

Report of the Librarian

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

I have the honor to render the following report of the condition of the Lawrence Free Public Library on Dec. 31, 1921, and of the work done by it during the year ending with that date.

At the close of this, our seventeenth year of service, it is gratifying to report a most successful and encouraging year; successful in point of service, and encouraging in the indications of a better understanding of our resources, and a better appreciation of the possibilities of our free service.

Our circulation department has felt the pressure of a greatly increased circulation of books, but our revised charging system in the adult department, that of giving only one borrower's card, has made it possible to care for this work with out undue strain upon our staff.

Books have circulated 63613 times an increase of 11803 over last year. Duplicate magazines have circulated 1049 times, an increase of 137 over last year.

The circulation statistics are as follows:

Adult fiction-----	37237
Adult non-fiction-----	8857
Juvenile fiction-----	11618
Juvenile non-fiction-----	5901
Total-----	63616
Average daily circulation----	210

Comparative statistics for the two years are:

Adult fiction---	1921-----	37237
" "	1920-----	29046
Gain-----		8191
Adult non-fiction---	1921-----	8857
" " "	1920-----	6970
Gain-----		1887
Total gain in Adult department		10078

Juvenile fiction---	1921-----	11618
" Non-fiction	1920-----	9375
Gain-----		2243

Juvenile non-fiction---	1921-----	5901
" " "	1920-----	6419
Loss-----		518
Total gain in Juvenile dept.		1725

The cost of books has dropped but slightly, but as the reading public has so willingly paid fines and rented books from our pay collect in we have been able to purchase a larger number of books than last year.

We have added to our collection 1157, 188 of these were gifts. This brings our total book number up to 18668.

The 1881 accessions distributed in the various classes are:

Adult bound periodicals-----	193
" fiction-----	416
" non-fiction-----	233
Reference department-----	31
Juvenile fiction-----	199
" non-fiction-----	75
" bound periodicals -----	<u>10</u>
Total-----	1157

We have lost and withdrawn 178 books, making our total gain 981.

The total accessions divided in classes are as follows:

Adult periodicals-----	23253
" fiction-----	4834
" non-fiction-----	7569
German-----	392
Juvenile fiction-----	1697
" non-fiction-----	1622
" bound periodicals-----	179
Books not accessioned-----	<u>122</u>
Total-----	18668

There is, unfortunately, no accurate way of recording, in statistics, the work of the reference department. However, the crowded tables and the many calls at the desk testify to the continued usefulness of the department.

Our ability to keep our magazines bound and on the shelves ready for reference has made this feature of library service of great value to the community.

In the continued absence of adequate library facilities in our public schools we are each year rendering greater and better service to the student.

The librarians have given the usual talks each semester to the beginning classes in the High School. We find these informal lectures of value to the librarians as well as to the student, as we are able to explain many necessary details to the students in a body that will

save the answering of questions at the desk later.

Children's book week was observed with a display of books and a talk on books given by Mrs Jones, Mrs Henley's sister.

Our story period was interrupted by our inability to secure story tellers. The past few weeks Miss Perkins has been in charge and we are hoping to have this department of work firmly established for another year.

The 9th biennial registration opened Aug 1, 1931. We now have 2458 registered patrons in the adult department, and 936 in the Juvenile 3394 in all. 739 more than were registered at this date two years ago.

A number of gifts of books worthy of special notice are: a set of Kansas and Kansans given by Mrs. L.H. Perkins. Two beautifully illustrated volumes, The Rime of the Ancient Mariner, Faust, given by Mrs. Henley. Mr. Innes continues to send us the Graphic which is always enjoyed in the reading room. The books belonging to Miss Edwards which were given to us have been catalogued and placed on the shelves. Many desirable books and periodicals were the gifts of various societies, authors and editors.

Other donors of books are Mr. Shillerton, F.H.S. Bailey, Ventura Club Mrs. Lofgren, Miss Hilda Lofgren, Mrs. Frances Jaedicke, Mrs J.W. Murray, Dr. Clarke, Mrs Swadley, Miss Lyons, Miss Savage, Mrs Chambers, Miss Hostetter, Mrs Bricken, Laurena Marsh, W.H. Sears, Mrs George Barker, and the D.A.R.'s who each year give us the Lineage books.

Our work has been systematized and aided by the addition of the new pamphlet file, drawers for catalog cards and new book shelves in the children's room.

We have placed on our walls the pictures of three of our former librarians, Mrs. Trask, Mrs. Simpson and Miss Edwards.

It is indeed gratifying to know that the public has appreciated our service, and we are anxious to give better service. The increased tax levy will make this possible. We shall be able to add more books than formerly. The great problem before us now is to find space for these additional books. Until we are able to make room by building I shall appreciate any suggestions by this Board as to the best way to provide necessary space.

we have been able to carry on the usual routine of work with out interruption, as there has been no change in the regular staff. Miss Carter, Mrs Mc Farland and Mrs Saunders have been with us through out the year. Miss Steele and Miss Perkins have assisted us during the busy hours of the past few months, and Miss Lela Brown during the school months last Spring.

Our worthy janitor, John Porter, has given us faithful service.

Thanks are due the Journal World for publicity given us through notices and news stories.

The librarian wishes to take this opportunity to thank the Library Board and Staff for their generous cooperation. It has been a pleasure and a constant source of inspiration to meet with this Board who all show a sincere interest and ready sympathy.

Thank you,