

In 1895 the library was transferred to the management of the Municipal Council following instructions received from the Department of Education and the name was changed from Mechanic's Institute to Public Library.

Two years later a branch of the library was opened in Northcote at the home of Ferdinand Kosmack, for the convenience of subscribers who lived in that section of the township. Shortly afterwards the headquarters for this branch was transferred to the store of John M. Briscoe.

In 1898 a frame building 14 x 18 feet was erected by Rev. Robert Harkness on the Presbyterian manse property for use as a library and this building was later purchased from him by the library committee.

Librarians during the following years were: Mrs. Robert Harkness, Bella Brown, Hubert Box, Lindsay Gibbons and Mrs. J.C. Campbell. Frederick Bromley acted as Secretary from 1896 to 1906 and he was succeeded by Albert Berlanguet and Robert W. Brown.

In 1934 the Department of Public Libraries closed the library and the books were taken away for re-distribution.

In the days of its infancy, reading interest was keen and there was no trouble to support the library, but with the advent of modern means of locomotion and amusement the interest of the community in this institution dwindled to such an extent that the department felt compelled to take this action.

Perhaps the purpose of the library was served. The youth of the day have easy access to the larger and more comprehensive libraries. Our present day schools both elementary and secondary, are now equipped with libraries kept up-to-date by the demands of the ever changing structure of our present education system.

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