

Lawrence Free Public Library
Lawrence, Kansas

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

The year 1956 was one in which several major changes occurred. The condition of the library improved in several ways. The physical plant was altered to improve public service; the staff was increased one member, and services to the public were expanded.

These changes were undertaken to meet the demands placed upon the agency by the community. In 1954 the library circulated 138,000 volumes. 1955 brought a 14,000 gain, and last year 18,000 additional volumes were added to the year's total bringing the 1956 circulation to 160,000 volumes; this total is 23% greater than that of 1954. The growing use of the library by the community represents an exploitation of a natural potential; this growth has not been sporadic but rather a steady trend over a twenty-four month period. There is some indication that there might be a leveling off. The rate of increase the last six months has fallen slightly from the high experienced in June 1956.

Several changes were made to handle the increased traffic. The adult circulation area was enlarged by shifting the librarian's office to the Board of Directors room and by moving the cataloging staff to a new room in the basement. Because the library ordered and cataloged a larger number of books, it was necessary that a clerk be added to the catalog department.

Because of the stress placed upon the library's facilities, three problems became more apparent this last year. Minimum service is becoming more difficult to maintain with the existing collection. While the total number of volumes in the library is an adequate number, certain areas need to be supplemented with new titles, and many existing books are in poor condition and should be replaced or rebound. The building is structurally sound, but, because of its age, the program of repair and maintenance needs to be continued if the plant is to be kept at a functional level. The 23% circulation increase made it necessary to add three students to the part time payroll. While more help was made available for page and clerical duties, the amount of time the librarians can spend helping patrons in a readers advisory capacity was not increased. These three problems will be eased in 1957 by an expanded budget; they should be substantially lessened. However, an ultimate solution will require more effort, time, and funds than will be available during 1957.

The geographic growth of Lawrence has placed the library further from the school age population of the community. This fact will have the greatest effect on work with children in the future. Serious attention should be given to planning extension service in our community.

After thirty-two years of service to Lawrence as a librarian in the Public library, Miss Bessie Daum retired from the staff, effective December 31, 1956. During her tenure she made many friends for the library and did a wonderful service in reorganizing the Childrens Department. In the five years she was Childrens Librarian a new philosophy of greater service was imparted to that department.

LeRoy Fox
Librarian

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a pleasure to submit to you the fifty-second annual report for the year ending December 31, 1956.

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

CIRCULATION

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Nonfiction lent	27,512	11,670	39,182
Fiction lent	55,799	65,145	120,944
Total	83,311	76,815	160,126

This circulation total represents an increase of 18,797 volumes lent over 1955.

In addition to books, there were 7,115 phonograph records and 3,400 magazines lent for home use.

REGISTRATION

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
December 31, 1955	4,788	2,084	6,872
Added	2,505	1,021	3,526
Withdrawn	2,046	663	2,709
December 31, 1956	5,247	2,442	7,689

BOOK STOCK

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
December 31, 1955	34,420	10,903	45,323
Added	1,913	1,296	3,209
Total	36,333	12,199	48,532
Lost or withdrawn	1,025	627	1,652
Total	35,308	11,572	46,880

To the Honorable Mayor and the Council of Lawrence, Kansas:

Gentlemen:

We herewith respectfully submit the fifty-second annual report of the Board of Directors of the Lawrence Free Public Library for the year ending December 31, 1956.

MAINTENANCE FUND

Balance		\$ 867.10
Receipts		35,021.58
Warrants		

Library Maintenance		
Salaries	\$22,553.40	
Books	4,930.32	
Periodicals	155.16	
Library supplies	<u>1,523.22</u>	
	29,162.10	

Building maintenance		
Janitors salary	\$2,200.00	
Building supplies	710.32	
Repairs & equipment	951.31	
Utilities	1,383.16	
Insurance	432.30	
Miscellaneous	<u>147.45</u>	
	5,854.54	

Balance		<u>872.04</u>	
		\$35,888.68	\$35,888.68

DESK COLLECTIONS

Balance		\$ 480.85
Receipts		1,914.19
Warrants		
Balance	\$ 2,169.20	
	<u>225.84</u>	
	\$ 2,395.04	\$ 2,395.04

L. H. PERKINS MEMORIAL FUND

Balance		\$ 193.00
Receipts		25.00
Warrants		
Balance	\$ 95.26	
	<u>122.74</u>	
	\$ 218.00	\$ 218.00

VIRGINIA S. EDWARDS MEMORIAL FUND

Balance		\$ 201.37
Receipts		25.00
Warrant		
Balance	\$ 94.84	
	<u>131.53</u>	
	\$ 226.37	\$ 226.37

GURDON GROVENOR MEMORIAL FUND

Balance		\$ 252.53
Receipts		100.00
Warrants		
Balance	\$ 261.47	
	<u>91.06</u>	
	\$ 352.53	\$ 352.53

MAY MOORE MEMORIAL FUND

Balance		\$ 115.13
Receipts		65.00
Warrants		
Balance	\$ 39.77	
	<u>140.36</u>	
	\$ 180.13	\$ 180.13

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, 1956.

MAINTENANCE FUND		
Balance		\$ 867.10
Receipts		35,021.58
Warrants	\$35,016.64	
Balance	<u>872.04</u>	<u> </u>
	\$35,888.68	\$35,888.68
DESK COLLECTIONS		
Balance		\$ 480.85
Receipts		1,914.19
Warrants	\$ 2,169.20	
Balance	<u>225.84</u>	<u> </u>
	\$ 2,395.04	\$ 2,395.04
L. H. PERKINS MEMORIAL FUND		
Balance		\$ 193.00
Receipts		25.00
Warrants	\$ 95.26	
Balance	<u>122.74</u>	<u> </u>
	\$ 218.00	\$ 218.00
VIRGINIA S. EDWARDS MEMORIAL FUND		
Balance		\$ 201.37
Receipts		25.00
Warrants	\$ 94.84	
Balance	<u>131.53</u>	<u> </u>
	\$ 226.37	\$ 226.37
GURDON GROVENOR MEMORIAL FUND		
Balance		\$ 252.53
Receipts		100.00
Warrants	\$ 261.47	
Balance	<u>91.06</u>	<u> </u>
	\$ 352.53	\$ 352.53
MAY MOORE MEMORIAL FUND		
Balance		\$ 115.13
Receipts		65.00
Warrants	\$ 39.77	
Balance	<u>140.36</u>	<u> </u>
	\$ 180.13	\$ 180.13
JANE WELCH MEMORIAL FUND		
Balance		\$ 137.50
Receipts		25.00
Warrants	\$ 124.32	
Balance	<u>38.18</u>	<u> </u>
	\$ 162.50	\$ 162.50
ALL FUNDS		
Balance		\$ 2,247.48
Receipts		37,175.77
Warrants	\$37,801.50	
Balance	<u>1,621.75</u>	<u> </u>
	\$39,423.25	\$39,423.25

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Treasurer

JANE WELCH MEMORIAL FUND

Balance		\$ 137.50
Receipts		25.00
Warrants	\$ 124.32	
Balance	<u>38.18</u>	
	\$ 162.50	\$ 162.50

ALL FUNDS

Balance		\$ 2,247.48
Receipts		37,175.77
Warrants	\$37,801.50	
Balance	<u>1,621.75</u>	
	\$39,423.25	\$39,423.25

Harold G. Barr
President

Mrs. Charlyne McCluggage
Secretary-Treasurer