

LIBRARY MAKES FINANCIAL APPEAL TO STATE GOVT.

THE Perak library has appealed to the State Government to take over its financial affairs.

Alternatively the library wants the Government to provide an annual grant of \$5,000.

The management committee of the library will meet the State Secretary, Tengku Mohamed bin Tengku Besar Burhanuddin, to discuss its future next week.

"More than half of our members are students — the future citizens of our country — and we must provide better library faci-

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ilities for them," the president of the library, Mr. Leong Boon Swee, told the Straits Times today.

He said the library had stopped substantial purchases of books for the past 18 months due to financial stringency.

The library has been using its reserve fund which has dropped from \$19,891 in 1956 to \$8,875 this year. The monthly income from subscriptions is about \$450 but the expenditure exceeds \$550.

The Perak library, established in 1936, is housed in

its own two-storey building in Club Road. The ground floor is normally rented out for public meetings and functions.

The State Government stopped its annual grant of \$5,000 to the library in 1955. Last year the Government gave \$2,000 after repeated appeals and nominated two members to sit on the library committee.