few are in other languages, like English and Urdu. It would, therefore, be desirable to keep one copy of these books at a principal centre representing the main languages, so that Gujarat books can be kept in Gujarat, Marathi in Maharashtra and Kanarese books in the Kanarese Districts. If these books were given in charge of a library and were properly catalogued and looked after by that library, the advantage to the public would be very great. From this point of view also the towns selected in the three regions, viz. Ahmedabad, Poona and Dharwar, are suitable for the purpose intended. The Regional libraries therefore will have to be the keepers of these Government collections or the so-called copyright library. They must also have their own big libraries and must be able to attend to the library movement in the region.
- 44. It is proposed by Government that the present collections of the copyright books should be kept at the Central library. If however in future all the books received from this source under the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, are to be located at the Central library, this proposal would be satisfactory, but if one copy in addition has to be kept at the Regional library represented by the language of the book also, government will need two copies for this deposit, one at the Central library and one at one of the Regional libraries. But at present they only get one; and moreover, it sometimes happens that this copy is required by the Oriental Translator's Office, or the Home Department for its own purposes, with the result that such books do not go to the Government collection of Copyright books at the Record Office. It will thus be seen that to make the collection complete, 3 additional copies instead of the one as at present, will have to be obtained by the Provincial Governments.
 - 45. We presume that if these three additional copies are to be obtained the Government of India will have to be moved to make the necessary amendment in the law as referred to in the Government Press Note. In England a number of copies can be requisitioned for copyright libraries under the English Law; and we presume that to requisition more copies in India will not be a great hardship to the publishers. The position at present is that whereas all Indian books are available in the British Museum and the India Office, there is not a single place in India where all the books published in India can be found. This state of things should in our opinion be remedied, and every book published in India should be kept at least in one copyright library in India, where the

copyright collection should be maintained as a reference collection only,

- 46. In 1918 the Government of India intended to start four such copyright libraries, and the Government of Bombay had, by Government Order, Educational Department, No. 2980 of 11th November 1918, appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Collector of Bombay for exploring this question and giving their opinion to the Government of India. What happened later on is not known, but apparently the Government of India must have given up the idea.
- 47. Ultimately if it comes to the question of changing the existing Act, and the Government of India is now favourable to the idea, we are of opinion that it should be moved to consider again the question of establishing one or more copyright libraries for the whole of India. This would mean that the provision of submitting some more copies again will have to be made in the Act.
- 48. Whatever the future developments may be, for our present purpose we recommend that the existing Act should be so amended that three additional copies can be obtained; out of these one copy is to remain at the Central library, and one at one of the Regional libraries according to the language of the book, the third copy being utilised for the purpose of Government departments. In case however only one copy of a book was available for the copyright library in the Province, books in the main language, should go to the respective centres represented by the languages, namely, Gujarati at Ahmedabad, Marathi at Poona, Kanarese at Dharwar, and the residue consisting of English, Urdu and other books remaining at the Central library.
- 49. It was suggested to us that the main linguistic collections of Gujarati, Marathi and Kanarese books should be completed by an exchange of copyright books with other Provinces and Indian States. Owing to practical difficulties especially due to the number of States, we do not recommend this exchange. The Regional libraries, if they so desire, should complete their collection by purchasing the outside books, the cost of which is not likely to be great, and for this purpose the grants we propose to recommend to the respective Regional libraries, should for the present be sufficient.

CHAPTER IV

THE COMMITTEE'S QUESTIONNAIRE AND THE REPLIES RECEIVED.

- 50. As has been stated in the introductory chapter, a questionnaire was issued by the Committee after keeping in mind all the implications arising out of the terms of reference and the Government Press Note. In all 156 answers were received by us. Out of these:
 - 36 were from Libraries and Library Associations:
 - 27, from private individuals;
 - 22 from associations other than Library Associations;
 - 18 from Municipalities;
 - 17 from Government Colleges, High Schools and Officers of the Government Educational Department;
 - 14 from private High Schools and educational institutions;
 - 6 from Government officials (other than Educational);
 - 5 from Provinces (other than Bombay);
 - 3 from District School Boards;
 - 3 from District Local Boards;
 - 3 from Public Libraries in India;
 - 1 from a State outside the Province of Bombay, and
 - 1 from a University outside the Province of Bombay.

51. There was a general agreement that the Central Library should be located at Bombay and the Regional Libraries at Poona, Ahmedabad and Dharwar. It was also obvious from the replies that they favoured the establishment of linguistic copyright libraries at Poona, Ahmedabad and Dharwar, and that these copyright libraries should be accessible free to all bona fide students. Regarding the staff, the housing and the functions of the Central and Regional libraries, they are not very well known in India. Moreover, the functions of the Central and Regional libraries as outlined by us in the previous chapter will naturally be different even from the ordinary functions of the central and regional libraries elsewhere as they will have to help in organizing the Library movement, and will also have to manage the Copyright Libraries. The additional suggestions received in the replies were (1) that Urdu and allied books should be stocked separately in a separate Copyright library, or at the Central library in Bombay, (2) that Marathi, Gujarati or Kanarese books

¹⁵⁶ Total

published outside the Province of Bombay should be obtained by the copyright libraries to make their particular linguistic collections complete either by mutual arrangement with other provinces and States or by purchase.

In the replies to our questions other than those in the terms of reference, opinion was divided on the question of Copyright libraries acting as lending libraries, and as regards the technical or special libraries, a majority of the replies favoured the Regional libraries themselves stocking such books. Almost everybody favoured the idea of handing over the Regional library, functions as well as the copyright books to suitable existing libraries, and all agreed that Government would have to finance the additional activities and responsibilities of these libraries. As regards the finances other than Government grants and the co-operation of public bodies, the majority seemed to favour the view that public bodies or Local Self-Government institutions may not be able to contribute towards libraries. And as regards the housing of the Central and Regional libraries, very few suggested the establishment of new libraries altogether for the purpose, while the majority favoured the view that existing libraries should be given help for an extension of their Regarding legislation for a Library buildings and resources. movement, the general trend of the replies was that public opinion was not yet ripe for it. On the question of Government supervision, opinions were again divided. Some people favoured a strict Government control while others went to the other end saying that though the movement should be financed by the Government, no Government control was necessary. A majority favoured the view that Government should have the right of supervision by reason of their financial aid, but that it should be restricted to the Central or the Regional activity only without any unnecessary interference with the internal administration of the libraries taking up the functions. The views of the Committee on all these questions are expressed in this report at the proper places.

CHAPTER V.

THE CENTRAL AND REGIONAL LIBRARIES.

53. We shall first deal with the question whether Government themselves should start the Central and Regional libraries. One of the objects of the present inquiry, as referred to in the Government Press Note, is to consider how this project can be economically achieved without detriment to efficiency.

FUNCTIONS OF THE CENTRAL AND REGIONAL LIBRARIES.

54. According to the scheme outlined in Chapter III, our Central Library will have (1) to preserve all copyright books, (2) to possess a large collection of rare and costly books, so that it can supplement the resources of the Regional Libraries, (3) to give reference facilities to readers and students; (4) to co-ordinate the resources ' of the Regional Libraries, and (5) to further the Library movement in the Province and to guide it whenever necessary. The functions of the Regional Library also will be approximately the same, with this difference that its sphere of action will be limited to its Region, it will be under the general guidance of the Central Library and it will necessarily have to develop the Library movement in the districts. It seems to us, therefore, that considering the type of Central and Regional libraries that we expect to have and the magnitude of the finance involved in the establishment and maintenance of such libraries with proper supervision which will include money for housing, equipment, books, their maintenance, cataloguing and staff and all other incidental expenses, it is desirable for Government to take advantage of the fact either that there are suitable existing libraries which may be willing to take up the work, or that where there are no sultable libraries at present, the local people are prepared to finance the Regional libraries to some extent if the working of the libraries is entrusted to them. This will save a large amount of expenditure to Government, and in addition secure the co-operation of the public for a furtherance of the Library movement.

CENTRAL LIBRARY IN BOMBAY.

55. A suitable Central library building in Bombay will cost more than a million rupees in initial expenditure alone and a suitable grant for the extension of the building will be necessary periodically. This Library would grow rapidly, and suitable finances would have to be provided for it as recurrent annual expenditure. Land in Bombay is extremely expensive, and that will also be a big item of financial liability. The sums to be expended at Poona, Ahmedabad

and Dharwar on independent Government libraries would be also considerable though smaller compared with the expenditure on the Central Library. Rented premises are unsuitable for such libraries, and even if they are to be rented, it will ultimately be realised that a Government building would in the end be cheaper than a rented building. Proper shelving, fittings and the necessary furniture for the Central Library alone may require not less than a hundred and fifty thousand rupees to start with. Similar considerations would apply to the recurring expenditure for maintenance of the staff, additions and repairs to furniture, shelving and other items. Regarding the books, the acquisition of a large library consisting of rare and valuable books necessary for a Central or Regional library would be a question of time and a great deal of money. Four hundred thousand rupees would be a very modest estimate for books in the beginning for a Central Library; but some of the old, rare and important books, which are very often required by serious students and which are to be found in the existing libraries like that of the Asiatic Society, are even difficult to purchase or to acquire to-day.

- 56. We would ourselves have preferred the establishment of separate Government Central and Regional libraries because then the question of expansion and the ultimate responsibility of the growth and management would be a responsibility of Government. But considering the facts that Government may not be able to find all the money to-day, that Government desire to bring into existence these facilities with the minimum of expenditure, and that there are institutions which are willing to co-operate with Government, we are of opinion that Government would do well to take advantage of their willingness. If Government supplements the resources of such existing institutions and helps them to function as Central or Regional Libraries, the Province will have this benefit with the minimum of expenditure to Government. The Government grants that we have proposed in this report to be given to these institutions for this purpose may be said to be even less than the interest on the amounts that Government would otherwise have to spend for opening such Government Libraries, leaving aside the large recurring expenses that will be necessary.
- 57. In Bombay we have considered several institutions with a view to recommending one of them for the purposes of the formation of the Central Library, and we have come to the conclusion that our reply to the second Term of Reference to the Committee as to whether the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society should form the nucleus of the Central Library in Bombay, should be in the affirmative. Fears and doubts expressed by some members of the public as to the desirability and suitability of the Society's library

being given this right of forming the Central library have also been considered by us. The Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society has already informed Government that in case Government is prepared to finance the additional activities involved, and to provide for the additional space required, and provided the rights of the Society and its members are not endangered and the Society's individual existence is kept intact, it is prepared to render all possible help to Government and to make their resources available for the purposes of functioning as the Central Library.

- 58. In 1920 the Government of Bombay appointed a Committee, for considering the question of the reciprocity between the libraries of certain Provinces (see paragraph 38). The question of copyright books also was then considered and the intention was expressed that they should be kept at the library which would act as the Central Library in the scheme. At that time also the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society had agreed to act as the Central Library on certain conditions. But the recommendations of that Committee could not be acted upon, as some of the Governments concerned did not accept the recommendations.
- 59. Government is aware of the importance of the large library of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society for research workers. The Society was started in 1804, and is the leading cultural institution in the Province. Throughout its long history, the foremost scholars of the Province have been associated wih it. The Society has gradually built up its large and valuable Library. easily the biggest in the Province; and its chief treasures are works on Oriental subjects and Indian History. It publishes a journal, which is greatly valued by scholars. It has been spending about Rs. 30,000 a year on the upkeep of its library and making additions to it. If it were proposed to start a new Central Library altogether, it would never hope to acquire so extensive and valuable a collection of books. Government would, therefore, be well advised if they accepted the co-operation of the Society which is freely offered to them. Such co-operation would result in throwing open to the public the finest existing Library in the Province. The Library possesses a trained staff and has the possibilities of giving the required training to librarians. Additional space is also available in the Town Hall building, if this can be placed entirely at their disposal by Government.

REGIONAL LIBRARIES FOR THE PROVINCE

60. Similarly at Ahmedabad, we would suggest the Municipal Library as a suitable library to undertake the work of a Regional

library. On visiting the various libraries at Ahmedabad, we found that the authorities of all these institutions were anxious to help in the establishment of a Regional library at Ahmedabad, and they were all willing to render every help to whichever library was selected to act as a Regional library. The Gujarat Vidyapith has a very good library of select books in the institution. It was willing to take up the function of the Regional library as well as to take up the work of organizing a library movement in the village. Alternatively it was prepared to help any other institution that might take up the function and to help in the library movement if called The Gujarat upon to do so by the particular institution. Vernacular Society, which is an influential society in the region and which has been working in the cause of Gujarati literature for a number of years, expressed similar views. We have selected the Municipal Library not because the two institutions referred to above are not capable of managing a Regional library, but because the Municipal Library has by now developed into a sound institution. It already possesses a large collection of books and has the backing of the Ahmedabad Municipality. It has a proper scientific catalogue and a trained staff, and it has no other functions to attend to. It has also the backing of the Ahmedabad public and it will receive the co-operation of the two important institutions mentioned above for the purpose of the library movement. We have also ascertained that, given suitable help for the additional activities, the Municipal Library would be willing to take up the additional work, and assurances were forthcoming that the Municipality would continue to take the same active and sympathetic interest in their library in future; we have therefore no hesitation in recommending it for the Regional Library for Gujarat. .

