

PRINCE EDWARD—LAST TIMES TODAY
GRETA GARBO—JOHN GILBERT
 IN **"QUEEN CHRISTINA"**
 ALSO NEWS. SHOWS AT 3-7-8-45

CAPITOL—LAST TIMES TODAY
 NILS ASHER—GLORIA STUART
 IN **"THE LOVE CAPTIVE"**
 COMEDY AND MUSICAL

Newer & Better

(Continued from Page 1)

Miss Bateson reports continued success of the Demonstration Library movement throughout the Province. The branch libraries already established are at Montague, Souris, Lennox, Alberton, Summerside, Kensington, O'Leary, Tyne Valley, Crapaud, and St. Charles. Tomorrow a branch library will be opened at Georgetown, and on Thursday of next week the Rustico branch will be inaugurated. Five more branches throughout the Province will be opened before next Fall, when it is hoped also to make a start in the schools, beginning with those schools which show most interest in library work. Some of the schools will be served through existing library branches, and others from headquarters in Charlottetown.

In districts inaccessible to branch libraries, it is hoped to establish a service system through the Women's Institutes, an organization which has done splendid work in co-operating with Miss Bateson and staff.

Library Movement Outlined

A very interesting account of the Carnegie Library Demonstration in this Province was given by Miss Bateson at the recent meeting of the American Library Association in Montreal. The text follows:

"There may be a few people here who are ignorant of conditions in Prince Edward Island as I was before I went there. By way of introduction, therefore, may I remind you that Prince Edward Island is one of the oldest settlements in the Dominion. It is easy to understand why the Canadian Library Commission found it a particularly suitable area for a demonstration of library service on a larger scale. The Island is a geographic and political unit with a population large enough to support a good library service and not too large to be unmanageable. There are no industries, the people being engaged almost entirely in agriculture and fishing. The island is well settled but, except for Charlottetown (14,000) and Summerside (4,000), there are no towns with a population of over one thousand. For a long time there has been practically no immigration but a steady exodus. I believe until the last few years that every year about five hundred young people left Prince Edward Island seeking greater opportunities in various parts of Canada and the United States.

Prince Edward Island is very proud of the high standing achieved by its men and women in the universities and professions of this continent. There is no doubt that they have distinguished themselves and I think that the same rather high quality is to be found in those who have remained on the island. Geographically cut off, especially during the winter months from the rest of the world, they have developed a distinct character of their own. They are conservative and critical of new ideas but once the idea has been accepted they often become enthusiastic. Their Women's Institutes, for example, which have only been established a few years have made remarkable progress and their high sense of responsibility and their amount of work they do in their communities is a revelation. It was a simple matter in Prince Edward Island to get in touch with all organizations working in the same direction as the library in the same authorities, Women's Institutes, the press, the Church (more influential here than in most places). The Demonstration started in June 1933 and I think that by September through the Provincial and County Fairs when we had an exhibit of books, the news of the Demonstration had been spread over the island.

Prince Edward Island. They know little of books but I think they must have inherited a belief in their value and they approach the library with interest. The response everywhere has been remarkably good, the proportion of non-fiction read in one of the branches has often been thirty-five per cent and the proportion for the Island in general is thirty per cent.

Group Study Encouraged

"We have emphasized from the beginning the value of group study and discussion in stimulating interest in the library. Here we were fortunate in having near at hand a stimulating example of what can be done in farming and fishing communities through organized group study. The University of Saint Francis, Xavier in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, has for four years been conducting a University Extension course among the fishermen and farmers of the Diocese of Antigonish. The vitality of the movement can be judged by the fact that over three hundred groups were operating last winter. The movement has had the practical result of establishing various cooperative organizations and improving economic conditions as well as creating an intellectual ferment among the people. In Prince Edward Island there is no organization specially concerned with adult education or extension work but through Young Men's Debating Clubs, Young People's organizations in the churches, Women's Institutes, Catholic Women's Leagues and directly through the library there have been established thirty-seven study groups, all working in conjunction with the library. The very great problems, as everybody knows, are to get a local leader enthusiastic enough to make the thing go, and to get books sufficiently simple and interesting to work with.

