

equipped and the progressive increase in the establishment of courses was well maintained. The name was changed from Stockport Technical School to Stockport College for Further Education in 1927. The new title was adopted so as to include all the sections of the work done in the College—Art, Commerce, Domestic and Technical.

Mr. J. F. S. Ross, B.Sc., was appointed Principal of the Wigan Mining and Technical College in 1928, and Mr. G. Wood, M.Sc., was appointed his successor. Alderman H. Patten, J.P., was elected Chairman of the Governors in November, 1929. Important additions made by the Governors since that time include the addition of an Electrical Laboratory, a Printing Laboratory and the establishment of a full-time Day Commercial Course for Girls. The College is now approved for the award of National Certificates in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Chemistry, Building and Gas Engineering. The number of students accommodated in the building is 700 Secondary Students in the Secondary School under the Head Master, Mr. M. J. H. Cooke, M.Sc., and 1,850 students in the College under the Principal, Mr. G. Wood, M.Sc.

Compared with the position ten years ago the development reflects great credit on the progressive spirit and educational foresight of the Governors and the Secretary of Education, Mr. A. Lawton, M.A., and is an achievement of which they may be justifiably proud.

Although the Library service in Stockport during the past ten years has witnessed no great changes, no branch of educational or municipal activity can show greater progress. The two chief developments have been the opening of the Young People's Reading Room at the Central Library on October 17, 1923, and the inauguration of lantern lectures during the winter 1926-27. The latter have been so popular that the Committee have had to engage the large assembly hall at the Baths in St. Petersburg to accommodate those wishing to attend.

During the period under review the number of borrowers have increased from 22,613 to 30,278, the total number of books issued and consulted from 360,777 to 616,995, and the books consulted in the Reference Library from 82 to 133 per day.

A very praiseworthy phase of the work is that in connection with the elementary and secondary schools. This has grown to a remarkable extent, and during the 17 years it has been established has issued one and a half million books to school children. This work is assisted by the Ephraim Hallam Trustees, who also make an annual grant towards the maintenance of the teachers and students section of the Reference Department.

Ten years ago the average number of books issued by the Central Library per day was 820. To-day it is 1759. On the Friday before last August Wakes it reached the remarkable number of 3,394, or an average of nearly six volumes per minute for eleven hours. The last ten years has seen an increase in the number of volumes in the Lending and School Libraries from 42,081 to 63,944, and the number of volumes in the Reference Library has increased from 13,905 to 16,313. The number of visitors to the Reading Rooms has increased from 255,498 to 397,327. Mr. Richard Hargreaves, who has been Librarian since 1902, is in charge of the Libraries.

In the course of the last ten years considerable development has taken place in the provision of public park facilities. Of recent years the policy has