



Photo courtesy of Stratford-Perth Archives.

# Orr Insurance... Answering the call



**ORR**  
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Arguably the first Carnegie library in Canada, the Stratford Public Library was constructed in 1903. The original structure included a reading and reference room, a children's room, the stack room which housed the books. Library patrons were not allowed to browse through the books but had to make selections from a catalogue. On the walls of the reading room were large lettered admonitions for SILENCE! There have been many changes made over the years. To this day, the library still stands on the same site, with the same core building built in 1903.