61. At Poona there are a number of good libraries; but none of them unaided is capable of functioning as the Regional Library. At a conference of representatives of all the important libraries, it was informally agreed that the City General Library would be the most suitable for functioning as a Regional library at Poona and that the resources and co-operation of practically all the libraries at Poona will under certain conditions be at the disposal of the City General Library for the purposes of the Regional Library, and some of the libraries wrote to us accordingly later on. We are, therefore, of opinion that the City General Library, Poona, be entrusted with the work of the Regional Library for Maharashtra. Here also the resources of the City General Library will have to be supplemented by Government.

- 62. At Dharwar, there is no suitable library at present which can immediately begin to function as a Regional library. conference of the local institutions and persons interested in libraries, at which we were present; unanimous opinion was expressed that the Karnatak Vidyavardhak Sangh, which has a small library, and which has a sound backing in the region and which can command the co-operation of the existing local libraries, should be entrusted with the work of the Regional library. The conference assured us at the meeting, and we were subsequently informed by a letter signed by some of those present, that a sum of Rs. 10,000 could be assured every year from various sources if the regional library work was entrusted with the Karnatak Vidyavardhak Sangh. They would also undertake the work of furthering the library movement in the region. We would therefore recommend that their offer should be accepted, provided of course that the necessary conditions are fulfilled.
- 63. After having studied the Library position in Bombay, Ahmedabad, Poona and Dharwar at first hand we have arrived at the conclusion outlined in the previous paragraphs. Government need not undertake the responsibility of establishing either a Provincial Central Library or Regional Libraries, but they should give suitable grants to the Institutions recommended by us on conditions outlined in the next chapter.

MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES FOR THE CITY OF BOMBAY.

64. To the foregoing recommendations, we would add one more suggestion. The Central library in Bombay will mainly supplement the three Regional libraries. The City of Bombay is outside these three regions and obviously the facilities for readers at these three regional places will not be available under the same conditions in Bombay. At present even though there are a number of libraries in the City they are all either subscription libraries or libraries of special interest where only subscribers or readers of a special class are admitted. The free libraries that are in existence do not possess very large resources. At Poona, Ahmedabad or Dharwar, the student will get the advantage of a certain class of books at the Regional libraries free of charge, and for books of higher cost or for rare books only, the help of the Central library will be invoked by the Regional libraries, because the Central Library is not expected to make all books available to all libraries even when those libraries may be in a position to buy such cheap books. But the case of a reader in Bombay will be hard for want of a suitable large library in the City because the Central Library is not expected to be thrown

open to the casual readet. If the regions are providing large libraries for their territories, the City of Bombay, which in importance and capacity is greater than any region should also have its own adequate library and than the Central Library can supplement the resources of this library as well. If a smaller Municipality like the Ahmedabad Municipality is doing so much for its population, it stands to reason that the Bombay Municipality which is moving in the direction of free compulsory primary education, and which has been giving some small grant to libraries should also start a number of libraries in the city including a large City library. We are sure that if members of the Corporation make a determined effort this matter is not very difficult for them to tackle, and we would be glad if the Municipality could be spersuaded to open a properly equipped free public library for the City of Bombay, with branches all over the City.

Municipality, doubts have been expressed as to whether a Central Library will be much in demand at Bombay. From the number of readers and enquirers that usually visit some of the libraries in the city for research work, especially such libraries as those of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society and the University of Bombay, we are quite sure that the establishment of a Central Library is a necessity, and that if it is properly established, its usefulness will be greatly appreciated. We may here mention only one point. At:present there are no means of knowing where a particular book is or may be in Bombay, unless one visits every possible library. The research worker and bonafide student will therefore derive great benefit from the Union Catalogue to be maintained at the Central Library.

CHAPTER VI.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

- 66. We have recommended that the Library of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society should be entrusted with the function of the Central library, (paragraphs 57, 58, 59) and we have recommended that Government should give them the necessary financial and other help that will be required for fulfilling that function. The Society's library must however undertake to act as the Central library, gradually perfecting its functions. The Society should also agree to the nomination of a representative of the Advisory Board on their Committee. In matters other than those of the Central library the Society will however keep its independence intact. They will also have to co-operate with the Central Advisory Board for Libraries in the matter of the library movement, the function of the co-ordination of the resources mainly the concern of the Central library. and recommendations of financial grants and the auditing of the accounts of the libraries receiving such grants being the concern of the Advisory Board. In the other functions of the Board also, the Central library is expected to give its co-operation to the Board. We recommend that the Society be given in the beginning an additional yearly grant of Rs. 30,000, which is an equivalent of what they themselves have been spending on an average for the maintenance of their own Library.
- We have also recommended that the Municipal Library at Ahmedabad should be the Regional library there. This library also must undertake to fulfil the functions of a Regional library mentioned by us (Chapter V, paragraph 54) and in consideration of this, it is to receive a Government grant. It will be subject to the joint control and supervision of the Central Library as well as the Central Advisory Board as far as the regional function of the Municipal Library is concerned, in such matters as, for instance, co-ordination of library resources, and the library movement in general. The Ahmedabad Municipal Library has a very good and growing collection of books, and its Committee is contemplating an extension of its building for its own purposes as also for the possible purpose of providing more accommodation for research students, if it is to be entrusted with the Regional library function. In its case we recommend that at present an annual grant of Rs. 10,000 should be given to it irrespective of the fact whether it is spent for building purposes also, for this reason that Government may not be able to meet the proportionate building cost in one year; and the library may be allowed to meet this cost gradually from this annual grant.

- 68. At Poona, we have recommended the City Library for the purposes of the Regional library. The resources of the City Library alone are not sufficient to enable it to be easily converted into a Regional library. But there are a number of very good libraries of different subjects in Poona. As already mentioned in Chapter V, these libraries are prepared to co-operate fully with the City Library at their head representing the Regional library, so that for the purposes of the Regional library, the resources of these libraries will be made available under the same conditions as at the other Regional or Central library. We therefore recommend that if these institutions form a joint Committe for the purposes of the Regional library to be established at the City Library, a sum of Rs. 10,000 a year, or a sum equal to the amount that this joint committee can raise in a year, should be given as a grant to the City Library to be utilised by the joint committee.
- 69. At Dharwar we have recommended that the Karnatak Vidya Vardhak Sangh should be entrusted with the work of forming a Regional library for that region. The Sangha is willing to offer every co-operation in this work. There is at present no good general library at Dharwar; but the Karnatak Vidya Vardhak Sangha has a small library, it has the co-operation of the other local libraries, and being a body of some influence, it hopes to secure about Rs. 10,000 a year for expending for the purposes of a good library at Dharwar. It has also sufficient space available for the expansion of their building. It should therefore be given an annual grant of Rs. 10,000 provided Government considers that the sum collected by the Sangha in the year is adequate.
- 70. These institutions, which we have recommended for being entrusted with the work of Regional Libraries must however agree to accept the control of the Central Library and the Central Advisory Board, for certain purposes, which have been referred to in the opening paragraph of this chapter and detailed in Chapter X.

CHAPTER VII.

MANAGEMENT OF CENTRAL AND REGIONAL LIBRARIES.

71. We have briefly indicated (in Chapter V) what the Central and the Regional libraries will have to do. The ordinary routine administration of the libraries taking up the work of Central and Regional libraries need not be in any way interfered with. Theywill retain their own independence, their individuality and the rights of their members as regards the issue of books and similar other rights. Only for the purposes of the Central and Regional functions should the management of the libraries be responsible to Government. As it is proposed that Government should finance these Libraries for the purposes of these extra activities to a considerable extent, it is fair-that Government should be able to exercise some sort of control over the Central and Regional function of these libraries. We have, however, to observe that the functions of the Central and Regional libraries can be completely discharged only if the full finance and facilities required for these functions are available to them.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE CENTRAL AND REGIONAL LIBRARIES

72. The main responsibility of the Central and Regional libraries will be the unification of the library system in the Province with a view to making all kinds of books in the libraries of the Province available to students and research-workers. This being the ultimate aim of inter-library co-operation, the Central and Regional libraries will have to be under the management of a properly trained staff. Owing to the importance of this aim in matters of Library co-operation the preparation of an efficient union catalogue (paragraph 19) can only be entrusted to competent persons; and. especially trained persons are necessary in the beginning as our libraries have not yet adopted uniform methods of cataloguing and catalogues. This uniformity will have to be gradually introduced later on if possible. In addition to the staff and material that would be required for this union catalogue, additional staff will also have to be provided for attending to the enquiries from the Regional and other libraries and from the public and for making the necessary arrangements of supplying books to them or arranging for such supply, in accordance with this co-operation scheme. Besides keeping in contact with Regional and other libraries (like Special Libraries) in the Province, the Central library will have also to establish contact with libraries outside the Province, and if possible, also outside India in order to facilitate borrowing books when necessary for students in the Province.

This is actually being done by the National Central Library in England and if mutual co-operation is properly established, this should be possible also in this Province.

73. Attendance, guidance, help and supervision over readers in the special Reference or Study Rooms to be opened to readers will also necessitate considerable additions to the staff. Another item of expenditure will be the purchase of additional books; even our larger libraries are not in a position to buy all the Reference Books that they really ought to possess; the Central library at least should be in a position to obtain them. Some duplicates of certain Reference Books like Dictionaries, Atlases etc. which are very often required by readers will have to be provided and the libraries themselves will have to be strengthened in many sections, and their existing gaps filled up. The purchase of many important periodicals for reference, and especially for filing will have to be considered. It has been found that at present newspapers and periodicals are filed in very few libraries with the result that very valuable material of historical or other importance is lost to the public. These newspapers and periodicals can be stocked at the Central or Regional libraries, or arrangements can be made to divide the work between several libraries. All these will an increase in shelving accommodation. normal increase must be added the shelving necessary for the present and future stock of Copyright books. For the Copyright books, for the periodicals, for books loosened etc., binding will take up a large amount. Cataloguing all these books, periodicals and copyright collections, as also making these catalogue entries for the Union catalogue will require additional staff. The dusting, cleaning and keeping of books in their proper places will need addition to the number of servants. Other additional expenses such as printing, stationery, lighting and other conveniences, furniture, insurance, and similar other incidental charges will have to be met.

LIBRARY STAFF AND THEIR TRAINING.

74. If the Library movement is to be successful, it is necessary that every library must have a trained staff, though the amount of training may differ according to the size, importance or function of a library; and as there are no arrangements for such training in the Province, the arrangements will have to be made; and even if they are made by or in co-operation with the Central Advisory Board, the Library Association, or the University, the Central and Regional Libraries will have to offer such facilities as may be required for the

training, which is only possible in large libraries. These libraries will have also the larger responsibility of furthering the extension of the library movement in the Province. This will involve a large amount of work of giving advice and encouragement to proposed or developing libraries regarding such matters as how they should be started and efficiently administered, how their finances can be economically utilised and how they can co-operate with their neighbouring libraries and the Regional libraries for their advantage. The question of the formation of Library Associations on the lines of the English Library Association and its branches for helping in the movement, for creating an interest in libraries, and generally for helping libraries and librarians in the work will have also to be taken up.

There is sometimes a misconception in the puplic mind as to the requirements and qualifications of librarians. It is often considered that librarians need not be men of much education or need not have any ability. Similarly it is also supposed that cataloguing does not require intelligence or involve much expense. We must here emphasize the fact that without an efficient librarian, a competent staff and a systematic catalogue, a library is of very little use, a fact which Government have already referred to in the Press Note. A librarian must be able to help not only a large number of readers of different interests, but must be able to help research workers also. And it is therefore necessary that the librarian of a large library must be of a high educational and professional qualification. He must know the resources of his library and must know the methods of classification and cataloguing. He must be generally conversant with all branches of knowledge and must be able to select books for purchase with discretion; and he should be able to obtain the help of experts in every branch of knowledge whenever it becomes necessary. He must also have a knowledge of library administration in all its aspects. including accounts. If he has to deal with Committees, he must also be conversant with Committee procedure. He has to deal with a large number of persons of different temperaments and requirements and therefore in addition to willingness to help, he must be a man of resource and tact. He must have the administrative ability to cope with all the problems that are likely to arise, and properly to control his staff. His staff also, who would be attending to the several departments, must be sufficiently competent. For the majority of people, the guidance of the library staff is very often necessary for a proper use of the library.

LIBRARY CATALOGUING.

