

Lawrence Free Public Library

LILLIAN J. CONSTANT, LIBRARIAN

Lawrence, Kansas

Feb. 6, 1939.

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

I have the honor to submit the thirty-fourth annual report for the year ending December 31, 1938.

Our library has been open from 10 a. m. to 9 p. m. 301 days during the year, closing on legal holidays, two days for a national library convention held at Kansas City Missouri and one day for a district meeting held at Baker University.

Circulation

~~Books from our collection have been loaned, as follows:~~
Adult non-fiction 15,711 or 15% of the total. Adult fiction 70,384, 63% and juvenile books 24,495 or 22% of the total circulation.

The period of loan for the majority of the book stock is fourteen days. We received currently twelve newspapers and one hundred periodicals. Six of the periodical titles have been duplicated and are loaned for three days. These six titles including a few general works have been issued 15,018 times. Other classes have been issued as follows. Literature 2315, biography 2284, useful arts 1875, fine arts 1667, travel 1356, social sciences 1318, history 1146, philosophy 1060, religion 637, science 546, philology 81.

No record has been kept of reference questions answered or of the number of readers using the reading rooms.

It is gratifying to know that the books having the most reserves are in the non-fiction section. Listen! the Wind, and With Malice Toward Some are running a close race with Horse and Buggy Doctor, the latter ahead at present.

Books which help applicants to prepare for Civil Service positions are in increasing demand. Several new ones have been purchased and all are in circulation. We feel that this is one of our worth while services.

Registration

January 1st opened a new three year registration period. During the year we registered 4,029 patrons in the adult department, 1184 in the juvenile department, a total of 5213, more than 30% of our population.

Book Stock

At the beginning of the year we had 27092 volumes in our book collection, of these 5,476 are in the children's room. During the year we added 1498 adult books, 566

Lafayette Free Public Library

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juveniles, total 2064. We withdrew 630. Our collection now includes 28,526 volumes, a net gain of 1434 volumes.

In the collection recently added will be found a number of gifts. The Flower Club, the Ministerial Alliance, the Round Table have given us collections. Various individuals have given one or more books.

We have been able the past year to purchase a greater number of books than for several years.

We have placed in the reference room Harper's Encyclopedia of Art, two volumes, Encyclopedia of Social Sciences, ~~eight volumes, Smithsonian Scientific series, twelve~~ volumes, Macmillan Encyclopedia of Music and Musicians.

On our shelf of new books may be found Benjamin Franklin, Alone, Leonardo de Vinci, A Puritan in Babylon, James Madison, Great Men of the Bible, Hall Caine's Life of Christ, Goodspeed's, Apocrapha, Science for the Citizen. A New Deal for Youth, Encyclopedia of Antiques, Scandinavia Beckons, Conquest of Civilization, Miracle of England, Sky Roaming, The Federal Writers' States Project and Robert Taft's Photography and the American Scene, and to bring back happy memories a complete set of McGuffey's Readers. These are a few of the many good books we have acquired during the year.

An increasing number of patrons are commenting on our new building. Visitors from out of town who are spending leisure time in our reading rooms have expressed pleasure and a little surprise at seeing so modern and convenient a building. And I want to assure you the staff is getting much pleasure in working here.

I want to thank you for myself and the staff for your splendid cooperation at all times.

We are looking forward to another pleasant year.