

Lawrence Free Public Library

LILLIAN J. CONSTANT, LIBRARIAN

Lawrence, Kansas

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

It is my pleasure to submit to you the fortieth annual report for the year ending December 31, 1944.

Our library has been open for reading and for the circulation of books 305 days, closing the usual holidays.

Books have circulated 84,453 times, 52% of this circulation was adult fiction, 15% adult non-fiction and 33% children's books.

Circulation of adult non-fiction by classes follows:

Periodicals	1151
Philosophy	430
Religion	464
Social sciences	1055
Philology	114
Science	384
Useful arts	1335
Fine arts	1123
Literature	1908
History	1637
Biography	2120
Travel	1249

This tabulation shows a marked change in the type of non-fiction read. Philosophy, religion, social sciences, fine arts, and literature stand out this time. The largest gain was in literature and the greatest loss in current magazines. With the money employment has brought, magazines have been purchased for the home.

We have in our book collection 36,393 volumes. We added during the year 1317 and withdrew 387. This gives us a net gain of 930. We received currently 10 newspapers and 129 periodicals.

We closed the year with 7597 borrowers, having registered or reregistered 2066.

Book reviews have continued with appreciative audiences. The following friends of the library have contributed to these programs, Mrs. Thomas Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Barr, Mrs. E. B. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. John Hankins, and Mr. Deal Six.

The children's department, with the assistance of the Parent-Teacher's Association carried on another reading program. This program started June 1, and ended September 1. 223 cards were issued during this period and 408 certificates awarded at the close. 9297 books were read during the three summer months.

Book week was devoted to the students in the seventh and eighth grades. Sixteen Junior High School classes, each coming for one class period, were given instruction and alphabetical drills that will help them in locating books on the shelves and information through the catalog.

The librarian and her staff wish to express their appreciation of the pleasant relations with this board of Directors.

Lillian J. Constant, Lib.