

## Petitions For Library

AMHERST has been talking with considerable pride of its public library and the service it has been giving the community.

And in comparison with Halifax that record is excellent.

There, every ten people—men, women and children—took out fifteen books during the year.

In Halifax, every ten people—men, women and children included, took out five books.

The circulation of the Amherst library thus was three times as great per capita as the circulation in Halifax.

Perhaps one inducement offered there, and not available here, was the greater number of new books. Amherst bought 374 new books and Halifax, eleven times as populous, bought about 600 new books.

Not that many more could have been handled had they been bought. In the single, crowded room at the end of the corridor which has been granted to the librarians, the shelves are packed, the desk tops are filled and there are books on the floors because there is no place else to put them.

City Council has promised to correct this condition and to give to Halifax a reasonably good, modern, public library. And, in order that it may have an appreciation of what public feeling is in the matter, a petition has been circulated among almost all organizations in the city for endorsement and signatures. The petition asks for the establishment of the library as a memorial to those who served in the late war. When it is returned it will be presented to City Council and it is to be hoped that the return is early because, in all probability, some action may have to be taken by Council within the next few weeks, either in the form of estimates or legislation, if the library is to get under way by 1949.