- 76. Similarly, many people seem to entertain the misconception that cataloguing in a library means simply the making of a list of the books that it possesses. Had it been so simple, libraries and librarians would have been happier. A perfect catalogue has not yet been devised, and even when the best of classifying and cataloguing methods are adopted, the ideal catalogue is not attained. An efficient catalogue generally consists of three parts, (1) an Authors' catalogue, (2) a Title catalogue, and (3) a Classified catalogue, though very often many libraries manage with only two of these because of the expenditure involved. The problems of Classification and Cataloguing are so exacting that "Resposible cataloguing should never be undertaken by Assistants who have not been specially trained for the work. Rule of thumb methods may possibly be permitted in some of the aspects of routine; but here they would be worse than useless". "The main essential for successful cataloguing is a trained and adequate knowledge." (Doubleday's Library Routine).
- 77. Then there also appears to be an idea in the public mind that libraries spend an unnecessary amount on the and very little on books. As a matter of fact, even supposing no new books are purchased the expenditure on staff will be necessary for upkeep and service. Looking to the statements of accounts published by public libraries elsewhere, on an average 40 per cent. of the total expenditure of a public library is spent on the staff, whereas only 14 per cent. is spent on books. The larger the library, the greater the contrast. The cost of the staff necessary for the network of libraries proposed by us must therefore be considerable. Apart from this, binding of books alone, in a library, takes up about 7 per cent. of its total expenses. In the present case it will be higher for obvious reasons. The Central and the Regional libraries will have also to provide larger space by extending their buildings, if our recommendations are accepted. They will have to put up additional shelving, additional furniture and will have to make additional provision for binding their own books as well as copyright books that will be received. They will have to make additional arrangements for the cataloguing, management and up-keep of the copyright libraries also, and will have to increase their staff in order to carry out all the functions stated above.
- 78. If the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society is entrusted with the work of the Central library, they also will have to purchase a number of reference and general books and in some

cases duplicates of some of the books which they already have, and will have to keep a number of periodicals to which they do not normally subscribe. All this will be necessary in order to make it a good Reference Library and to supplement the resources of the Regional and other libraries as we have already mentioned above. Additional accommodation will have to be immediately provided for readers in the Central library. We understand that even now the Society's library wants more accommodation for its own use. We find that the South portion of the Town Hall is utilised by Government for the occasional use of some Committee or Commission etc. or other or for some temporary department. It may be possible for Government to allot that portion of the Town Hall to the Society for the purposes of forming a reading room for students as well as for providing the additional accommodation that will be immediately needed.

- '79. Another urgent need will be to make an additional copy of their catalogue for the use of the readers in the Central library, as one copy only of the catalogue cannot be conveniently used for reference at both the places and by a large number of people.
- 80. The greater problem of the Union Catalogue also will have to be undertaken. This will involve a very large expense in the beginning. All these additional needs, mentioned above will necessitate an additional trained staff as well as menial staff, as the work of Reference at the Central Library, its co-ordination work with the libraries and its part in the movement will have to be attended to. The Copyright Library also will have to be run by the Society.
- 81. The requirements of the Regional libraries will be more or less on the same basis but on a smaller scale. At Ahmedabad the immediate need would be an extension in addition to the one already planned by the Municipal Library. If an initial building and shelving grant is not possible, we recommend that the Library be allowed to divert some portion of its annual recurring grant for this purpose, say, during the first four or five years. We recommend the same procedure for grants at Poona and Dharwar. At both these places the institutions recommended have space available for the necessary extension of accommodation, but the immediate expenditure involved will have to be made up gradually if it cannot be met in one year.

GOVERMENT PUBLICATIONS.

82. Another recommendation that we make is that Government should send one copy of each of the Government publications to

these libraries, and we might also suggest that the Government of India may be moved to send one copy of all their publications to these libraries. When the Government of India prints a number of copies of their publications for official use or for sale to the public, the printing of a few additional copies will not add much to the cost beyond practically the cost of the paper, and it will not be difficult to persuade the Government of India to accept this suggestion. The possibilities of co-operation with other Provincial Governments by exchange of publications should also be investigated.

CHAPTER VIII.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

- 83. A special library is generally (1) a library containing books on a subject which is not of general interest, but in which only professional, technical or industrial readers are particularly concerned, or (2) it may be a library devoted to books on one particular subject of general interest, but specialising in it to a very high degree, or (3) it may be a library for a special class of readers. In the first class, we can include libraries of Science, Medicine, Technology, Fine Arts, Law, Commerce, Industry, Music and Drama, etc., in the second class we can include libraries of History, Economics, Education, etc., while in the third category, we can include such libraries as Libraries for the Blind.
- 84. Women's and Children's libraries are considered by some as special libraries, but we do not think that they can be so classed. It is necessary no doubt to have separate children's libraries or separate sections for children in general libraries. Similarly for women, also, at least for some time to come, we should have separate sections in libraries. But the books of interest to women and children are not of the special nature referred to above, and therefore, even if separate libraries for children and women are started they may not be called special libraries.
- 85. At present there are very few special libraries in India compared to those in the West. Such libraries as exist are more or less of a private nature. The libraries that have been recommended by us for the purposes of the Central and Regional libraries, do not contain many books of a technical or special nature, but the need of books on these special subjects is being increasingly felt by the general public in the Province.
- 86. As the Central Library is mainly to be established in order to coordinate the resources of all libraries and to prevent an unnecessary duplication of the purchase of books and as it is not expected to purchase all kinds of books for all possible readers, it will be sufficient if the special libraries that exist can be brought into its sphere of co-operation. It will be easy for Government to allow the libraries of their specialised institutions like the Royal Institute of Science, the Medical Colleges and Medical Schools, the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics, the Agricultural College, Sir J. J. School of Art, the Department of the Director of Industries, and other departmental libraries, to be used by the public when neces-

sary through the Central library to which the libraries should be affiliated for the purposes of co-operation. The other libraries like those of the V. J. T. Institute, the University of Bombay, Technological Research Laboratory, the University School of Economics and Sociology, the Department of Chemical Technology of the University, the Chambers of Commerce, the Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work, the Social Service League, as also the proposed Dinshaw Memorial Library of Commerce, can be persuaded to join in the scheme. Outside libraries like the libraries of the Chambers of Commerce may also be helpful if a proper approach is made. It is possible that private institutions, which have special books, may not all agree to send out their books, but we believe they may be persuaded to make their resources known to the public through the union catalogue at the Central or Regional libraries by supplying these libraries with lists, catalogues or cards of the books that they have, and keeping such lists, etc., upto-date by periodically sending lists of additions. They should also allow occasional access to their libraries to bona fide readers, if such readers are recommended by the Central or Regional libraries, or to make such books available to the Central or Regional Library on certain conditions. In the case of some of these libraries such loans are privately given even now, but, the practice should be regularised and increased.

- 87. These special books or periodicals of a specialised nature are not however required very often for reference by the ordinary reader. His need of reading books on these special subjects is the need of a general reader and the Central and Regional libraries may be encouraged to keep a few books of these special subjects. These books need not be of a highly advanced and technical nature but should be of a popular interest. Reference books on these special subjects such as, Directories, Codes, Maps, Dictionaries, etc., might also be kept in suitable libraries. We therefore recommend that instead of the Central or Regional Libraries being required to keep highly advanced technical books on special subjects, co-operation with Special libraries should be sought, as in our opinion, this will be more convenient and more in the interest of the students of these subjects; such co-operation may also be of great mutual benefit to Special Libraries themselves.
- 88. We do not recommend, therefore, that any new Special Libraries should be started by Government, nor that the Central or Regional Libraries should purchase highly specialised books. For these books, the Government or private institutions concerned should be encouraged todevelop their own existing special libraries,

wherever possible by special book-grants. The Lord Reay Industrial Museum at Poona, for instance, which receives a Government grant is gradually trying to build up a library of technical and allied books and periodicals, of special interest to students of applied science and to men of commerce; and if a special grant is given for the development of its Library on condition that the Library is properly catalogued and maintained, and that it joins in the scheme of inter-library co-operation, it may in course of time be of considerable use to the public.

CHAPTER IX.

LIBRARIES OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- 89. All Colleges have libraries for the use of their Professors and students. All Government High Schools and many private High Schools have comparatively large libraries in their possession. The primary schools however have as yet no libraries, though some schools have made an attempt in this direction. The main difficulty with the libraries for primary schools is that the primary schools in the mofussil are very poor to buy any books; the second difficulty is that apart from text-books, there are very few books published which are suitable for children reading in primary schools. The same difficulty is met with by workers in the cause of literacy amongst grown up people. There are very few simple and easy books to meet the reading needs of the new adult literates, and as advanced books are of no interest to such readers, they read very little or nothing at all, and as their practice of reading is not kept up they soon lapse into illiteracy, and the effort and the money spent on making them literate are very soon wasted. If literacy is to advance, we feel it necessary that books suitable for all types of primary readers be published and made available in different libraries. We understand that a successful attempt in this direction is being made in Baroda. Even for children who are no longer in schools, a post-school contact or a continuation of reading is necessary, especially in villages, if literacy is to continue. But it is not possible for the school authorities alone or for Government to do it, it demands co-operation between the teachers, the public and the Government. In towns or smaller villages suitable libraries of the required nature can be gradually built up in schools. Just as in a city, playing grounds and parks are necessary for the physical well-being of the child, similarly the mind of a child requires freedom from its routine surroundings, and opportunities of making interesting intellectual excursions. Exhibitions, museums and libraries are necessary for the cultural growth of the adult as well as of the child. The growing child should also be provided. with some cheerful place where away from the troublesome atmosphere of most of the poor homes, which are by no means ideal, its soul can be refreshed by reading, recreation as well as by observa. tion. Children's sections in libraries or children's libraries are intended for this purpose. In towns and small villages, the school libraries have to take their place.
- 90. These school libraries should be made available to past students as well, it no other libraries, easy of access, are available

at such places. As a master of fact, we would suggest thatk school libraries should be open to the past students as well as the general public, if possible, on suitable conditions. The impo ance of this may not be realised in big towns like Bombay or eve smaller towns where suitable reading material is available t people desiring to read. In villages or smaller towns, however, where such facilities do not exist, school libraries will be a great asset to the people if they are properly equipped and made available to the public; and the Department of Public Instruction, which supervises all educational institutions in the Province can help the library movement of the Province if it can persuade the school authorities to make their books available to the public around them on suitable conditions and with proper safeguards. We understand that the Department makes a proper grant, included in their general grant, for the express purposes of school libraries; and a little persuasion by the Department will go a long way to help the library movement in smaller places. Schools in the charge of Municipalities and District Local Boards or other private bodies, might also be persuaded to take this step for the benefit of their own public. School and College libraries in our opinion should also have trained librarians, and if for this purpose a small additional expense becomes necessary, the Department of Public Instruction and Local Bodies conducting such schools should favourably consider an increase in their usual grant. All School or College libraries, who would co-operate with other libraries in this library movement should be affiliated to their respective Regional libraries.

CHAPTER X.

THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN THE PROVINCE AND ITS EXPANSION.

Public Libraries.

91. A public library is a Library to which the public at large has free access. Public libraries are maintained at public expense, by public institutions and, in this sense, they belong to the public. Such libraries came into existence in the West because of the need that people felt for them and because of the support that Governments have given them. When the Public Libraries Act was passed in England, some people had doubts whether the public would like to tax themselves for having libraries, but experience proved that not only were they prepared to tax themselves but in many cases they applied to Government to increase the limit of taxation that was allowed by law for the purpose and this limitation was removed by section 4 of the Public Libraries Act, 1919. But in India people are not yet so advanced in literacy and education as to be prepared for that stage, and the existing libraries and such library movement as there is, are due entirly to private efforts.

Library Development in the Province.

92. We have already referred to the desire of Government of establishing a network of libraries throughout the Province from the village library to the Central library (Appendix A, paragraph 2). Between these two ends of the village library and the Central library, there are the District and Taluka libraries. We have already got libraries at the District and Taluka towns; and visualise a co-operation between these libraries. But a proper co-operation among these will be possible only if they are properly financed and organised. We have already referred (paragraph 74) to the fact that for a proper management of the libraries some library training will have to be given to the librarians in charge of the libraries. We have also referred to the question of starting libraries in the outlying places in the district like the smaller towns and villages. The question of establishing these libraries or organising them on modern liaes will have to be taken up by private agencies. The Regional libraries or the Central library will only be able to guide and help the efforts of these private agencies; and these agencies can only be of persons or institutions interested in the library movement. These agencies will have to persuade people everywhere and particularly the Municipalities, Local Boards or Co-operative Societies, to open libraries or to help in opening them. They will have to guide these libraries, when they are

atarted in matters of administration and co-operation with other libraries. They will also have to help the libraries in making a proper approach to sources of possible finance such as grants from the Local Boards, Government, or donations from possible donors. For the question of co-operation with other libraries they will have to be in close contact with the Regional library of their Province or better still in close connection with the Taluka or District libraries whichever may have been properly established, so that if a Government grant was to be given the Regional library or the District library would be then in a better position to recommend such a grant. The smaller libraries will need the help of the bigger libraries and especially of the Regional library for an addition to their resources by means of loans of books, for guidance in the matters of library administration and for the purpose of obtaining Government grants whenever, possible.