System of Distribution

"So far in Prince Edward Island we have established ten branches of the library. We do not use a book truck, the roads last winter were closed from November until May, so that a book truck is impracticable. It seems to me that for display purposes and publicity before opening branches a book truck is of great service, but I have contrived an arrangement for a back of a small car which I use, which can carry about three hundred books. It is a series of drawers which when taken out and set on end become book shelves. It can be set up in about two minutes. For all sorts of conventions, fairs and meetings where you want to display books to back up your words, I have found it of great service. It is also a good way of carrying books to and from branches. We have then no book truck, the distribution is through branches, placed in geographic centres where people go to do their marketing. Before opening a branch we always form a local committee and we have found it profitable to hold two or three preliminary meetings so that we know what sort of service is being offered to them. These meetings were often very well attended and we always try to them a display of books. The opening of a branch we always regard as an opportunity for further publicity. The Premier, Minister of Education, is usually present at the largest available hall is usually filled. After two or three hours of speeches, more or less on the subject of the library, we feel we have made a beginning in that district!

"In all cases the locality provides the room with light and heat equipment. There is in each branch a local custodian chosen by the Demonstration, and in branches with a registration exceeding five hundred, receiving a small remuneration. In the summer, less frequently in the winter owing to the difficulty of getting about.

"This question of winter transportation is a real problem in Prince Edward Island. This morning we will open about ten more branches but even with twenty branches I do not think we can consider we have really made books accessible to every one. Last winter was unusually severe and I understand that owing to poor train service and bad storms winter travel is usually difficult. Branches that are covered even ten miles within a radius of ten miles without some supplementary service could be given through the Women's Institutes and schools, where we might look for voluntary assistance. It is necessary, I know, to proceed cautiously here in view of the fact that so many people prefer to have half a dozen books on their own doorstep rather than a thousand books a few miles away. The people of Prince Edward Island have been very insistent in their demand for a catalogue. They realize of course that if, as we repeatedly tell them, not only the books in their branch but all the books in the library are at their disposal, they must know what books the library has, if this is to mean anything. I think that in some communities subject lists of books are the best way of meeting this demand, but I do believe that in Prince Edward Island a complete catalogue of all the non-fiction would fill a very great need. Emphasis has been put on the request system by which any book other than light fiction may be asked for. This system which they value and use a great deal freshens the branch collections and the periodical complete change of books keeps the book collection fluid.

Winter Service Problems

"The Summerside Library had been taken over and fostered for many years by the I.O.D.E. in view of about three thousand volumes. The records still exist, showing remarkable feats of reading, e.g. one family which read no less than seventy-two books in a year! A great many of the books are still there. Within the next few weeks we intend to put a deposit, largely of French books, in Rustico.

"There is one development I should like to suggest at this meeting and that is some system of inter-library loans in the Maritime Provinces. I hope that this may be considered. In British Columbia this a magnificent rounding off of the system. I remember when we borrowed the complete text of the Vedas from Mr. Hosie. I think that among those going to Prince Edward Island from outside must be impressed with its comparative immunity from the industrial and economic problems which press so heavily elsewhere. As an agricultural province, it is unlikely to see any great social or economic changes in the near future. But the abundant leisure in the winter and the need for more intensive and scientific agriculture, for the better exploitation and conservation of its natural resources suggest fields in which the library could be made to play a very vital part in the future development of the province.

Stimulating Figures

"I think I have sketched briefly one aspect of the work of the Demonstration and before I leave it should like to give you a few figures. They do not convey very much, but they do not convey very much in much as our work is only beginning.

College Library Ser.

"There is another aspect of the Demonstration which remains to be considered and that is its relation to the province.

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THE CENTRAL GUARDIAN

This column is reserved for news of local interest but advertising of a purely nature may be inserted at 4 cents a word strictly payable in advance.

NOTICE—The School Supply Office will be closed from July 9th to 25th. L-6617-7-6-9-11.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND—Rev. Ewen MacDougall will preach Friday, 13th at Milo Hall at 7.30 P. M. and Sabbath 15th at Coleman at 10.30 and Summerside at 7 P. M. L-6741-7-10-11.

PREACHING SERVICES at Murray River Sunday, July 15th at 7 P. M. Special singing. Louis Harris. L-6765-7-11-11.

THE PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY, Annual Meeting will be held in the Town Hall, Summerside, July 13th, beginning at 10.30 A. M. L-6688-7-9-41.

