

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

LAWRENCE FREE PUBLIC
LIBRARY

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31, 1906.

LAWRENCE, KANSAS.

MONOTYPED BY THE GAZETTE,
Lawrence, Kansas.

LIBRARY BOARD.

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| President | J. R. Griggs.....term expires February 1, 1911 |
| Vice Pres't | F. H. Smithmeyer.....term expires February 1, 1911 |
| Treasurer | Wm. Bromelsickterm expires February 1, 1910 |
| Secretary | Clarence S. Hall.....term expires February 1, 1908 |
| | P. E. Emery.....term expires February 1, 1908 |
| | G. Grovenorterm expires February 1, 1908 |
| | F. M. Bennett.....term expires February 1, 1909 |
| | J. D. Bowersock.....term expires February 1, 1909 |
| | Mrs. A. Henley.....term expires February 1, 1909 |
| | E. Bumgardnerterm expires February 1, 1910 |
| | Harry Dickterm expires February 1, 1910 |
| | A. J. Dickerterm expires February 1, 1911 |

COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Buildings and grounds..... | Mrs. Henley, Mr. Smithmeyer, Mr. Grovenor |
| Finance..... | Mr. Emery, Mr. Dicker, Mr. Griggs |
| Library..... | Mr. Bennett, Mr. Bumgardner, Mr. Dick |
| Administration..... | Mr. Bowersock, Mr. Hall, Mr. Bromelsick |

The mayor is ex-officio, a member of the board and of all committees.

LIBRARY STAFF.

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Librarian | Mrs. Nellie G. Beatty |
| First Assistant Librarian | Miss Virginia Edwards |
| Second Assistant Librarian | Miss Claudia Pendleton |
| Custodian Public Documents | Dr. E. Bumgardner |

Library hours: 10 a. m. to 9 p. m. (Except Sundays, New Year's Day, Decoration Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.)

Report of the Board of Directors.

TO THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEN OF THE
CITY OF LAWRENCE.

GENTLEMEN:

We submit for your information our fourth annual report of the condition and progress of what is, as we think, second only to our public schools for the promotion and good of our people.

Our board of directors, which is composed of thirteen representative citizens, including the mayor, have been generally attentive to the duties imposed upon them, and have conducted the affairs of the trust reposed in them as they believe for the best interests of the people of Lawrence.

Our librarian and her assistants are efficient and painstaking, and their service improves with experience. Very few people know or realize the labor required in the correct management of a free public library of eight thousand volumes.

BOOK STATEMENT.

We now have a total of 8,094 volumes, classified as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Bound periodicals..... | 824 |
| Unbound periodicals..... | 34 |
| Adult fiction..... | 1,893 |
| Young people's collection..... | 1,741 |
| German collection..... | 374 |
| Reference works..... | 289 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 2,661 |
| In the bindery..... | 278 |
| | |
| Total..... | 8,094 |
| | |
| Books purchased..... | 240 |
| Received by gift..... | 1,526 |

Of the latter, the Poehler memorial gift was 1367 volumes, 374 of which are German.

Of the current periodicals, we have thirty monthlies, thirteen weeklies and ten dailies.

There are now 3133 borrower's applications on file, which is an increase of 712 for the year.

The number of books circulated during the year was 43,723, classified as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Adult fiction..... | 28,300 |
| Young people's fiction..... | 11,861 |
| Miscellany..... | 3,288 |
| German..... | 274 |

Books used as reference in the reading rooms, 4,310.

In connection with the above statement it should be remembered that the record is for less than eleven months of the year, as the library was closed nearly five weeks by the Board of Health on account of the diphtheria scare.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

Maintenance received from the tax levy of 1905, \$2,885.61.

DISBURSEMENTS.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Salaries of librarian and assistants..... | \$1,140.00 |
| Janitor..... | 356.15 |
| Binding books..... | 567.00 |
| Repairs and new roof..... | 346.35 |
| Periodicals and books..... | 120.27 |
| Library Bureau supplies..... | 60.70 |
| Lawrence newspaper offices for printing..... | 53.50 |
| Lawrence Planing Mill Co. for shelves..... | 45.45 |
| Electric lighting..... | 53.58 |
| Gas light supplies, mantles, burners, etc..... | 59.94 |
| Miscellaneous..... | 127.83 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total..... | \$2,930.77 |
| Credit at Poehler's for supplies..... | 20.60 |
| <hr/> | |
| Net..... | \$2,910.17 |
| Deficit..... | 820.32 |

The building fund was exhausted by the payment of \$51.40 for interior decorating.