93. If the Central and Regional libraries Scheme only is taken up at the beginning the immediate commitments of Government will be as follows:—

The Central library will have to spend additional money on the purchase of more books and periodicals, furniture, staff, shelving, duplication of their catalogue, preparation of a union catalogue and binding. It must be noted also that they will have to keep an entire library of copyright books intact, catalogue it properly and keep it in a state of proper preservation.

94. After careful consideration, and in view of the financial stringency through which we are passing, we recommend a grant of a minimum of Rs. 30,000 only a year for the Central library as a recurring expense: this will be the immediate need in the beginning; in addition to this the special need of immediate shelving for the copyright books, and furniture should also be considered.

Additional Requirements for Central Library

•		,	Amount
			Rs.
(1) Purchase:of more books	***	•••	9,000
(2) Purchase of more periodicals	•••	•••	2,000
(3) Staff	***	•••	10,000
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- (a) for attendance and service in the Library.
- (b) for routine cataloguing and duplication of the present catalogues.
- (c) for preparing the Union Catalogue.

- (d) for attending to outside inquiries, requisitions,
- (e) for the general up-keep of the Library.
- (4) Shelving 3,000
- (5) Binding, including that of the copyright books ... 2,500
- (6) Other charges, materials for catalogues, printing, postage, electric light etc. 3,500
- Then again for the Regional libraries, we have come to the conclusion that in the beginning Rs. 10,000 a year for each library will be necessary, if our recommendation regarding the estsblishment of a Central Library at the Bombay: Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society and the Regional libraries at the libraries or institutions at Ahmedabad, Poona and Dharwar, is accepted. In Bombay and Ahmedabad we have already two efficient libraries working, so that the fulfilment of the general requirements of the Central and Regional library function by these libraries has only to be taken into account when making these grants. The Asiatic Society has been spending about Rs. 30,000 on an average for some years past on its Library and the Ahmedabad Municipal Library about Rs. 15,000 a year, and no special conditions are necessary. In the case of Poona and Dharwar, we would make it a condition that the institutions recommended at these places will raise at least an adequate amount every year for expenditure; and in case they are unable to do so, Government might consider the question of making a grant equal to the amount of money that they put up, not however exceeding Rs. 10,000 a year for the present, for each of them. Government may, however, if they are satisfied that despite all possible efforts the region is not able for any special reason to raise a sum equal to the Government contribution, relax this condition and make the grant none the less. The Committee feels that Government should consider this matter very sympathetically.

Government grants to District and Taluka Libraries

96. After the establishment of the Central and Regional libraries would come the development of the District and the Taluka libraries. Then would come the addition of the village libraries and village reading rooms. We assume that a planned programme for the development of libraries will be desirable if a proper growth of libraries in the Province is desired. Similarly libraries that are started should have some permanent guarantee for the minimum expenditure being met or some sort of a permanent source of income. In the case of our Province the question of a special Library Cess is not being considered by us; but a substantial grant from the Local Board or from the Municipality or

from Government or from the interest on a donation or from a these taken together is necessary. But as donations do n materialise every day, and as Municipalities or Local Boards have not yet been persuaded to do something for the establishment of libraries in their jurisdictions, it seems to us that the Government grant is the only solution for the present. That will ensure the stability of libraries to be started under the expansion scheme.

Survey of Libraries in the Province.

97. Before such a programme can be planned it would be desirable to make a survey of all the existing libraries in the Province, Government or private and general or public. This survey can be easily accomplished if a printed form indicating the information required about a library is sent through the Revenue Officers to every library. The Revenue Officers at every place will know all the libraries at that particular place, and the only additional work to the Revenue Officers will be of distributing all these forms, and of returning them when they are received from such libraries. But valuable material can be obtained from such a survey for the purposes of co-operation of libraries as well as for a planned extension of the library movement in the Province, and such a survey can be made without much expenditure or much labour we therefore recommend that Government should get such a survey made before taking up an extension programme.

Proposed Stages of Library Development.

- 98. If Government desires to see an expansion of the libraries all over the Province, we suggest the following as a rough scheme. In this scheme, the Central Library supplements the resources of the Regional Libraries; the Regional Libraries supplement the District Libraries, and so on until the village Library is reached.
- 99. But before the smaller library can take advantage of the larger library, it must become a part of the co-operating system and it must itself be run on proper lines and it should affiliate itself to the scheme, by paying a small annual fee which may be fixed according to whether it is a Village, Taluka, District, or Regional Library; and for the purposes of this Library Co-operation, the small library should be guided by the larger library to which it is affiliated, and accept supervision of the kind mentioned in this report.
- 100. The scheme is divided into six stages. The details of the latter stages may perhaps have to be modified later, in the light of mo-11 Bk L 2-4

the experience gained and the grants given may have to be revised from time to time. Our suggestions are made on the supposition that the scheme is developing from the Central and the Regional libraries in the direction of the Village Reading Rooms and Travelling Libraries. But if as contemplated by Government, the scheme of expansion is to develop from both the sides simultaneously from the village upwards as well as from the cities downwards, in order to form a complete scheme of expansion, then a modification in the plan and figures suggested by us will be necessary. Similarly the figures indicated by us for grants to libraries in villages or other places, represent the average that will be required for the particular stage of Library Development. These amounts can be duly adjusted in the light of later experience according to the individual requirements and development of the libraries at these places. In our scheme throughout, our recommendations for Government grants to the libraries are based on the assumption that there is already willingness on the part of the organisers of a library in a town or village to contribute an equal sum, so, that the library is built up or run by an equal contribution from the people as well as from Government. Starting a library in a place where there is no literacy or no desire to have a library is of no use; and the readiness to contribute to the library, and to manage it is an index of the will of the people of a particular region to have a library and to co-operate for the purpose. Again as the scheme detailed by us progresses, and the scheme is built up on the principle of co-operation in which the smaller libraries receive the benefit of the larger library, we have taken it for granted that the responsibilities of the higher libraries go on increasing with the increase of smaller libraries.

- 101. Stage No. 1.—Satge No. 1 contemplates the formation and strengthening of a Central library and three Regional libraries; and we have already stated that in the beginning a grant of Rs. 30,000 to the Central library and of Rs. 10,000 to each Regional library should be made. This grant will have to be increased, as the working of the system develops, and as the responsibilities of the libraries go on increasing. The total annual amount of expenditure recommended as stated above, for this stage is Rs. $60,00\theta$.
- 102. Stage No. 2.—In this stage every district will have a library at the District Head Quarters. There are 20 districts in the Province; out of which Bombay and the Bombay Suburban Districts are now being almost treated as one—Greater Bombay. Bombay cannot be included in any one of the linguistic regions proposed, and we have already suggested (paragrah 64) that the

Bombay Municipality should be persuaded to establish a network of libraries for its citizens; and in the meanwhile some facilities will be available to the public at the Central library. Besides there are other libraries in Bombay. At Ahmedabad, Poona, and Dharwar there will be the Regional libraries. We have therefore not taken into consideration these five districts. For the fifteen remaining districts we propose that an annual grant of Rs. 3.000 be given to every District library at this stage. The work of the Regional libraries will be increased considerably as each one: of the libraries will have to supplement the resources of the District libraries in the Region, to form a Union Catalouge, to help the libraries in different ways and to try to extend the Library System further into the Taluka through the District libraries, and other agencies. We are therefore recommending an increase in their grant also. A larger increase for the Regional library at Poona will be necessary at this stage. That library will have to serve ten districts out of the 18 in the Region, and-will necessarily have to spend more in the discharge of administrative functions and in the purchase of costly books. Again, a larger number of Marathi books is published—larger than that of Gujarati or Kannada books—outside the Province of Bombay. The Regional Library will not get these under the Copyright scheme, but will have to purchase them, and so will have to meet comparatively larger liabilities than at Ahmedabad and Dharwar. The Ahmedabad Library will have, besides, the support of a rich municipality, and the Dharwar Library has been assured of generous contributions from the public. We therefore think that for an efficient discharge of its functions. the Poona Library will require a larger grant. If it is found by experience that any particular District or Taluka library in its further stages of development requires more funds because of its larger liabilities due to its sphere of operation being larger, or by reason of more libraries coming into existence within its sphere at any particular stage, the grant should be proportionately larger in such cases. The work of the Central Library also will considerably increase at this stage of growth. An addition of a larger number of books will be necessary, and increased administrative and other problems also will increase costs. As the reading habit grows in the Province, the demand for books will grow, and the bigger libraries in the scheme will have to spend more and more.

The cost of the second stage to Government will be :-

Central Library	40.000
2 Decimal Library	
2 Regional Libraries at Rs. 15,000 each	30,000
1 Regional Library	20,000
15 District Libraries at Rs. 3,000	45,000

Rs. 1,35,000

a library. There are 185 Talukas and Petas in the Province Eighteen Talukas out of these will already have larger libraries in them, so that 167 Talukas only should be taken into consideration. For every Taluka Library, a grant of Rs. 500 should be made. Besides the Taluka towns there are about 100 towns of the size of Taluka towns, the libraries for which will have to be like those of the Taluka towns; for them also, a similar grant is recommended. And as under the scheme, the responsibilities of the higher libraries will grow, and as the District library will have to undertake: the responsibility of supplementing, and helping about a dozen Taluka libraries, its grant should also be increased to Rs. 5,000 a year. An increase in the Regional and Central grant also will be necessary.

The cost of grant at the third stage will be :-

•		Rs.
Central Library	***	60,000
2 Regional Libraries at Rs. 18,000 each	•••	36,000
1 Regional Library	•••	24,000
15 District Libraries at Rs. 4,500 each	•••	67,500
167 Taluka Libraries at Rs. 500 each	:	83,500
100 Libraries in other towns of the size		
of the Taluka towns at Rs. 500 each	h.	50,000
Total	•	3,21,000

104. Stage No. 4.—In this stage the libraries will be established in all villages of a population of between 2,000—5,000. There are 979 such villages. A library should receive Rs. 100 in such a village. In this stage the responsibility of the Taluka towns will increase, but that of the 100 towns referred to in scheme 3 will remain the same.

At this fourth stage of growth the cost will be-

	0			Rs.	
Central Library	***			60,000	
Oom.u. 2.0.u.,		•••		(No incre	ase).
2 Regional Librarie	es at Rs. 2	0,000 each			
1 Regional Library		•••	•••	25,000	
15 District Librarie	es at Rs. 5	,000 each	,	75,000	
100 Towns of the s					
Rs. 500 each		•••	• •••	50,000	
167 Taluka or Peta	Libraries	at Rs. 800 e	ach 1	,33,600	
979 Large village l	Libraries a	t Rs. 100 eac	ch	97,900	
		Tota	: 44	,81,500	

105. Stage No. 5.—This adds 2,696 villages of a population of between 1,000—2,000 to the scheme. A library of such a village should receive Rs. 50 for such a village. The scheme will cost:—

	Rs.
Central Library	60,000
(No increase	over previous stage).
3 Regional Libraries	65,000
(No increase	over previous stage).
15 District Libraries at Rs. 6,000 each	90,000
167 Taluka Libraries at Rs. 1,000 each	1,67,000
100 Towns of the size of Taluka towns at	
Rs. 500 each	50,000
	(No increase).
979 Village Libraries at Rs. 125 each	1,22,375
2696 Village Libraries at Rs. 50 each	1,34,800
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	·
Total	6,89,175

106. Stage No. 6.—This adds the remaining 1,77,743 villages of a population of less than 1,000 to the scheme. Such small village libraries should receive Rs. 25 a year. The scheme will cost:—

•	1		Rs.
Central Library	•••	•••	60,000
,		(No increase	over previous stage).
3 Regional Libraries	•••	•••	65,000
•		(No increase	over previous stage).
15 District Libraries	***	•••	90,000
	•	(No increase	over previous stage).
167 Taluka Libraries	•••		1,67,000
			(No increase).
100 Towns like Talul	ka Tow	ns at Rs. 500	
			(No increase).
979 Villages (2,000-5	,000) a	t Rs. 150 each	1,46,850
2,696 Villages (1,000-	-2000)	at Rs. 100 eac	h2,69,600
17,743 Villages (under	r 1,000) at Rs. 25 eac	h 4,43,575
		Transi.	12,92,025
		Total	14,74,043

107. We recommend Rs. 25 per year to the smallest village and progressively larger amount to the larger libraries in larger villages, taluka towns and district towns. In the fully worked out scheme, the village having a population of over 1,000 gets Rs. 100 a year; the village with a population of 2,000—5,000 gets Rs. 150 the town with a larger population than this village gets Rs. 500; the taluka town gets Rs. 1,000; the district library gets Rs. 6,000; the Regional library gets Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 25,000 and the Central Library Rs. 60,000.

