



LAWRENCE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
Lawrence, Kansas

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1961.

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

During 1961 the Lawrence Free Public Library experienced a phenomenal year in respect to use. Total circulation reached an all time high of c.274,000 units.\* This represents an increase of c.27,000 units over the previous year, and is more than twice the increase of the two preceding years, 1959 and 1960. A breakdown of this figure shows over 255,000 books, 12,200 records, and 6800 periodicals circulated during 1961.

This accelerated use may be attributed to four factors: 1) the addition of almost 4,800 new titles to our collection, 2) the rapid population growth of Lawrence, 3) the availability of ample parking facilities, and 4) immediate access to the library through a front and rear entrance.

If one were to measure accomplishments in order of importance, the passage of the Kansas Public Employees Retirement Act in mid-year and its subsequent adoption by the Library Board would rank high. On November 22, acting in a special meeting called for the purpose, members of the Board of Directors unanimously petitioned the KPERA Board of Trustees to include the employees of this Library under the provisions of the act. This was done apart from action taken previously by the City Commissioners after the Attorney General ruled it necessary for each library board to act on the matter,

\*A unit may be defined as a book, record, magazine or newspaper.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS

1951-1961

YEAR	BALANCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	TAX FUND	OTHER INCOME	TOTAL INCOME	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES	COST PER CAPITA*
1951	\$1,724.21	19,220.00	1,605.99	22,550.20	20,667.78	1.10
1952	1,882.42	21,050.00	1,947.71	24,880.13	22,894.23	1.19
1953	1,985.90	24,380.00	2,205.63	28,571.53	26,498.58	1.37
1954	2,072.95	29,690.00	1,905.76	33,668.71	31,787.84	1.58
1955	1,880.87	32,495.00	1,900.74	36,276.61	34,029.13	1.63
1956	2,247.48	34,965.00	2,210.77	39,423.25	37,801.50	1.68
1957	1,621.75	39,620.00	6,631.17	47,872.92	46,520.92	2.00
1958	1,352.73	47,725.00	3,829.49	52,907.66	51,498.76	2.16
1959	1,409.46	53,210.00	3,665.55	58,285.01	55,679.69	2.27
1960	2,605.32	63,100.00	5,308.81	71,014.13	66,595.33	2.66
1961	4,418.80	64,150.00	10,511.09	79,079.89	76,358.92	2.95

1951-1961 Increase in tax funds: \$44,930.00

Average Annual Increase in Tax Funds: \$ 4,500.00

Average Increase in Per Capita Expenditure: \$00.185

\*The American Library Association recommends the expenditure of \$3.00 per capita.

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POPULATION AND REGISTRATION  
STATISTICS 1951-1961.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>POPULATION*</u>	<u>TOTAL NUMBER REGISTERED BORROWERS</u>
1951	18,745	4,983
1952	19,308	5,682
1953	19,308	6,093
1954	20,180	6,612
1955	20,928	6,872
1956	22,549	7,689
1957	23,296	8,281
1958	23,897	9,702
1959	24,492	9,732
1960	25,035	10,937
1961	25,379	11,431

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\*Official local census.

CIRCULATION STATISTICS  
1951-1961.

	<u>BOOKS</u>	<u>RECORDS</u>	<u>PERIODICALS</u>	<u>TOTAL UNITS</u>	<u>INCREASE</u>
1951:	109,296	.....	.....	109,296	3,885
1952:	105,842	.....	.....	105,842	-3,464
1953:	113,447	.....	.....	113,447	7,605
1954:	126,367	3,364	.....	130,731	17,284
1955:	141,329	4,294	.....	145,623	14,892
1956:	160,126	7,115	3,400	170,641	25,018
1957:	184,025	9,411	4,566	198,002	27,361
1958:	206,566	10,341	6,244	223,151	25,361
1959:	221,613	7,769	5,474	234,856	11,705
1960:	230,167	9,651	7,001	246,819	11,963
1961:	255,047	12,288	6,838	274,173	27,354

Accumulated  
Increase:

145,751	8,924	3,438	164,877
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Average  
Annual  
Increase:

14,575	1,115	573	16,488
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Lawrence Free Public Library  
Lawrence, Kansas

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, 1961.

