

Free Public Library

St. Joseph, Missouri

16th Annual Report

For the Fiscal Year Ending April 30th, 1906

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
OF THE
CITY OF ST. JOSEPH, MO.
FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 1906.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

OFFICERS.

President.....J. W. Atwill
 Vice-President.....H. K. White
 Secretary-Treasurer.....Chas. A. Pfeiffer
 Assistant Secretary.....Purd B. Wright

DIRECTORS.

Term expiring 1906	Term expiring 1907	Term expiring 1908
John Michel,	Chas. P. Cargill,	H. K. White,
J. W. Atwill,	W. E. Warrick,	Chas. A. Pfeiffer,
Dr. Daniel Morton,	Rev. Henry Bullard,	James H. McCord.

COMMITTEES.

Library—White, McCord, Atwill.
 Administration—Cargill, Michel, McCord.
 Buildings and Grounds—Morton, Warrick, Bullard.
 Finance—Pfeiffer, Cargill, Michel.
 By-Laws—White, Morton, Warrick.
 Art—McCord, Bullard, Morton.

LIBRARY STAFF.

Librarian—Purd B. Wright.
 Assistant Librarian—Lulu C. Senter.
 Assistants—Annie M. Perry, reference; Eudora Martin, *Lilian C. Kerr,
 †Hilda K. White, cataloging; Bessie McCoy, Children's room, main
 library; Jessie M. Gibson, Jennie K. Willson, desk; Ethel Fife, Annie
 Knight, substitutes; Joseph Mann, Charles Smith, messengers.
 Carnegie Branch—Lulu C. Senter, librarian in charge; Ethel Fife, sub-
 stitute; W. A. McCamy, janitor.

*Absent on leave attending library school. †Substitute for Miss Kerr,
 from Sept. 1.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER TRANSMITTING REPORTS.

To the Honorable Mayor and Common Council.

Gentlemen: The annual reports of the various officers and Committees of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library for the year ending April 30, 1906, are herewith submitted for your information.

The report of the librarian fully demonstrates the efficient work and usefulness of this institution, creditable alike to its employes and patrons.

The additions to the library cover a varied list of books, which are aimed to serve all classes and conditions of our citizens, and appear to meet with their approval.

The failure of the bond proposition submitted by the Board of Education was a disappointment, inasmuch as we anticipated an enlargement of our accommodations, now seriously contracted, especially as to shelving and room for children.

The Board of Directors would especially request an inspection of the library, that the city's representatives may become fully versed in the progress of an institution which is becoming a pride to its people, as well as attracting attention elsewhere.

The year just closed has been a most successful one in every way for the library, with the single exception of growth. It is a matter of pride that your honorable body, in its apportionment of funds for the ensuing year, increased the library allotment substantially, as it is taken as an endorsement of the work being done.

Calling your attention to the various reports, I am,

Very truly,

J. W. ATWILL,

St. Joseph, May 1, 1906.

President.

PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

Gentlemen: Herewith is presented a statement showing the receipts and disbursements of the library in detail for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1906, as is required by your by-laws.

The library apportionment for the year was \$13,200, \$10,700 being for the main library and \$2,500 for Carnegie branch. Credits to both accounts were slightly in excess of this total, as is explained in the report of the Finance Committee.

This statement, as usual, covers all the receipts and expenditures of the library, including the special fund account—moneys received and expended at the library. Collections in this account are from the duplicate collection, penalties on over-due books, books lost and paid for, catalogs and supplements sold, and miscellaneous sources. Expenditures at the library from this account, as noted, are reported monthly to the Library Board and approved.

As required, expenditures by general warrant through the city departments, are accounted for in detail, on duplicate vouchers, approved by not less than two members of the Finance Committee, and certified by the President after being allowed by the Board. Original vouchers are on file in the office of the city auditor, the duplicates being retained in the office of the librarian.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER, Treasurer.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1906.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
County of Buchanan, } ss.

Before me, Edwin F. Willis, a notary public in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared Charles A. Pfeiffer, Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, and made oath that the facts and figures in his report are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Given under my hand and seal this 4th day of May, 1906.

EDWIN F. WILLIS,

My commission expires May 25, 1907.

Notary Public.

PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT.

MAIN LIBRARY.
GENERAL ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

From city apportionment, 1905-06.....	\$10,700.00
Transferred to library account.....	70.40
Supplementary apportionment, 1906.....	151.82
Deposit by Board Treas. from special fund.....	100.00
	<u>\$11,023.22</u>

DISBURSEMENTS.

By general warrants on city treasurer:	
Book account:	
Books	\$2,207.43
Periodicals	271.09
Binding	1,120.91
Salaries, librarian and assistants	\$3,599.43
Heating and engineer	574.59
Printing and stationery	253.58
Janitor service	450.00
Postage	38.00
Furniture	303.25
Telephone	39.00
Catalog cards	121.49
Library repairs	8.76
Miscellaneous, inc. light and ice.....	88.73
	<u>\$11,023.22</u>

SPECIAL FUND ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

Brought forward in hands Board Treasurer.....	\$ 80.48
Brought forward in hands Librarian.....	14.43
Received from Duplicate collection	269.55
Penalties	629.52
Catalogs	7.40
Supplements	6.60
Miscellaneous	124.13
	<u>\$ 1,132.11</u>

PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT.

DISBURSEMENTS.