Of the book fund arising from fines and collections, there was a balance on hand at the beginning of the year of \$79.55, and the receipts during the year were \$246.66, making a total of \$326.21. Of this sum \$23.50 was received from country patrons, or non-residents. Of the above the library committee has expended for books, \$316.03, leaving a balance of \$10.18.

Respectfully submitted,
J. R. GRIGGS,

President.

Attest;

CLARENCE S. HALL,
Secretary.

January 7, 1907.

Report of Librarian.

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LAWRENCE FREE
PUBLIC LIBRARY:

Herewith is respectfully submitted my report of the work of the Free Public Library during its second fiscal year ending December 31st, 1906.

The statistics most interesting to library workers and to laymen as well, are those pertaining to library growth.

GROWTH. General collection. While the library shows small gains in the total number of books added to the general collection, many of the additions are of great value.

That a goodly proportion of the books added have been gifts shows a growing desire on the part of the townspeople to lend a hand.

Among the most notable of the gifts are the following:

Historians History of the World in 25 vols. from Watkins' bank; Ideas That Have Influenced Civilization, in 10 vols. from Mrs. A. Henley; Morris' Historical Tales, in 10 vols, subscriptions solicited by agent; Old Testament illustrated by Tissot in 2 vols., an anonymous gift; Cambridge Bible in 47 vols., (25 of which have been received) a New Year's gift from Mr. G. Grovenor; Engineer's Encyclopaedia and Cyclopaedia of Electrical Engineering, each in 2 vols., from Prof. Frank E. Jones of Kansas University.

Other books have been donated as follows:

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| Mrs. R. B. Preuszner..... | 8 v | Fiction and Miscellany |
| Christian Scientists..... | 2 " | Science and Health |
| Andrew Carnegie..... | 1 " | W. Campbell's Poems |
| L. H. Perkins..... | 1 " | Report of Law Examiners |
| Gazette..... | 1 " | Fiction |
| Ex. Comm. Jews..... | 1 " | Addresses on the Occasion |

of the 250th anniversary of the Jews in America.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------|----------------------------|
| Mrs. A. G. Alrich..... | 1 v | Fiction |
| Josiah Copley..... | 6 " | Fiction |
| Mrs. L. E. Sayre..... | 2 " | Miscellany. |
| Boston Town Clerk..... | 1 " | Boston Town Records |
| Ladies' Literary League..... | 1 " | Miscellany |
| Miss Beatrice Newlin..... | 1 " | Fiction |
| L. Bullene..... | 1 " | Miscellany |
| Mrs. A. N. Fuller..... | 28 " | Fiction and Miscellany |
| Miss Harriet Robinson..... | 26 " | Fiction and Miscellany |
| Theosophical Society..... | 1 " | Judge's Ocean of Theosophy |
| Hugo R. Meyer (author)..... | 1 " | Gov't Regulation Ry. Rates |
| W. Y. Morgan (author)..... | 1 " | Journeys of a Jayhawker |
| S. S. Mackall (author)..... | 1 " | Early Days of Washington |
| W. M. Strickler, (author)..... | 1 " | Essays on Human Nature |

Mrs. R. B. Preuszner also gave the following works of art: Chefs D'Ouvre D'Art of the Paris Exhibition; Don Quixote, illustrated by Dore; and Illustrations of the History of Art.

A gift of \$25 for miscellaneous books has been received from the Federation of Women's clubs. The books to be purchased with this fund will be selected by a committee from the Federation, composed of Mrs. Maffet, Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Keeler. These will undoubtedly be along the lines of our greatest needs.

The most notable purchases were Moulton's Literary Criticism of American and English Authors in 8 vols., and the Century Dictionary in 10 vols.

Two hundred and five books of fiction and miscellany were also added by purchase.

The growth of the practical side of the library is more and more apparent in the amount of reference work done. Miscellaneous books to the number of nearly 4500 have been taken from the stacks and used as reference in the reading rooms.

It is not possible to keep an account of work done in the reference room with encyclopaedias and dictionaries, as we have no attendant for that department, but it is a self-evident fact that its usefulness and helpfulness are largely recognized.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ROOM.—The preparation for the shelves of the Poehler collection of young people's books, was mentioned in last year's report. The 9th of March found us with the collection ready for circu-

lation, and the morning of March 10th the young people's room was opened with the Poehler collection of 976 books. Seventeen belonging to the collection were added later. Sixteen have been added by gift from Mrs. R. B. Preuszner, Mrs. A. N. Fuller, and Miss Harriet E. Robinson; and seventeen by purchase from the desk fund. Four hundred and eighty-two (482) of the books belonging to the old collection for children were cleaned and mended and two hundred and thirty-three (233) were rebound. The whole were newly catalogued and added to the shelves of the children's room. These gifts, purchases and transfers make the total of seventeen hundred and forty-one (1741) young people's books as given in the President's report. In memory of Mr. Poehler's birthday December 25th, Mrs. Poehler sent from Germany, where she is spending the winter, fifty dollars (\$50) to use in maintaining the young people's room.