	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Warrants</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Maintenance Fund	\$ 874.05	\$64,761.65	\$64,761.65	\$ 874.05
Desk Collections	3,178.70	5,578.44	7,165.84	1,591.30
L. H. Perkins Memorial Fund	74.66	30.00	69.68	34.98
Virginia S. Edwards Memorial Fund	66.84	20.50	79.34	8.00
Gurdon Grovenor Memorial Fund	7.05	4,185.00	4,085.92	106.13
May Moore Memorial Fund	163.99	65.00	196.49	32.50
Jane Welch Memorial Fund	53.51	20.50	none	74.01
All Funds	4,418.80	74,661.09	76,358.92	2,720.97

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Mrs. A. B. Ewing  
Treasurer

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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a pleasure to submit to you the fifty-seventh annual report for the year ending December 31, 1961.

The library has been open for reading and circulation of books for 305 days, eleven hours on week days and eight hours on Saturdays, closing Sundays, five holidays, one-half day for Kansas Library Association's annual meeting and one day for inventory.

CIRCULATION

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Total	106,169	148,878	255,047

This circulation total represents an increase of 24,880 volumes over 1960.

In addition to books there were 12,288 phonograph records and 6,838 periodicals lent for home use.

REGISTRATION

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
December 31, 1960	7,719	3,218	10,937
Added	3,114	739	3,853
Withdrawn	2,825	534	3,359
December 31, 1961	8,008	3,423	11,431

BOOK STOCK

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
December 31, 1960	34,997	14,563	49,560
Added	2,258	2,523	4,781
Total	37,255	17,086	54,341
Withdrawn	1,918	739	2,657
December 31, 1961	35,337	16,347	51,684

Another area of concern is the recovery of long-overdue books. As a partial solution, we doubled the overuse charge, hoping a more severe financial penalty would encourage the prompt return of books. This has not been successful to any discernable degree. It did increase our revenue from fines, but we do not consider this desirable either. Even hiring a collector to repossess the books is not an adequate solution to this problem.

With these facts in mind, we have initiated action to revise the present library ordinance (section 13;44 of the Code of Lawrence) which we feel is woefully inadequate and virtually unenforceable.

In spite of these ever-present problems, the continued growth of our book collection and the ever-increasing use of this library made 1961 a singularly successful year.

Respectfully,

*Edward A. Howard*  
Edward A. Howard,  
Head Librarian



Physical improvements within the library building again occupied much of the time and thought of the staff. The heavy wooden doors and transom at the front entrance were replaced with a single door mounted in aluminum and surmounted by plate glass. By removing a window in the rear wall and enlarging the opening, we were able to install a new glass and aluminum door to provide immediate access to the new parking lot at the rear of the Library. Outside steps to the lot and a sidewalk now link the parking lot to the east (Children's Room) entrance also.

Inside the building, most of the renovation occurred in the Board Room. There, a new concrete floor was poured to replace the deteriorated terrazzo and new flooring was laid. Walnut paneling and draperies were added to complete the redecoration of the room.

Again this past year, a partial inventory of non-fiction was taken. This enables us to keep our card catalog active and to meet the requirements of our insurance coverage on the contents of the building. It also serves as a guide to replacements in future book orders. Moreover, a careful study of book losses by subject field has enabled us to somewhat foretell which books are likely to be stolen. To prevent future loss in these subject areas, certain volumes are now assigned to a closed stack. And while it has always been our philosophy to keep the stacks open and thus make the books as accessible as possible to our patrons, the establishment of a closed stack area has become a necessary expedient. The problem of theft is ever with us. And as the use of this library increases, we may expect a proportionate loss by theft.