TO CHARLOTTETOWN—Mrs. John Lappen and her daughter, Mrs. S. Traubrose, of Glace Bay, left on Friday evening for Charlottetown, where they will visit friends. —Sydney Post-Record.

"THE SCOTSMAN" CALENDAR—Mr. P. W. Clarkin, Divisional Freight and District Passenger agent, has received a magnificent pictorial calendar from the Edinburgh "Scotsman" consisting of a series of national scenic views reproduced from its columns. In the corner of each page is an appropriate verse from well-known poems—all of which lend perennial interest to the production.

ISLANDERS ATTENDING—Mr. William A. Reddin 187 Dorchester Street, City and Rev. John A. Sullivan, St. Dunstan's College, are among the 1,300 students registered for the largest summer school ever to be held at the Catholic University of America, at Washington, D. C. The twenty-fourth annual summer session opened on Monday, July 2, but enrollments were not closed until Thursday, July 5, when students from 38 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, Cuba and the Dutch West Indies had registered for the courses offered by the University. Thirty-one departments of instruction staffed by 116 professors, a number of whom were drawn from colleges and universities in various parts of the United States, as well as members of the public school systems of Baltimore, the District of Columbia, the several United States Governmental Departments and the Library of Congress staff, will give the more than 300 courses given by the summer session.

FORMER OVERSEAS NURSE—Mrs. Olga Finlay of Red Deer, Alberta, is visiting at the home of her sister Mrs. Donald Murchison, Victoria. Since returning from overseas where Mrs. Finlay did valiant service with the nursing forces she has been superintendent of the past eleven years of the Red Deer Hospital and will be cordially welcomed by many natives and friends.

POLICE COURT—At the Police Court yesterday morning, an assault case was adjourned till tomorrow. A man charged with being drunk and incapable was remanded till tomorrow.

TO CHARLOTTETOWN—Miss Doris Cunningham and her sister, Miss Martha Cunningham, of the teaching staff of Ashby school, are en route to Charlottetown, P. E. I. to spend two weeks vacation. —Sydney Post Record.

BOARD OF TRADE, Quarterly Meeting tonight at 8 o'clock. L-6760-7-11-11.

W. M. S. AFTERNOON TEA TOMORROW at The Birches, 35 Ambrose Street from 3.30 to 6. Bring your friends. Tea 25 cents. L-6747-7-11-11.

PASSED EXAMS—The following Grade VIII pupils of New Haven School have passed the Public School Examinations: Catherine MacNevin, Charles Colvill, Louis Devereaux.

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THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1934

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Quantity Wool Wanted Highest Cash Prices Paid.

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ning—next week we intend to put a deposit of four thousand to five thousand books in the Charlottetown Public Library and within a few weeks to open more branches. But in the ten branches already opened there are registered 7,018 members. The average circulation per month is 10,687 thirty per cent of which is non-fiction. The total number of volumes catalogued in "I" last year was 20,774.

"I" have mentioned the difficulty of getting about Prince Edward Island in the winter. The rain service is not good and it takes two days to hold a meeting anywhere. This was a great handicap in organizing branches last winter. On one occasion, being pressed for time, I decided to try the air and returning Charlottetown at twelve noon. I was able to hold three meetings which by train could not have been accomplished in a week. Incidentally it was more economical but—rather cold.

Urban Centres

"So far I have dealt only with the service to rural communities. In Charlottetown and in Summerside there were libraries in existence and I would like to say a word about them and the relation of the Demonstration to them.

"The Charlottetown Library serves the double purpose of Legislative and Public Library but has never received adequate financial support. It depends for its funds on the Government and on a small private endowment. Except for a very small nominal sum for upkeep, the city of Charlottetown had taken no part in its support. A month or two ago, however, Charlottetown was induced to undertake the payment of an additional assistant in the library and the Library Committee undertook enough money to buy a charging desk and to put up shelving to accommodate more books. With this additional furniture and staff the library will be able to accommodate a deposit of four thousand books which we intend to put there next week. As Charlottetown has a ping and marketing centre for a large section of the country, this development is particularly welcomed.

"The Summerside Library had been taken over and fostered for many years by the I.O.D.E. in view of about three thousand volumes. The records still exist, showing remarkable feats of reading, e.g. one family which read no less than seventy-two books in a year! A great many of the books are still there. Within the next few weeks we intend to put a deposit, largely of French books, in Rustico.

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