Housing of Libraries.

108. This development does not take into consideration the housing accommodation, furnishing and shelving which will be required for the libraries. The Central and the Regional libraries will in course of time have to be housed in suitably large buildings. The District and Taluka libraries also will need suitable accommodation, though village libraries might possibly be accommodated in local schools. The housing problem for these libraries will not be solved all at once. A building for the Central library alone will require at least ten lakes of rupees; though the buildings required need not all be built up at once, but may be built up by stages according to a definite plan. Similarly buildings of the three Regional libraries will require similar consideration though on a smaller scale, as it may be difficult for these libraries to provide sufficient money for the purpose. We would therefore recommend that Government should set aside the sum of Rs. 50,000 (Rs. 30,000 for the Central library and Rs. 20,000 for the Regional libraries) a year at least and allow the same to accumulate for this specific purpose so that when provision has to be made for buildings, a large amount need not be set aside in one year. Undoubtedly, if any donors come forward for helping any particular library for building the premises, the burden of Government will be lightened to that extent, but we cannot count on these hypothetical donations. Regarding the smaller libraries they are not expected to be so large as to require a special provision like the above. In the beginning, the smaller libraries may be allowed to divert some of their grants for this purpose; the smaller places have also better chances of receiving donations as the donations required are not large.

Training for Library Service.

109. The second problem for which provision will have to be made in connection with the growth of libraries is for the training of the library personnel. If the library movement is to work

satisfactorily the staff at these libraries will have to be specially trained. We do not think that in these days it is necessary to elaborate the point to convince anybody in this matter. If an ordinary clerk also has to learn type-writing, accounts, etc. to qualify himself for his work, it is even more necessary for a Librarian to get his qualification before he takes up his work. The Report of the Public Libraries Committee, London, 1927, says "In our opinion there is no more vital question in connection with the improvement of the Public Service than that of the means to be taken to obtain an adequate staff for the several libraries" (Para. 230). We would like emphatically to endorse this view. There is no doubt that the librarian in a small village need not be very highly trained, but it is desirable that he should have some elementary training at least in library methods. If in addition to being of use to his readers he is to co-operate in a library movement scheme, and if he desires to get proper help from the larger libraries, his training will have to be more technical; the Taluka libraries and the District libraries will need still more training. In the Regional libraries and at the Central library, the staff will have to be very specially trained. In England the Library Association and the University of London hold examinations for the purpose. There are lectures in theory, and experience of practical work in a library is necessary. After the training an examination or examinations also will be necessary. This and the giving of certificates will entail some expense. An honorarium to the teachers or lecturers and examiners will have to be provided for. Some expenses will have to be incurred for accommodation, stationery, clerical work, etc. For this training scheme we recommend a provision of a maximum amount of Rs. 10,000 a year. In the primary stages we do not expect any income from fees, and we do not expect much from village librarians at any stage.

Library Associations.

110. In Chapter 3, and in paragraph 92 we have already stated that some organising agency will have to come into existence voluntarily in order to create interest in establishing libraries throughout the Province. This agency need not be one for the whole Province; but it may consist of different agencies in the different divisions of the Province co-ordinated by some agency at the head. As a matter of fact, such agencies are found elsewhere in the shape of Library Associations. These Library Associations consist of people who are interested in the formation, management and development of libraries and allied questions in

their countries, provinces or districts. Library Associations have done a great deal for the Library Service in England. We also found that in Baroda the Library Association was an influential body and its work in making the people library minded was excellent; other Library Associations, for instance, the Madras Library Association, are proving very useful in this matter. We would strongly urge the establishment of such Associations. Librarians of existing libraries, people interested in education and the spread of the library movement, people willing to give donations for such purposes, influential people in the district who can persuade the people or local bodies to give donations, etc., can become members of this Associations. They can also guide people as to how to form a library, how to manage it, how to collect local funds, how to get a Government grant, and also how co-operation with other libraries can be instituted.

- 111. The Library Association in England was founded in 1877; and in 1898 it was granted a Royal Charter. The objects of that Library Association as set forth in the Charter (Public Libraries Report, para. 49) slightly modified to suit our needs may be stated as follows—
 - (1) to bring together persons engaged or interested in library work, by holding conferences and meetings, etc., for the discussion of questions of bibliographical questions and matters affecting libraries or their regulation or management or otherwise.
 - (2) to staft libraries in co-operation with others if possible;
 - (3) to improve the conditions of the existing libraries; to improve the qualifications of the library staff and to hold examinations in Librarianship for the purpose;
 - (4) to promote co-operation between different kinds of libraries;
 - (5) to watch legislation concerning libraries and the library movement;
 - (6) to encourage the study and preparation of bibliographies;
 - (7) to publish Journals or Magazines on matters concerning libraries and to provide information useful to the members of the Association;

- (8) to carry on propaganda in the cause of libraries;
- (9) to give advice and guidance in library matters to those requiring them.

In considering the question of giving a grant to any existing library or to a newly started library, the opinion of a local Library Association would be valuable.

112. If such an agency comes into being it is desirable to help the activities of the institution by a suitable grant. We contemplate that there will be a Central Library Association, three Regional Library Associations, and fifteen local Library Associations in each district, and we suggest that Rs. 500 for each District. Association and Rs. 750 for each Regional Library Association and Rs. 1,000 for the Central Library Association may be given when they are formed. So that a maximum amount of Rs. 10.750 should be spent in giving grants for these nineteen Library Associations to help them in their propaganda and other useful work. The additional expenses required for the work of the Associations will have to be met in other ways, just as we expect that the expenses of libraries will have to be met mainly by local people before a Government grant could be made; membership fees. donations, etc., should be able to make up the total expense of the Associations. These Associations should be affiliated to the Central library.

Supervision of the Library Movement.

113. Lastly, some sort of supervision will be necessary. We have already stated that the Central library and the Regional libraries will have to take up the question of the spread of the Library Movement, but the whole of the movement cannot be organised and supervised by the Central as well as the Regional libraries alone. The co-operation of the Library Associations will be necessary for the purpose of the formation of libraries and their management, as also in the training of librarians. These Library Associations may be formed. in the first instance, with the initiative of the Central library as well as the Regional libraries, but further extension and activity cannot be solely attended to by the Managing Committees of the Central library or the Regional libraries. We suppose that they will have already sufficient work in attending to their own libraries and in attending to the extra functions involved in the present scheme. The supervision of all the libraries contemplated in the Province with a view to see whether they are being properly run or not, whether the grants made to them are being properly spent or

not, whether a sufficient number of books are purchased, whether they are properly catalogued, whether the accounts are properly maintained, whether an adequate and efficient staff is employed, whether books are supplied to co-operating libraries, whether the public are provided with sufficient accommodation and are given adequate facilities, and whether additional Government grants are necessary, these and allied questions will have therefore to be delegated to another body to be specially created for this purpose. This body must naturally consist of representatives of the libraries, other bodies interested in the library movement, like specialists, donors, and Government.

- 114. The supervision of the Library Movement in the Province as a whole should, in our opinion, be entrusted to a Central Advisory Board. This Board will consist of:—
 - 3 representatives of the Central library;
 - 3 representatives of the Regional libraries;
 - 2 representatives of the Central Library Association,
 - 3 representatives of Government; and
 - 2 others may be co-opted by the above representatives for any special reasons.

The Board will appoint its own chairman. It should have a permanent paid Secretary with an office at the Central library. If there are any donors paying an annual sum of Rs. 2,000 or more to the Central library, a representative of each such donor should be added to the Board. Similarly, if the Bombay Municipality forms a suitable City library in Bombay and joins in the scheme, one representative of that library also should be added.

of the Central Adult Education Board on the Central Advisory Board for Libraries, when the Board comes into existence in case the Central Adult Education Board can co-operate in the Library Development Scheme suggested by us. It seems to us that the village library scheme recommended in chapter VIII of the Adult Education Committee's Report, 1938, has been mainly drawn up with a limited scope in view and needs to be widened in order that it should fit in with a proper Library Development Scheme; it is also desirable that the two schemes should work in co-operation, or rather be amalgamated, to minimise the expense as well as to unify the Library Movement in the Province.

- 116. For supervising the libraries in a Region, there should be a Regional Advisory Board subordinate to the Central Advisory Board in which there should be:
 - 3 representatives of the Regional library;
 - 1 representative of the Central library;
 - 3 representatives of Government;
 - 2 representatives of libraries in the Region; and
 - 2 representatives of the Library Association;

and additional representatives if necessary of the Adult Education Board, and donors paying more than Rs. 1,500 annually.

117. These Boards must have the power of auditing the accounts of the libraries which come under their control owing to their joining the library movement by virtue of a Government grant. The accounts of independent libraries which do not receive any Government or other grants from Local Self-Government institutions, need not be supervised by these Boards, but such independent libraries may obtain any advice from these Boards if necessary. In addition to the supervision of libraries mentioned in paragraph 113 above, the working out of the details of the scheme of co-operation of libraries participating in the Library Movement, the framing of the rules, conditions, etc., regarding free access to readers or inquirers to the libraries concerned and inter-library loans and allied questions should be left to the Central Advisory Board. The British Museum rules, the practice of the National Central Library England, rules suggested by the Library Reciprocity Committee appointed by the Government of Bombay in 1920, the suggestions made by the Public Libraries Committee, 1927, and similar other rules may be of considerable help to the Board for this purpose. The Central Advisory Board should also be enabled to make arrangements for giving the required training to those desiring to join the library profession in co-operation with the Library Association, University and the Central Library. Similarly the Board will be a standing body for advising Government in the matter of grants, rules, and many other similar questions that will arise in the development of the library scheme. The Boards should not however have the power to interfere with the internal management and work of any of the libraries or the rights of their members. For instance, it may suggest the increase of accommodation for the general public in the library, but the final decision in the matter will have to rest in the hands of the Managing Committees of these Institutions. The main functions of these Boards will be of the nature of a supervision of the general library movement rather than the inspection and control of a particular library.

- 118. We would suggest a nominee of the Central Advisory Board on the Managing Committee of the Central or Regional libraries for the purposes of co-operation between them. This will be useful for explaining to the Committee the views of the Advisory Board when necessary.
- 119. All the libraries receiving Government grants will have to keep proper books of accounts, which will have to be audited by the Board or by auditors approved by the Board to the satisfaction of the Board. The libraries will have also to keep other subsidiary books usually kept in libraries dealing with publications that they receive, and to submit such returns and statements, etc., to the Board as may be required by it.
- 120. As regards libraries other than the Central and Regional libraries in the Province, we have already recommended that a grant of a sum equal to what they raise should be made and the maximum of such amount is generally indicated in the schemes of development already suggested by us. The conditions and terms are generally, free use of their library for bona fide students, and co-operation with other libraries in the scheme of library development and the acceptance of the control of the Central Advisory Board.
- 121. The office work of the Boards cannot be undertaken by the Central or Regional libraries. The Central Board will require the services of an officer, to act as the Secretary to the Board and he will have to be aided by suitable assistants. This officer will have sometimes to travel throughout the Province. The expenses of his office will have therefore to include a travelling allowance. The travelling expenses, if any, of the individual members of all the Boards should be born by the bodies whom they represent and Government representatives should be as far as possible local officers or rather locally nominated persons. The officer will have to be of a suitable educational qualification and necessarily a library qualification, and he should be appointed by Government. We recommend an amount of Rs. 15,000 for this purpose. This includes two clerks and two peons for the office. A provision of Rs. 10,000 for each Regional Board is recommended for a similar purpose.

Grants to School and College Libraries.

122. We have suggested already that if proper use is to be made of school or college libraries, these libraries should be in charge of suitably trained librarians and that these libraries should be

affiliated to the Library Development Scheme. There are thirtytwo colleges and 236 high schools in the Province. Out of these 268 institutions, 29 (10 colleges and 19 schools) belong to Government; the remaining 236 are private; some of them maintain libraries, but many of the private high schools have no special libraries. If Government recommends that proper librarians should be appointed by all such libraries, it may have to give an additional grant for this. The high schools usually are nowadays expected to receive a 20 per cent. grant of their expenses. On this particular item we recommend that the grant should be taken to the 33 per cent. originally contemplated for school grants. If the scale of pay of these librarians varies from Rs. 25 per month, to Rs. 200 per mensem as a maximum in a selection grade to a properly qualified Librarian, we expect that a maximum increase of Rs. 75,000 in the present annual education grant would be necessary; and if this grant is entrusted to the Central Advisory Board, we expect a provision of Rs. 75,000 per year for this purpose.

Proposed expenditure for Library Development.

