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Report on Public Documents.

This department has now on the shelves a total of 2250 volumes, a net increase of about 250 volumes during the year. The largest increase was in Kansas State documents, and most of these came from Secretary Geo. W. Martin of the State Historical Society. The heirs of the late C. W. Smith also presented a number of volumes containing material on the history of Kansas. We have now a complete set to date of the State Historical Society Collections, and many other documents which deal with the development of the state. Our State alone is ^{now} of considerable importance, and it was a compliment to our collection that a writer for a Kansas City newspaper ^{at least} on one occasion came to us for material for a historical article.

The number of government documents has not increased much during the year. We ~~are~~ no longer receive large consignments from Washington of documents without reference to their value to Lawrence people. The government has at last adopted a system by which requisition is made by depositories for the documents wanted and no others are sent. This will prevent the accumulation of so much material that is not suited

to local needs.

I still feel that the people of Lawrence
should be encouraged to make more use
of our public documents when studying
the subjects which are here so well
covered.

Edward R. Anderson
Custodian

Feb. 4, 1908.