

Librarian's twenty-seventh annual report for the year  
ending December 31, 1931.

1931 Library Facts.

Book Collections	24324 vol.
Additions	1563 "
Issued for home reading	116281 "
Increase over previous year	14036 "
Registered borrowers	7564
Country patrons purchasing cards	53
Patrons making deposits	40
Non-residents K. U. Students	281
" " H. S. "	74
Haskell Institute Students	49

I feel quite cheerful as I make this report. It has been a good year. We have been able to do our bit during these hard times. We have given a warm reading room in the winter, a cool one in the summer. We have furnished newspapers, magazines and books. We have assisted not only students and club workers but many of the unemployed have been given help with a little systematic reading.

We have tried to meet the demand of the home reader. In fact, we loaned out 14, 036 more books than during the previous year. This means each book in our collection has circulated on an average of 4.7 times. It means, also, that each person borrowed on an average of 8.6 books. This compares favorably with the 7.6 average as shown in a recent American Library Association report, tabulating forty-eight libraries, our library being one. The average per capita expenditure shown by this report was .87, our service cost the city .67 per capita. Our cost per circulation was .07 while the average of these forty-eight libraries was .11 per circulation.

I'm sure we are all grateful that during these strenuous days we have been able to meet the demands with economy and can face the new year with a comfortable balance in the bank to supplement the revenue from a lowered valuation.

We have been able to do this by saving in small ways on each budget item. The librarians have each shouldered a share of the extra work and responsibility.

We have had a good time, too. Readers have been eager and appreciative. The high school students have worked harder than ever on their assignment of "careers". It has been a joy to work with them as they gave a forward look to their future endeavors. If their interests today mean anything tomorrow there will be an army of aviators and plenty of pretty nurses.

These same students are becoming well informed on the history of our state. They have worked out elaborate note-books, really good histories of Kansas, using material we placed on a special reserve table.

Then there are the debate teams. Have you ever had a debater in your family? If you have you will appreciate our problems as we try to maintain neutrality and help these young people to secure material for their arguments for chain stores, installment buying, German reparations, World Court, value of movies and so on.

We are happy to announce the arrival of our new globes bringing to us the whole wide world.

We have had two valuable gifts. One, a collection of choice books from the library of Dr. F. B. Morse, the other, ten volumes of the Godey's Lady Book given by Miss Gertrude Welch.

The children's department during Book Week contributed to the education of Dad and Mother, Auntie and Grandfather through the list of fifty questions based upon well known books for boys and girls. The children were given elastic privileges in hunting out the answers, consequently the whole family was forced into the struggle and with amusing results.

It has indeed been an interesting year and we hope that these friends who have sought us in their hour of need will not forget us in the year of prosperity that is just around the corner. Thank you.