





Lawrence Free Public Library  
Lawrence, Kansas

To the Board of Directors of the Lawrence Free Public Library:  
Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a pleasure to submit to you the fiftieth annual report for the year ending December 31, 1954.

The library has been open for reading and circulation of books 304 days, eleven hours each day, closing on the usual legal holidays.

CIRCULATION

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Nonfiction lent	24,036	8,914	32,950
Fiction lent	48,108	45,309	93,417
Total	72,144	54,223	126,367

This circulation total represents an increase of 12,920 volumes lent over 1953.

In addition to books, there were 3,364 phonograph records lent for home use.

REGISTRATION

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
December 31, 1953	4,576	1,717	6,093
Added	2,185	768	2,953
Withdrawn	1,957	477	2,434
December 31, 1954	4,604	2,008	6,612

BOOK STOCK

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
December 31, 1953	33,605	9,949	43,554
Purchased	1,439	1,093	2,532
Gifts	120	37	157
Total	35,164	11,079	46,243
Lost or withdrawn	1,102	747	1,849
Total	34,062	10,332	44,394



Lawrence Free Public Library  
Lawrence, Kansas

COMMENTS

The use of the library continues its upward trend in terms of the number of people using the library, the services offered, and the ever faithful but indefinable indicator--the circulation of books.

The number of books lent increased sharply over the previous year. As shown on the statistical report, the increase was 12,920 over 1953, or an increase of 11.3%. The final figure has been passed four times during the height of the depression. For library purposes it would be gratifying to point to some specific thing and conclude that here lies the reason for the increase. The truth is that only one comment is indisputable--it has increased.

The circulation of phonograph records began on January 11, 1954. A total of 3,364 selections were lent. When it is remembered that this service has been operating from a modest collection of 214 selections, the service bids fair to become one of the most popular departments within the library.

The number of books owned by the library increased as well. However, though 2,532 new books were purchased the book stock as a whole increased by only 340 volumes. This reflects a continuation of the policy of discarding the disreputable, out dated, and misleading volumes which tend to sit on the shelves year after year gathering dust. Their continued presence on the shelves make more desirable books that much harder to find.

Using money from both tax funds and desk collections, \$6,599.93 was spent for new books. In 1953, \$5,366.71 was spent. This is pointed out because the lesser amount spent in 1953 purchased 198 more books.

Gifts were received from both organizations and individuals. The American Association of University Women gave additional funds for the record collection. Friends and relatives continued to present money for the Mrs. W. E. Koehring children's books. Over 60 books on medicine for lay people were presented to the library in memory of Mrs. Seba Eldridge.

Lawrence children still like old fashioned story telling and in greater numbers than ever. The regular Saturday morning story hours were attended by 1,480 youngsters.

There was a staff change when, on June 12, 1954, after 35 years of service to the library and its public, Miss Frances Carter retired. Miss Tholma Baker, formerly of Junction City, was named as her successor to head the circulation department.



Lawrence Free Public Library  
Lawrence, Kansas

To the Honorable Board of Directors of the Lawrence Free Public Library:

I have the honor to report the following receipts and disbursements for the year ending December 31, 1954.

MAINTENANCE FUND

Balance		\$ 897.35
Receipts		29,690.00
Warrants	\$29,492.46	
Balance	1,094.89	
	<u>\$30,587.35</u>	<u>\$30,587.35</u>

DESK COLLECTIONS

Balance		\$ 498.55
Receipts		1,668.86
Warrants	\$ 2,084.20	
Balance	83.21	
	<u>\$ 2,167.41</u>	<u>\$ 2,167.41</u>

L. H. PERKINS MEMORIAL FUND

Balance		\$ 145.00
Receipts		25.00
Warrants	\$ 0.00	
Balance	168.00	
	<u>\$ 168.00</u>	<u>\$ 168.00</u>

VIRGINIA S. EDWARDS MEMORIAL FUND

Balance		\$ 151.37
Receipts		25.00
Warrants	\$ 0.00	
Balance	176.37	
	<u>\$ 176.37</u>	<u>\$ 176.37</u>

GURDON GROVENOR MEMORIAL FUND

Balance		\$ 162.82
Receipts		100.00
Warrants	\$ 63.37	
Balance	199.45	
	<u>\$ 262.82</u>	<u>\$ 262.82</u>

MAY MOORE MEMORIAL FUND

Balance		\$ 185.58
Receipts		65.00
Warrants	\$ 193.48	
Balance	55.10	
	<u>\$ 248.58</u>	<u>\$ 248.58</u>

JANE WELCH MEMORIAL FUND

Balance		\$ 87.50
Receipts		25.00
Warrants	\$ 0.00	
Balance	112.50	
	<u>\$ 112.50</u>	<u>\$ 112.50</u>

ALL FUNDS

Balance		\$ 2,124.17
Receipts		31,593.86
Warrants	\$31,835.51	
Balance	1,889.52	
	<u>\$53,723.03</u>	<u>\$53,723.03</u>

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Treasurer



Lawrence Free Public Library  
Lawrence, Kansas

To the Honorable Mayor and the Commission of Lawrence, Kansas.  
Gentlemen:

We herewith respectfully submit the fiftieth annual report of the Board of Directors of the Lawrence Free Public Library for the year ending December 31, 1954.

MAINTENANCE FUND

Balance	\$ 865.78
Receipts	
Warrants	29,690.00

Library Maintenance

Salaries	\$13,222.70	
Books	5,050.70	
Periodicals	535.35	
Binding	369.79	
Library supplies	1,082.34	\$25,240.88

Building Maintenance

Janitor's salary	\$ 2,040.00	
Bldg. supplies	337.93	
Repairs & Equipment	579.13	
Utilities	1,131.45	
Insurance	221.27	
Miscellaneous	39.12	
		4,449.00
		29,689.88
		865.90

Balance	\$30,555.78
	\$30,555.78

DESK COLLECTIONS  
(Fines & Gifts)

Balance	\$ 478.90
Receipts	1,666.35
Warrants	1,816.66
Balance	328.59
	\$ 2,145.25
	\$ 2,145.25

L. H. PERKINS MEMORIAL FUND

Balance	\$ 145.00
Receipts	25.00
Warrants	0.00
Balance	168.00
	\$ 168.00
	\$ 168.00

VIRGINIA S. EDWARDS MEMORIAL FUND

Balance	\$ 151.37
Receipts	25.00
Warrants	0.00
Balance	176.37
	\$ 176.37
	\$ 176.37

29689.88  
618.51  
1.37



Lawrence Free Public Library  
Lawrence, Kansas

GURDON GROVENOR MEMORIAL FUND

Balance	\$		\$	162.32
Receipts				100.00
Warrants		65.37		
Balance	\$	199.45		
	\$	262.82	\$	262.82

MAY MOORE MEMORIAL FUND

Balance	\$		\$	183.58
Receipts				65.00
Warrants		193.48		
Balance	\$	55.10		
	\$	248.58	\$	248.58

JANE WELCH MEMORIAL FUND

Balance	\$		\$	87.50
Receipts				25.00
Warrants		0.00		
Balance	\$	112.50		
	\$	112.50	\$	112.50

ALL FUNDS

Balance	\$		\$	2,072.95
Receipts				31,596.35
Warrants		31,763.59		
Balance		1,905.91		
	\$	\$55,669.30	\$	\$55,669.30

Harold G. Barr  
President

Marie E. Pendleton  
Secretary-Treasurer

1905 91  
1889 52  
1639  
60  
1579