GERMAN COLLECTION.—The collection of German books, also a gift from Mrs. Poehler, contains a set of National Literature in two hundred and twenty-two (222) vols.; and one hundred and fifty-two (152) vols., including histories of Germany, histories of German literature and the best in poetry, drama and fiction which that country has produced.

This collection was placed upon the shelves in a corner of the young people's room the last of June and for the six remaining months had a circulation of two hundred and seventy-four (274) vols.

GIFTS.—Valuable gifts other than books have been received. The Poehler Mercantile Company gave a catalog case and librarian's desk and chair for the young people's room.

Mrs. Theodore Poehler presented to the library a portrait of Mr. Poehler and a memorial tablet. These were hung in the young people's room, where so many of the books are her gifts.

Mrs. B. W. Woodward added a magnificent velvet rug to the table and chairs previously given for the director's room as a memorial to Mr. Woodward.

Gen. and Mrs. Roberts gave a very fine Rand, McNally globe. This is mounted on a stand and measures fifty-five (55) inches in circumference. It is up to date in every respect.

Dr. E. Bumgardner has given Emerson's "Three Practical Rules for Reading," done in pen and ink work and artistically framed. The inscription for the Woodward memorial gift and the "Goup" card for the children's room, were also Dr. Bumgardner's work.

PERIODICALS.—Our periodical list is the same as last year. The following still remain as gifts:

- American Monthly, (D. A. R.)
- Christian Endeavor World, (C. E. Society, Presbyterian church.)
- Christian Register, (Am. Unit. Assn.,)
- Crusader Monthly, (W. C. T. U.)
- Missionary Review of the World (Missionary Societies of the City.)
- Sunday School Times, (Mr. G. Grovenor)
- Lawrence Dailies, (Publishers)
- Graduate Magazine, (Publishers)

CATALOGING.—During the summer months the cataloging was pushed as rapidly as possible. Since the beginning of school and club work, it has dragged somewhat. However, January 1st, 1907, finds us with fiction cataloged to date. Also philosophy, religion, literature and all collected and individual biographies. These cards, covering many subjects as well as authors and titles, are becoming a great help in our reference work.

REBINDING AND REPAIRING.—There have been 1013 books rebound. A large portion of these were standard miscellany, that have been in the library from ten to twenty years, books just as valuable now as when written, and the rebinding prolongs their life more than double that of the original binding.

An effort has been made to keep a record of the books mended, but it has proved impossible to keep it of all work done. Of pictures, title pages and leaves pasted in at the delivery desk no record has been kept. Of books taken temporarily from circulation there were 1323 mended and 57 practically rebound.

BOOKS LOST.—Five books were lost by patrons, but their value was promptly paid.

BULLETIN BOARD.—The bulletin board in the young people's room is very attractive feature. Miss Pendleton has charge of it, and as anniversaries of great events or birthdays of noted people occur, the bulletin board announces it if suitable pictures are to be obtained. Pictures illustrating countries and customs are also used. This is a part of the educational system of the library.

HIGH SCHOOL WORK.—On the morning of December 3rd Miss Wood, of the high school, brought to the library her freshman classes in ancient history. These young people were nearly all new to the library and its methods. The librarian explained to them the general system necessary to the use of books in the reading rooms; the general arrangement and use of the reference box, reserve shelves, indexes, and so forth, as well as the encyclopaedias in the reference room. Miss Wood assisted by giving an object lesson in finding material on various subjects. The help thus given has proved of great benefit to the young people, who now work with greater independence and, consequently, with greater profit.

KANSAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.—On the 25th and 26th of October the Kansas Library Association met with us, holding all regular meetings in the assembly room. There was a larger attendance than that of any previous year, and our guests unanimously pronounced it the most delightful and successful meeting on record. This was due very largely to the untiring efforts of the entertainment committee, consisting of Mrs. Henley, Mr. Griggs, and Dr. Bumgardner. The reception at Mrs. Henley's, the automobile ride to K. U. and Haskell, and the luncheon at Haskell were the social features of the occasion.

The delightful address of Miss Faith E. Smith of the Sedalia public library, on Library Work for Children; the five minute report of her library, its growth and methods, by each Librarian; and the subsequent exchange of ideas called out by address and reports, were the most profitable hours spent.

The Association adjourned to meet at Newton in October, 1907.