123. District Boards or Taluka Boards, if later on they come into existence, will have to be constituted in a manner similar to those of the Regional and Central Boards, and comparatively smaller amounts may have to be provided for expenses of these Boards. The following statement will give a rough idea of the annual expenditure likely to be incurred by Government from stage to stage in all the six stages proposed by us:—

				Ks.
Stage I	i :	•••	•••	60,000
Stage II	•••	***	•,•	1,35,000
Stage III	•••	***	• •••	3.21,000
Stage IV	•••	•••	•••	4,81,500
Stage V	•••	***		6,89,175
Stage VI	•••	•••	• • • •	12,92,025
		 .	, .	Rs.
Reserve for B	uildings	•••	94,0	50,000
Maximum g	rant to the	e 19	•	•
Library Ass	ociations	•••	***	10,750
Expenses of t	he Central	Advi-		15,000
sory Board			. •••	13,000
Three Regi	ional Adv	isory	•••	30,000
Grant to Scho	ols and Coll	leges	•	## 000
for increase	d pay to Lib	rarians	•••	75,000
•				1,80,750

124. As we have already stated, we presuppose that before a library is started at a certain place, the people of the place are prepared to start the library and to provide at least 50 per cent. of the funds required, from the various sources, private or otherwise, available to them at that place. Such co-operation from the people at once shows the desire to have the library and ensures a lasting co-operation for the purpose. It is no use starting a library where people are not likely to use it of their own accord or are not likely to be induced to read in such a library.

CHAPTER XI.

FINANCE.

- 125. In the previous Chapter, we have already given a rough estimate as to what the expansion on a moderate scale of the Library Movement in the Province is likely to cost. We suggest that this additional amount should be provided for in the Budget on the same lines as the Educational grant. We find (pp. 212-213 sqq., Budget for 1940—41) that a sum of over Rs. 2 crores is spent on education in the Province. For Primary education alone a provision of Rs. 1,28,64,200 has been made. We, therefore, submit that a grant of even Rs. 15 lakhs which is the maximum that we have recommended for the Library Movement in the Province, is not an unduly large sum, considering that library development is an essential part of the educational programme, that a special development grant of about 2 lakhs of rupees has been made in the same Budget for the Development of Adult Education and that the Report of the Adult Education Committee recommended Rs. 5,25,000 as an annual expenditure for village libraries alone in addition to capital expenditure. We also recommend that grants for this Library Development 'Department should be under the control of the Central Advisory Board mentioned in the last Chapter, and the amounts should be granted only after the recommendations of that Board, and the Board should be held responsible for the proper expenditure of those grants.
- been ready (see Appendix A) when framing the Budget of 1940-41 where funds were allotted for the purpose. The recommendations of the Adult Education Committee in response to which the grant appears to have been provided were that the development of the village libraries would cost Rs. 4,72,500 as capital expenditure and Rs. 5,25,000 as recurring annual expenditure. The proposal of that Committee was to spend 50 per cent. from the Central Adult Education Funds and the balance from the collections from the Districts, from sources such as Co-operative Societies, Village Improvement Funds, District School Boards, etc. The control of these libraries was to be vested in the Adult Education Committee.
- Education Committee for the development of libraries throughout the district villages is inadequate unless the recommendations can be taken to refer only to the initial period. We agree with the views expressed by Government, in the Press Note of 26 th October 1939 (Appendix A) in which it is said "A compre-

hensive Library Movement designed to cover as much of the Province as possible with good libraries must be sponsored by the State, as the State alone can make such a movement a success on a Provincial scale. If libraries are to fulfil their function they must be located in every place, village, town and city. There should be a chain of libraries all over the Province. • • • For a Library Movement on an adequate scale, the sum suggested by us is not too large, and if that sum cannot be provided for all at once for certain reasons, we have recommended beginnings which are very modest. We again recommend that as the scheme of village libraries that was contemplated by Government, has not yet come into existence, the two schemes be combined so that it will be possible for Government to consider the whole question of libraries as belonging to one Department and under the control of the Central Advisory Board of Libraries. We shall be glad if a special provision for the Library Movement can be made in the Budget. But if for any reasons it cannot be made in addition to the existing educational grant, the funds required can be met by setting aside:--

- (a) a portion of the amount set apart for the Adult Education work and its special development programme; the amount set aside in the Budget for 1940—41 is Rs. 4,03,000.
- (b) a portion from the amount earmarked for Rural Development; this amount is Rs. 1,83,100 for the year 1>40—41;
- (c) a portion from the amount earmaked for Primary education; this amount is Rs. 1,28,64,200 for the year 1940—41;
- (d) a portion from the amount earmarked for Secondary education and school libraries; this amount is Rs. 24,73,500 for the year 1940—41:
- (e) a portion of the amount earmarked for Colleges for 1940-41; this amount is Rs. 18,46,800;
- (f) the remaining to be specially earmarked from the General Budget.

No special tax is recommended for this purpose.

- 128. Contributions from the public for the libraries would consist of:—
 - (a) contributions raised from local residents;
- (b) contributions from the Local Boards, Municipalities and Panchayats;
- (c) contributions from the local Co-operative Societies and District Banks.
 - (d) donations in money or in kind.

CHAPTER XII.

LOCAL BODIES AND THEIR CO-OPERATION.

- 129. For the purpose of the Library Movement, a co-operation of the existing libraries, Government and Local Self-Government institutions,: Co-operative Societies, Adult Education Boards, various Educational Institutions and School Boards, will be absolutely necessary. In a properly co-ordinated library system, the University, the colleges, schools, and learned associations can also take part. Railways, Port Trust, Millowners' Associations and Associations representing various industrial interests which have very often their own libraries, can also afford useful co-operation, if they are persuaded to join in the scheme, and possibly to contribute for helping the Library Movement.
- 130. The Local Self-Government institutions, like the Municipalities and the Local Boards, can set aside some portion of their income for libraries in the same way as they set aside for education. [See City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, section 63 (c); Bombay District Municipal Act of 1901, section 56 (b); Bombay Local Boards Act of 1923, section 50 (1); Bombay Municipal Boroughs Act of 1925, section 71 (b).] As a matter of fact establishing libraries or helping them is one of their contemplated duties; and they should definitely set apart a portion of their income for libraries, as part of their education programme. We have already emphasised the view that if there are no libraries the efforts for compulsory education will be wasted. Co-operative Societies and Banks very often set aside certain amounts for charitable purposes under section 39 of the Co-operative Societies Act, and it is possible to persuade them to make suitable donations for this purpose. In certain provinces, Co-operative Societies run libraries for their members. If educational institutions cannot give away money for separate libraries they can allow the public to use their libraries under certain conditions. Libraries like those of the University, which are generally open to those concerned with the University studies only can, if they so desire, throw open their doors to bona fide students outside their University. Institutions like the Port Trust might also consider the question of giving some help to the libraries which are likely to be of use to their employees, or to the libraries of the localities in which they. are situated.
- 131. Contributions from the public and the Municipality or Local Boards should suffice to raise the necessary 50 per cent.

 MO-II Bk_L 2-5

of the minimum expenditure contemplated on a library at a particular place, so that with an equal amount of grant recommended by us to be given by Government, the total amount could be secured. If Co-operative Societies and educational and other institutions could partly join in this, the collection on behalf of the libraries would be still easier, and if in the smaller towns and villages, school libraries could be extended to serve public purpose, and school buildings or extensions of these could be utilised for libraries under suitable conditions, the problem would be easier still. But to persuade the Municipalities or the Co-operative Societies or the Local Boards to take an interest in the movement and to contribute to the movement in a suitable manner, contact with the members of all these various bodies will be necessary. This contact and persuasion is only possible if persons interested in the Library Movement with single-minded devotion for the cause of establishing libraries and furthering their cause in the Province undertake the work; and it is with this very view that we have recommended the encouragement of the establishment of suitable Library Associations in the Province and have also recommended that some financial help should be given to them towards their work.

CHAPTER XIII.

LEGISLATION.

- 132. In our Questionnaire, we have asked a question as to whether any legislation was necessary for the Library Movement. In England and America, the Local Bodies have been empowered by the Public Libraries Act to levy a library cess within their jurisdiction for providing libraries for their people. In this Province in 1936 Rao Bahadur S. K. Bole, a nominated non-official member of the Legislative Council had given notice of a Bill known as the Bombay Presidency Public Libraries Bill (Bill No. XXIV of 1936). It was introduced in the Legislative Council, but was not further considered under circumstances which are not necessary to be detailed here. This Bill provided for a similar authority to the Local Bodies in the Province to levy a library cess.
- 133. From our enquiries we find that people are not prepared for any additional tax, much less for a tax for the sake of libraries. It was pointed out to us that taxation was already very high, that Municipalities and Local Bodies could not even get sufficient money for their own present purposes by taxation, and that even if a special cess was levied people were not sure that it would be necessarily utilised for that purpose. It was further pointed out to us that Municipalities or other Local Bodies have the power to spend money on libraries if they want to establish them. But even Municipalities having a sufficient amount of money are not interested in libraries, though some Municipalities are giving nominal grants to some of the institutions within their jurisdiction. Ahmedabad, however, is an exception.
- 134. People have not yet realised the importance of education and apparently it has to be forced on them compulsorily. It is therefore obvious that they are much less interested in libraries; for, the close connection between the problems of literacy and the library movement is not realised. Hence, in any compulsory legislation involving the establishing of libraries, there is likely to be opposition.
- 135. We therefore think that compulsory legislation is not necessary at present. We, however, recommend that permissive legislation may be enacted to authorise any Municipality or Local Board to levy a special tax, if they so desire, to raise money for libraries, so that if any localities are prepared to tax themselves for the establishment of libraries they will be enabled to do so.

- 136. If, as suggested by us in Chapter III Copyright libraries are to be established at the Central and Regional libraries of the Province, sections 9 and 11 of the Press and Registration of Books Act of 1867 will have to be amended in order to enable the Provincial Government to obtain more than one copy of every book.
- 137. We have made a recommendation (paragraph 141) that Government should directly aid in the recovery of books loaned by recognised libraries, as it does in the case of loans made by Cooperative Societies. Suitable legislation will be necessary for this purpose as well.

CHAPTER XIV.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS.

138. We have given very careful consideration to all the suggestions that we received either in reply to our questionnaire, or in our discussions with the Managing Committees of a number of Institutions and with individuals. The important ones have been discussed and embodied in the foregoing portion of this report, whilst same had to be rejected. A few that remain we shall deal with in this Chapter.

Railway and Postal Concession for Libraries.

139. Co-operation between libraries will involve the question of the transport of books from one library to another, either by Railway or by Post. In the case of Railway, the longer the distance the greater the cost. Similarly the rates of book post are in our opinion rather high at present and are not such as to encourage the circulation of books by post. It would be a great boon to readers and the Library Movement if special concessions can be given by the Railway and the Post Office to recognised libraries.

Concession of Printing.

140. The contents of the Central library and the Regional libraries will have to be made known to other suitable libraries, if not to all the libraries in the Province, so that enquiries for all the books need not go to the Regional or the Central library, but information as regards the location of a particular book may be obtainable at various places. It will therefore be necessary to keep copies of the catalogues of these libraries at various district or taluka libraries. This will be only possible if these catalogues are printed from time to time. The printing of catalogues is mostly an unproductive expenditure, and if facilities for printing these catalogues, at a nominal cost if necessary, are given at the Government Central Press, a considerable saving of the cost on this item can be made.

Legislation for the recovery of library books.

141. Another suggestion we would like to make is that Government should directly aid in the recovery of books loaned by recognised libraries. We find that in Baroda every single book is returned, because there is state legislation for the recovery of books; while in our libraries it is a matter of common experience

that members resigning from a particular library do not sometimes care to return some of the books, and the library is helpless in the matter, as legal steps are not generally taken for practical reasons; moreover, if a book is rare and unobtainable the loss is great. The very provision that a book not returned to the library is liable to be recovered by Government from the borrower prevents such default. We would recommend that Government should consider this question of recovering books belonging to the recognised libraries through Government Officers as in the case of the loans made by Co-operative Societies, and of introducing suitable legislation.

142. In towns as well as in villages the housing of libraries raises manifold difficulties, mainly financial. We, therefore, recommend that Government may grant revenue-free sites for library buildings wherever possible, and grant exemption from the liability to land revenue in the case of existing library buildings, wherever this has not been already done. It is always advisable that a library should be located in a central place; we suggest, therefore, that wherever necessary, land may be acquired for the libraries under the Land Acquisition Act.

CHAPTER XV.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS.

