

number of years. When the School Library Service was established in 1939 it would be expected that there would have been a large decrease in the membership of the juvenile library yet, although eighteen schools joined the new scheme, only 787 less books were issued from the city library where the membership was maintained at 2600. (23)

By 1937 it was apparent that many schools had definitely accepted the value of library facilities as an aid to education for, in that year, classes commenced to visit the Public Library to learn the use and value of catalogues and reference works. (24) These visits had become a recognised part of the school curriculum by 1942 and the Librarian reported that they were looked upon by many scholars as one of the most interesting features of school life. (25) A further interesting development appeared with the introduction of the first children's "Book Week" in November 1945, as a result of which a markedly increased interest was shown in books dealing with travel, science, aircraft, radio, and "how to make things". (26) Much of this increased interest in the children's library was due to the work of the librarian, Miss H. Cowey, who gave displays and talks to classes and encouraged children to read better class literature. Largely as a result of her efforts membership steadily increased till, in 1947, the 3000 mark was passed, while the issue for the year reached 50,167, an unprecedented figure. (27) These figures speak volumes for the work of Miss Cowey for, by this date, the service provided by the

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23. *ibid* 1940, p.17.

24. "Star-Sun" July 22, 1937.

25. B. of G. 1943, p.20.

26. *ibid* 1946, p.23.

27. *ibid* 1947, p.22.