STAFF.—The library staff remains the same as last year. Miss Edwards is specializing in reference work and Miss Pendleton in children's work.

In closing I wish to express my appreciation of the loyal support of the library staff in behalf of library interests; and my heartfelt thanks to the members of the Board for their many courtesies.

February 5, 1907.

NELLIE G. BEATTY.
Librarian.

Report of Custodian of Public Documents

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LAWRENCE
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:

We have now on the shelves in this department 2054 classified or indexed bound volumes, a gain of 260 volumes for the year. This is exclusive of the large number of volumes inherited from the old library which could not be used, and which were disposed of as reported to you a few months ago, also of a hundred or more volumes, useless to us, which will be returned to the superintendent of documents at Washington as soon as proper franks are received.

Considerable progress has been made in classifying and indexing the collection, and the material contained in the books is now usable by the arrangement under classified heads and of the card index, although the latter is limited. Work on this index will be carried on as time permits, the material not readily located under shelf headings receiving first attention.

The more familiar I become with this collection the more I am impressed with its immeasurable value for reference purposes. Much assistance has been given to persons seeking information along the lines not covered in any private library, or even in the general reference room of this library; but the usefulness of the collection would be greatly increased if the citizens of Lawrence only realized its existence. Government and state documents are not all tables of statistics. These we have, and they are desirable at times, but everyone who examines our collection is surprised at the amount and variety of useful information that is here available. Heretofore no statement has been made to the public in regard to this collection, chiefly because the books have not been so arranged and indexed that their contents could be readily located. Now I feel that the time has come when the public should be invited to make a more general use of these books. This collection, like other departments of the library, exists for the good of the people of Lawrence, and should be made as useful as possible.

While a brief statement cannot explain the contents of these books, it may be said in general that they are rich in material dealing with the history, geography, resources and government of the United States and its dependencies, with the social, political and material advancement of our people, and with our relation to the people in other parts of the world. The history of our country is presented in detail not attempted in any private publications. For instance, we have one set of 130 large volumes, carefully indexed, dealing with the Civil War. Another set contains the messages and papers of the presidents from the organization of the government; another, the diplomatic correspondence of the Revolution; and there are 19 volumes of proceedings of the American Historical Association. Our relation with foreign countries is shown by reports of our consuls in every part of the civilized world, by volumes containing all the treaties in force with other countries, by a history of our part in international arbitration, and by a digest of international law showing the influence of our statesmen in its formation. The last mentioned set has just been received. It is a very valuable work by John Bassett Moore, professor of international law in Columbia University, and is complete in eight volumes. The growth of the United States is shown by a complete history of each acquisition since the government was organized by the original thirteen states. Such subjects as the Louisiana Purchase, Alaska, Hawaii, the Philippines, Porto Rico, the Mexican boundary and the Alaskan boundary receive all the attention that any one can desire. If any one wishes to look up the tariff question here is a volume containing all the tariff laws ever passed, beginning with 1789; if it is the money question, we have an excellent history of the currency, and statistics relating to the production of gold and silver; if it is irrigation, we have thirty five volumes giving account of all the late work in that direction. So it is with such subjects as Chinese and Japanese exclusion, the army canteen, polygamy in Utah, pure food and railway rate legislation, the Panama canal, world's fairs, and even President Roosevelt's attempt to reform spelling, to say nothing of our census reports and congressional records, which many people regard as "dry", but which nevertheless are often very useful.

Our state document alcove is not as well filled as it should be; still it contains much of interest and value in regard to the history of Kansas and of Lawrence. With the exception of one volume we have a complete set of the state historical society collections. Donations of state documents and other books treating of local history would be welcome.

A few words in regard to the use of the books in this collection. With our limited income we cannot provide a constant attendant to be in charge of this collection. The room is open, however, at all hours when the main library and reading rooms are open, and any one desiring to read these books can do so at any time from 10 a. m. to 9 p. m. The room is comfortable and well lighted, and provided with chairs and tables, and a little observation will reveal the arrangement of the books. It should be stated that these books are not to be taken from the room. All government documents are accepted on conditions established by congress, and while we have no desire to limit the use of these books, we must acknowledge Section 506 of the Revised Statutes of the United States which reads as follows: "All such books and documents, when received at the proper offices and libraries and other depositories, as provided by law, shall be kept there, and not removed from such place."

February 5, 1907.

EDWARD BUMGARDNER.
Custodian of Public Documents.

If anybody would make me the greatest king that ever lived, with palaces and gardens, and fine dinners, and wine and coaches, and beautiful clothes, and hundreds of servants, on condition that I would not read books, I would not be a king—I would rather be a poor man in a garret with plenty of books, than a king who did not love reading.

MACAULAY.