- 143. We have, in the foregoing report, surveyed the present conditions of libraries in the Province and examined the possibilities of future development. We have suggested a scheme for the progressive building up of a Library Movement which would encourage and keep pace with the spread of education and literacy. The scheme we have outlined envisages a network of libraries spread over the whole Province with three Regional libraries and a Central library at the apex. We have examined this scheme and its several implications in detail, and recorded our suggestions and recommendations for realising it by progressive stages. It now remains with us to state our conclusions with specific reference to the questions raised in the terms of reference.
- 144. No. 1.—We are of opinion that the Central library should be a general library consisting of all kinds of books; that it need not contain books on special subjects and that it will be sufficient if it obtains the co-operation of the special libraries in the Province for the purposes of reference to their collections. The library is to be a Reference library only. It will, however, retain its own individual freedom as regards the management of its own library and will retain the rights of its members, if the function of the Central library is to be entrusted to a private library. It should also keep the collection of copyright books that may be entrusted to its care and make it available to the public for reference under usual conditions. It should also help the Library Movement in general (§§ 21, 54-59, 86).
- 145. No. 2.—We recommend that the library of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, should form the nucleus of the Central library, and we have stated our grounds for this recommendation (§§ 55-59).
- 146. No. 3.—Regarding the establishment of Regional libraries, we recommend that no separate Government Regional libraries should be opened, but that at Ahmedabad the Municipal Library, at Poona the City General Library, and at Dharwar the Karnatak Vidya Vardhak Sangh should be entrusted with the functions of the Regional libraries, and should receive the copyright books of the particular languages represented in the regions, that is Gujarati, Marathi and Kanarese, respectively (§§ 54, 60-63, 43-48).

- 147. No. 4.—As regards the terms and conditions on which these libraries should become parts of the scheme, we have made the necessary recommendations in Chapter VI and have also indicated that the Copyright libraries are to be taken care of by the Regional libraries and to be allowed to be used by the public as Reference libraries only. We also recommend that the necessary changes in the existing law may be made, and that if it is not possible to keep a complete collection of all the books printed in the Province at the Central library as well, the books of languages other than Gujarati, Marathi and Kanarese printed in the Province may be kept at the Central library (§§ 43-49).
- 148. No. 5—As we recommend that the function of the Central library should be entrusted to the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society's library, this question of the establishment for the Central library will be best considered by the Society itself. We recommend an increase in the grant to be made to the Society in consideration of the increase in the establishment which the Society will have to make (§§ 93-94).
- 149. No. 6—We recommend that for the immediate needs of housing the Central library, if the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society is entrusted with the functions of the Central library, the south end of the Town Hall at Bombay, (§§ 59, 78) should be made over to the Library. We are of opinion, however, that its present premises may not be sufficient for housing the Central library permanently, and that provision will have to be made for its location in a suitable building. We recommend that a sum may be set aside in the budget every year for providing such building for the Central library as also for the Regional libraries (§ 108).
- a plan for the formation of village libraries and also the fact that the Central and Regional libraries by their very connotation, as well as according to the objects stated in the Press Note are expected to be the co-ordinating agencies of a network of the libraries, we recommend a scheme of a gradual development of libraries in the Province (§§ 101-106). We have also recommended that a general grant may be made to the libraries on certain conditions (Chapter XI). We also recommend the formation of a Central and three Regional Advisory goards (§§ 113-117) for controlling the Library Movement; and that encouragement be given for the formation of Library Associations in the Province (paragraph 112). The other recommendations made in the report are 1 a survey of the libraries at present existing in the

Province (§ 97); the utilisation of Government libraries, and the libraries of schools, colleges (Chapter IX), and other libraries of public bodies including special libraries (Chapter VIII), for the purpose of the library co-operation in the Province, and arrangements for training in librarianship etc.

We have indicated the possible resources for meeting the expenses of the Library Movement or development, and have indicated possibilities of co-operation from other sources (Chapters XI-XII).

151. In Chapter VI and in Chapter X pararaph 99, we have mentioned the terms and conditions under which Government grants and certain facilities should be given to the libraries taking part in the movement. In Chapter XIV we have made some recommendations, for the consideration of Government, regarding other facilities to be given to libraries, in the matter of printing, postage and railway charges, etc. The details of the working of the scheme of Library Development and the framing of the rules of co-operation of the libraries participating in the Library Movement, we would leave to the Central Advisory Board. Each individual library co-ordinating in the scheme will have its own problems when considering the question of the loan of books and other factors involved in the library co-operation. In framing rules as regards what books should be loaned out, what books cannot be loaned out, how long the loans can be given, who should bear the expense of transmission, what should be the responsibilities of the libraries receiving the loans, these are questions which will be decided after consulting the various interests concerned. The Central Advisory Board will have also to deal with various other administrative problems, such as inspection of libraries, etc., and we have not considered it necessary to go into details. We have refrained from considering these problems as they do not arise directly from the terms of reference. We may, however, point out that the Central Advisory Board, if constituted according to our recommendations, will be the proper Body to go into these questions in detail and advise Government from time to time.

Bombay, 4th December 1940.

A. A. A. FYZEE.
P. M. JOSHI
S. L. KAPADI.
R. P. KARWE,
(Member Secretary).

APPENDIX A.

With the compliments of the Public Relations Officer, Bombay.

P.—494. 26th October 1939.

It is an obvious and well recognised fact that libraries help to preserve the culture of the country and promote the advancement of the education of the people. They preserve the great thoughts, the beautiful imaginings, the wise counsels and the accumulated knowledge of past ages. Their great educational value in encouraging the habit of reading among the public cannot be overestimated. Problems in every field of life, whether of citizenship, business, education, information—the very problems of living itself—have become so insistent and acute, that every one is obliged to study them. Citizens and nations cannot afford to remain aloof from the world advanced in knowledge; and the main means of getting into touch with it is through good books. The existence of good libraries, therefore, has an important bearing on the culture and advancement of the people.

A comprehensive library movement designed to cover as much of the Province as possible with good libraries must be sponsored by the State, as the State alons can make such a movement a success on a Provincial scale. If libraries are to fulfil their function, they must be located in every place—village, town and city. There should be a chain of libraries all over the Province. There should be amaller libraries et smaller centres, and bigger libraries common to each group of such smaller centres, still bigger libraries being located at important places and all these having some sort of inter-relation and communication with each other.

Government accordingly intends to undertake first to help the establishment of village libraries as a necessary adjunct to adult education. The whole scheme is ready and will be launched next year when funds are allotted for the purpose.

Government also intends to establish a Central Provincial library in the City of Bombay and three Regional Libraries one for each linguistic centre, viz., Poona, Ahmedabad and Dharwar. Under the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867. Government receives free of charge from printers a copy of every book or publication published in the Province. The Act will be amended as may be necessary in order to make it obligatory on the printer of any book or other publication to supply free two copies (instead of one as at present), one to the Central Provincial Library and another to the Regional Library concerned. Under such an arrangement the Provincial Library will be the recipient of all copyright books published in the Province and the Regional Libraries at Poons, Ahmedabad and Dharwar will receive all the books published in the regional language of the area. It may be possible also to locate in the Central Provincial Library the present stock of books collected for about a hundred years in the Secretariat Library. One important question that has to be considered in this connection is what arrangements will be necessary for the management of these libraries at the minimum of cost and with the maximum of efficiency. If these libraries are to be of any real practical use and value to scholars and research workers, a very substantial amount will be needed for (i) buildings and the provision of furniture and shelves, (ii) cataloguing and indexing and (iii) expert staff. In view of the importance of the questions involved, Government considers it desirable that a small committee should first be appointed to consider and report on these questions.

It will be necessary to house the Central Provincial Library to be established in Bombay City in a suitable building. The main difficulty is the cost. In order to

make the project a success Government earnestly appeals to the organised agencies working for social welfare, philanthropic people and the general public at large to lend their full co-operation in this worthy cause by contributing their share in order to erect in Bombay a building for the Central Library worthy of the City of Bombay.

APPENDIX B.

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

Note.

The Government of Bombay are endeavouring to improve the facilities for education and have already started a literacy campaign in the Province. As literacy increases the need of greater facilities for reading in libraries will be actively felt. An active and vigorous library movement is, therefore, essential not only for mass literacy, but to quench the thirst of those literates who will require more and more information on every subject.

The human mind is ever inquisitive, and the more it knows, the greater become its requirements. Realizing this clearly, the Government of Bombay is now thinking of initiating a library movement in the Province of Bombay. This is a movement for the establishment throughout the Province of a network of libraries co-ordinating and supplementing the work of village and town libraries, a rapid growth of which is expected in the near future.

With a view to explore this question in all its aspects, Government have appointed a Committee consisting of Mr. A. A. A. Fyzee, M.A. (Cantab.), LL.B., Bar-at-Law, Principal, Government Law College, Bombay (Chairman); Dr. P. M. Joshi, M.A., Ph.D., Librarian, University of Bombay; The librarian, Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Bombay; and Mr. R. P. Karwe, Registrar, Government Law, College Bombay (Secretary), In this connection all problems bearing on the question will be considered, such as the nature and functions of the Central, Regional and other libraries, the financial provisions, the basis of co-operation between different libraries and authorities, the needs of particular linguistic areas, etc.

The Committee has issued a questionnaire, copies of which are being sent out to a large number of persons and institutions. But as a comprehensive list is difficult to prepare, it is possible that some names have been omitted; the Committee will, therefore, feel obliged if those interested in the matter will kindly write for a copy.

Replies need not be sent to the whole of the questionnaire. If necessary, the answers may be confined only to such questions as the writer knows at first hand or in which he is particularly interested.

The Committee cordially invites the active co-operation of everybody interested in the progress of knowledge and in mass literacy as a means to remove the shackles of ignorance from our Province, and requests everyone so interested to communicate his views to the Committee.

All correspondence should be addressed to R.P. Karwe, Esp., Advocate, Secretary, Library Development Committee, c/o Government Law College, Fort, Bombay-

Questionnaire

Government are considering the question of the establishment of a Provincial Central Library in Bombay, as well as Regional Libraries at Poons, Ahmedabad and Dharwar. Your answers to the following questionnaire are therefore requested:—

- 1 1. What should be the nature, functions and extent of the Central Library in Bombay and Regional Libraries at Poons, Ahmedabad and Dharwar?
- 2. Whether the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society's Library should form the nucleus of the Central Library in Bombay, and if so, on what terms and conditions? If not, what is your alternative suggestion?
- 3. Whether any, and if so which, of the existing Libraries at each centre i.e. Poona, Ahmedabad and Dharwar, should act'as Regional Libraries and be given the right to receive copyright books and become closely associated with the Central Library, and on what terms and conditions? Should these libraries file Newspapers and Periodicals? How will the Copyright Library question affect the publishers?
- 4. Whether new libraries should be opened in the Regional centres as Regional Libraries? Are any other technical or special libraries necessary? Should these Central or Regional Libraries, receiving copyright books, act as lending libraries? Or should they be general Reference Libraries?
- 5. What should be the requirements, including the establishment, etc., for the Central Library in Bombay, as well as for the Regional Libraries? What machinery can be set up for the co-ordination and co-operation between these libraries, and between (ibraries in general in the Province?
- 6. What should be the arrangements for housing the Central Library in Bombay, and the Regional Libraries at their respective centres?
- 7. What Public Bodies or Institutions can co-operate for the purposes of a Library Movement, and how should the question of finance be met? Is any legislation necessary?
- 8. Any other suggestions that you may desire to make in connection with the establishment of the Central Library in Bombay and Regional Libraries at Poona, Ahmedabad and Dharwar, and generally with regard to the Library Movement in the Province.

No.

Office of the Library Development Committee. Government Law College.

Bombay, 1940,

From

R. P. KARWE, ESQUIRE, ADVOCATE (A. S.),
Secretary, Library Development Committee,
Government Law College, Bombay

To

Subject.—Establishment of a Central Library at Bombay and three Regional Libraries at Poons, Ahmedabad and Dharwar.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a questionnaire issued by this Committee on the above subject together with a brief explanatory note.

I have to request you to be good enough to help the Committee by communicating to them your views—the views of your Institution—on any or all the questions.

The replies may, please, be sent before the 30th of June 1940.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

Secretary,
Library Development Committee, Bombay.

REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIVED FROM DISTRICT LOCAL BOARDS.

APPENDIX C (1).

- 1. President, District Local Board, Ahmednagar.
- District Local Board, Kanara.
 District Local Board, Panch Mahals, Godhra.

FROM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS.

APPENDIX C (2).

- 1. Schools Committee, Bombay.
- 2. District School Board, Belgaum.
- 3. District School Board, Thana.

REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIVED FROM STATES AND OUTSIDE PROVINCES

APPENDIX C (3).

- 1. Huzur Cutcherry, Chief Secretary to the Government, Trivandrum, Travan-
- 2. Government of Bengal (Educational Department).
- 3. Director of Public Instruction, Punjab.
- 4. Punjab University Library, Punjab.
- 5. Arthur Library, Castle-Rock.
- 6. Public Library, Allahabad, United Provinces.
- 7. Government of Assam (Educational Department).
- 8. Central Provinces and Berar (Educational Department).
- 9. Rural Development Officer, United Provinces.
- 10. Government of Madras (Educational Department).

FROM NON-GOVERNMENT HEADS OF OFFICES AND INSTITUTIONS.

APPENDIX C (4).

- 1. Rajdaftardar, Baroda State, Baroda.
- 2. Library Department, Baroda.
- 3. Baroda College, Baroda.
- 4. Municipal High School, Haveri.
- 5. Shree Maharani Tarabai Teachers' College, Kolhapur.
- 6. New English School, Poons.
- 7. Haribhai Deokaran High School, Sholapur.
- 8. Shree Shivaji Preparatory Military School, Poons.
- 9. Fergusson College, Poons.
- 10. Khandesh Education Society's Pratap High School, Amalner.
- 11. Nutan Marathi Vidyalaya High School, Poons.
- 12. Camp Education Society's School, Poons.
- 13. Miraj High School, Miraj.
- 14. Willingdon College, Sangli.

REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIVED FROM MUNICIPALITIES.

APPENDIX C (5).

- 1. Municipal Borough, Dharwar.
- 2. Municipal Office, Gadag.
- 3. Haveri Municipality, Haveri.
- 4. Bhagur Municipality, Bhagur.
- 5. Kapadwanj Municipality, Kapadwanj.
- 6. Malegaon Borough Municipality, Malegaon,
- 7. Poona Suburban Municipality, Poona.
- 8. Baramati Municipality, Baramati.
- 9. Sinnar Municipality, Sinnar.
- 10. Alibag Municipality, Alibag.
- 11. Pandharpur Municipality, Pandharpur.
- 12. Haliyal Municipality, Haliyal.
- 13. Alandi Municipality, Alandi.
- 14. Erandol Municipality, Erandol.
- 15. Municipal Borough, Dhulia.
- 16. Yawal Municipality, Yawal, East Khandesh.
- 17. Bagalkot City Municipality, Bagalkot.
- 18. Mhaswad Municipality, Mhaswad.
- 19. Bombay Municipal Corporation.

REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIVED FROM OTHER NON-OFFICIAL INSTITUTIONS.

APPENDIX C (6).

- 1. The Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.
- 2. The Associations of Authors, Composers and Writers of India, Bombay.
- 3. The Marwadi Chamber of Commerce Ltd., Bombay.
- 4. The Bombay Parsee Association, Bombay.
- 5. The Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay.
- 6. The Aryan Excelsior League, Bombay.
- 7. Commerce Graduates' Association, Bombay.
- 8. The P. E. N. Association of Writers, Bombay.
- 9. The Bombay Press Owners' Association, Bombay.
- 10. Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay (2).
- 11. The W. A. F. Institute, Bijapur.
- 12. Bombay Legal Aid Society, Bombay.
- 13. Bombay Presidency Women's Council, Bombay.
- 14. The Pathare Prabhu Social Samaj, Bombay.
- 15. Social Workers' Society, Bombay.
- 16. Dubash & Co., Solicitors, Bombay.
- 17. Bombay Advocates' Association, Bombay.
- 18. The Social Service League, Bombay.
- 19. Bombay Medical Union, Bombay.
- 20. Bombay Presidency Anjuman Taraqqi-e-Urdu, Andheri.
- 21. Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poons.
- 22. Poona Sarvajanik Sabha, Poona.
- 23. Anjuman-i-Islam, Bombay.
- 24. Bharat Itihasa Sanshodhak Mandal, Poona.
- 25. Deccan College Research Institute, Poons.
- 26, Servants of India Society, Poons.

REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

APPENDIX C (7).

- 1. Educational Inspector, Central Division, Poons,
- 2. Government High School, Nadiad.
- 3. R. S. Dalal High School, Broach.
- 4. Hargovandas Lakhmichand College of Commerce, Ahmedahad.
- 5. Department of Chemical Technology, Bombay.
- 6. Educational Inspector, Northern Division, Ahmedabad.
- 7. The Director of Industries, Bombay.
- 8. Elphinstone College, Bombay.
- 9. Oriental Translator to Government, Bombay.
- 10, -Royal Institute of Science, Bombay,
- 11. Ismail College, Andheri.
- 12. Sardars' High School, Belgaum.
- 13. S. T. College, Belgaum.
- 14. Karnatak College, Dharwar.
- 15. High School, Dharwar.
- 16. Educational Inspector, Southern Division, Dharwar.
- 17. Director of Public Health, Poona.
- 18. College of Agriculture, Poona.
- 19. Inspector of European Schools, Poons.
- 20. Inspectress of Girls' Schools, Central Division, Poons.
- 21. College of Engineering, Poons.
- 22. Director of Agriculture, Bombay Province, Poona.
- 23. Dr. M. B. Rehman, M. A., Ph. D.
- 24. Kannada Research Institute, Dharwar,

REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIVED FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

APPENDIX C (8).

- 1. Mr. S. L. Silam, Municipal Corporation, Bombay.
- 2. Mr. K. Natarajan, Editor, The Indian Social Reformer, Bombay.
- 3. Tarabai Premchand, Matheran.
- 4. Mr. M R. Masani, Municipal Corporation, Bombay.
- 5. Prof K. L. Joshi, M. A. (Lond.), Ahmedabad.
- 6. W. S. Mukadam, Esq., M. L. A., Godhra.
- 7. Dewan Bahadur K. M. Jhaveri, Bombay.
- 8. Lily K. Premchand, Byculla, Bombay.
- 9. Manu Subedar, Esq., M. L.A. (Central), Bombay.
- 10. Mr. J. B. Greaves Bombay, Greaves Cotton Co. Ltd. Bombay.
- 11. Mr. H. P. Mody, Bombay.
- 12. R. B. Wadekar, Esq., B.A. LL.B., M. L. A., Jalgaon.
- 13. S. H. Jhabvala, Esq., M. L. A., Bombay.
- 14. V. L. Mehta, Esq., Bombay.
- 15. Jamnadas Mehta, Esq., Bombay.
- 16. K. E. Punegar, Esq., Bombay,

- 17. Rao Bahadur R. S. Asavale, J. P., Bombay.
- 18. R. V. Jahagirdar, Esq., Dharwar.
- 19. N. G. Chapekar, Esq., Badlapur. -
- 20. G. R. Nalavadi, Esq., B.A. LL.B., M.L.A., Dharwar.
- 21. R. V. Sabnis, Esq., Poons.
- 22. Mrs. K. S. Dongerkery, Bombay.
- 23. P. A. Wadia, Esq., Bombay.
- 24. Dr. G. S. Khair, M.A., Ph. D.
- 25. G. K. Harkare, Esq., Bombay.
- 26. M. R. Paranjape, Poons.
- 27. R. S. Parkhi, Esq., Assistant Librarian, Fergusson College, Poons.
- 28. Prof. D. R. Gadgil, M.A., Poons,

REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE RECEIVED FROM LIBRARIES AND LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS.

APPENDIX C (9).

- 1. The Bombay Telugu Free Library, Bombay.
- 2. D. N. High School, Anand.
- 3. Ahmednagar City Library, Ahmednagar,
- 4. The K. R. Cama Oriental Institute and Library, Bombay.
- 5. Poona Libraries Association, Poona,
- 6. Saraswat Brahman Samaj, Bombay.
- 7. The Tarun Bharat Library and Free Reading Room, Andheri.
- 8. The Gram-Panchayat Library, Vandal.
- 9. School Reading Room, Kodaganoor,
- 10. Shree Kumavat Kahatriya Samajonnati Free Reading Room, Poons.
- 11. The Provincial Board for Adult Education, Poons,
- 12. · The Nsgar Vachan Mandir, Chopda.
- 13. The Karnatak Vidya Vardhak Sangha, Dharwar,
- 14. Lord Reay Industrial Museum, Poons.
- 15. Lord Ripon Library, Nandurbar,
- 16. Santesh Dharmartha Vachanalaya, Dharwar.
- 17. Poona City General Library, Poona.
- 18. Jewish Reading Room and Library, Poons.
- 19. Maharashtra Sahitya Parishad, Poona.
- The Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Shahabaj, District Kolaba.
- 21. United Service Library, Poona.
- 22. Maharashtra Library Association, Dadar, Bombay.
- 23. The Kesari and the Mahratta Library, Poona.
- 24. Bombay Branch, Royal Asiatic Society's Library, Bombay.
- 25. Hemabhai Institute, Ahmedabad.
- 26. Sheth Maneklal Jethabhai Municipal Library, Ahmedabad.
- 27. Gujarat Vidyapeetha, Ahmedadad.
- 28, Gujarat Vernacular Society, Ahmedabad,
- 29. Marathi Grantha Sangrahalaya, Poone.
- 30. Historical Research Society, Dharwar,

MO-II Bk L 2-6

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT, BOMBAY,

Schemes of Library Development.

APPENDIX D (1).

SCHEME No. 1.

Showing the amount of Government Grant recommended for the First Stage of development,

Libraries.				Amount of Grant.
				Grant,
				Rs.
Central Library				30,000
Three Regional Libraries			,	30,000
•		-		
				60,000
	Central Library	Central Library	Central Library	Central Library

APPENDIX D (2).

SCHEME No. II

Showing the amount of Government Grant recommended for the Second Stage of development.

•	Libraries.	,		A	mount of Grant,	Amount expe- to be contri- buted locali	-1
	ý		• 3 •		Rs.	Re-	
1.	Central Library	4		•••	40,000		• .
3.	Regional Libraries	•••'		***	50,000	*****	-
15.	District Libraries at Rs. 3000 es	ich`		446	45,000	45,000	•
				· · ·	1,35,000	45,000	

· APPENDIX D (3).

SCHEME No. III.

Showing the amount of Government Grant recommended for the Third Stage of development.

٠	Libraries.	•	•	-	mount of Grant.	Amount expected to be contributed locally.
					Rs.	l Re.
1.	Central Library			•••	60,000	*****
3.	Regional Libraries	:			60,000	******
15.	District Libraries at	Rs. 4,500 e	ach	4.0	67,500	45,000
167.	Taluka or Peta Libra	ries at Rs.	500 each		83,500	83,500
100.	Libraries in Towns (tely) of the		50,000	50,000
		•.	13 M. T.	ر با	3,21,000	2,32,500

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT, ECMBAY-cortd. APPENDIX D (4).

SCHEME No. IV.

Showing the amount of Government Grant recommended for the Fourth Stage,

i,	Libraries.		Government Grant,	Amount expected to be contributed locally.
			Ra.	Rs.
1.	Central Library		60,000	******
3.	Regional Libraries	,)	65,000	*****
15,	District Libraries at Rs. 5,000	0 each	75,000	45,000
167.	Taluka or Peta Libraries at F	ts. 800 each	1,33,600	83,500
100,	Town Libraries at Rs. 500 ea	ich '	50,000	50,000
979.	Village Libraries (population	2,000 to 5,000)	• •
	at Rs. 100 each		97,900	97,900
	en filosofie (m. 1940). Telepoperatura	•	4,81,500	2,76,400

APPENDIX D (5).

SCHEME No. V.

Showing the amount of Gopernment Grant recommended for the Fifth Stage of development.

•	Librarica.	Amount of Grant	Amount expected to:be contributed locally.
		Rs.	Rs.
		11 (1)	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1
1.	Central Library (no increase)	60,000	40799
	Regional Libraries (no increase)	65,000	/
	District Libraries (at Rs. 6,000 each)	90,000	45,000 '
	Taluka or Peta Libraries at Rs. 1,000 each	1,67,000	. 83,500
	Town Libraries at Rs. 500 each	50,000	50,000
	Village (2,000 to 5,000 population) Librarie	3	
- 12-	at Ra. 125 each	1,22.375	97,900
2696	Village Libraries (1,000-2000 population)	.,	
. · ·	at Rs. 50 each	1,34,800	1,34,800
- "		6,89,175	4,11,200

LIBRARY DEVEL OPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT, BOMBAY.

APPENDIX D (6).

Scheme No. VI.

Showing the amount of Government Grant recommended for the Sixth Stage of development.

	Libraries.	Amount of Grant.	Amount expecte to be contri- buted locally
	• •	Rs.	Rs.
1.	Central Library (No increase)	60,000	
3,	Regional Libraries (No increase)	65,000	
15.	District Libraries (No increase)	90,000	45,000
167.	Taluka or Peta Libraries (No increase)	1,67,000	83,500
100.	Town Libraries (No increase)	50,000	50,000
979.	Village Libraries (2,000 to 50,000 Popu	lation)	,
2696.	at Rs. 150 each Village Libraries (Population 1,000-	1,46,850	97,900
	2,000) at Rs. 100 each	2,69,600	1,34,800
17.743.	Village Libraries (Population below 1,	• •	
20,000	Rs. 25 each	4,43,575	4,43,575
		12,92,025	8,54,775

APPENDIX D (7).

Other Annual expenditure in connection with the Library Development Scheme.

		Ra.
1.	Reserve for Building Construction	50,000
1.	Maximum Grant to the 10 Library Associations	10,750
1.	Expenses of the Central Advisory Board	15,007
1.	Expenses of the three Regional Advisory Boards	30,000
1.	Grant to Schools and Colleges for increased pay to Librarians.	75,000

		1,80,750

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