Deposited in Gen'l fund by Board Treas..	\$	100.00	
Paid Special warrant No. 1, periodicals....		350.00	
By librarian:			
Freight and express	\$	91.74	
Postage		27.10	
Stationery		34.00	
Delivery stations		99.85	
Binding books		8.00	
Miscellaneous		44.66	
Balances:			
In hands Board Treasurer.....		355.48	
In hands Librarian		21.28	682.11 \$ 1,132.11

RECAPITULATION.

RECEIPTS.

From city apportionment, etc.....	\$10,923.22	
Special fund	1,132.11	\$12,055.33

DISBURSEMENTS.

By vouchers on city treasurer, general fund.....	\$11,023.22	
By vouchers on special fund, periodicals.....	350.00	
By librarian	305.35	
Balances:		
In hands Board Treasurer	355.48	
In hands Librarian	21.28	\$12,055.33

CARNEGIE BRANCH.

RECEIPTS.

From city apportionment, 1905-06.....	\$	2,500.00	
Supplementary apportionment		32.60	\$ 2,532.60

PUBLIC LIBRARY REPORT.

DISBURSEMENTS.

By General warrant on city treasurer.

Book account:			
Books	\$428.27		
Periodicals	87.28		
Binding	84.59	\$	600.14
Salary librarians in charge.....			996.00
Fuel			134.00
Janitor			510.00
Furniture			4.00
Insurance—Books			15.00
Building			60.00
Telephone			30.00
Light			50.15
Building repairs			73.66
Miscellaneous	59.65	\$	2,532.60

GENERAL RECAPITULATION.

TOTAL RECEIPTS.

Main library, general fund.....	\$10,923.22	
Special fund	1,132.11	
Carnegie branch, general fund.....	2,532.60	\$14,587.93

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS.

Main library, general fund.....	\$11,023.22	
Special fund	655.35	
Carnegie branch, general fund.....	2,532.60	

\$14,211.17

Balances:

In hands Board Treasurer.....	\$	355.48	
In hands Librarian		21.28	\$14,587.93

CARNEGIE BRANCH BUILDING FUND.

RECEIPTS.

Received from Mr. Andrew Carnegie.....	\$25,000.00
--	-------------

DISBURSEMENTS.

For building, furniture, library equipment.....	\$24,806.74	
Balance on hand, reserved for completing walk (not built on account of filled ground).....	193.26	\$25,000.00

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library.

Gentlemen: The annual report of the librarian is herewith presented, covering the sixteenth year of the library, May 1, 1905, to April 30, 1906.

SUMMARY.

Number of volumes in library proper, 33,864; in school supplementary reading collection, 4,169; total volumes controlled by library, 38,033. Growth, library, 2,664; school, 1,142.

Number of volumes issued for home use, 173,281; increase, 24,071; average daily issue, 483; increase, 67.

Character of circulation. Adult fiction, 44.61 per cent; children's stories, 21.75 per cent; classed books, 33.64 per cent. Increase in non-fiction use, 2.85 per cent.

Financial: Receipts, \$14,587.93; expenditures, \$14,211.07; balances, \$376.76.

Cardholders, 7,589; increase, 1,151. Cards outstanding, 11,813; increase, 2,363.

In a general way, the year has been one of greater activity in the library than usual. Library use is continually expanding, as is to be expected with so large a field to work in. Reasons for the fact that the institution does not get into closer relations with a larger proportion of the people are readily located but not easily remedied. None may be attributed to the people themselves. Two good buildings have been provided, and the voters have directed the expenditure of funds for library support to the full limit of the law. An increased valuation of taxable property offers the only permanent relief, and in this matter library officials are powerless. The increase in the use of the library exceeds its growth. Frequent demands are made upon it which cannot be met. This will continue until the ratio between growth and use is more nearly equalized.

The increase in library funds recently provided by the Council will prevent a recurrence this year of a decrease in the normal growth of the library, but it is only just to say that even with this growth maintained it will be many years before St. Joseph is provided with such a library as its people are entitled to.

CONTENTS OF LIBRARY, GROWTH, ETC.

Additions for the fiscal year numbered 3,462; withdrawals, 798; net increase, 2,664. Of the 56 volumes reported as unaccounted for last year, 11 were found. The remainder are included in the withdrawal statistics. The inventory, just taken, discloses 54 volumes missing for the current twelve months. There is a small increase in the cost per volume of books purchased. However, this is more apparent than real,

caused by securing in larger numbers than heretofore books in a more servicable binding than has been customary. Opportunities to purchase books at clearance sales, from second-hand dealers, etc., were not neglected.

USE OF LIBRARY.

Home circulation was 173,280, a gain of 24,071. Fiction use, 66.36 per cent of the whole, 44.61 per cent fiction from adult department, and 21.75 per cent children's stories. This is a decrease of 2.85 per cent, and in line with the steady change in the character of use of the library. Total circulation of books other than fiction and children's stories is now 33.64 per cent of the whole, nearly twice that of ten years ago.

A definite statement cannot be made as to library use, as all departments are open to the public. Account in this department is kept only of books used and left upon the tables. These numbered 36,207. As nearly all important reference work for schools, clubs, etc., is done by placing selected books on special shelves, labeled for specific use, which are taken down and returned by those interested, no record can be kept. A conservative estimate would place library use at nearly 75,000 volumes. In the tables with this report no attention is paid to library use, although this is one of the most valuable uses to which any library may be put.

REGISTRATION.

The number of persons holding library cards are 7,559, or 1,151 more than one year ago. Total cards outstanding, 11,813, a gain of 2,363. A greater number of patrons accept and use non-fiction cards than formerly. All users of the library over 18 years of age, and young people under that age attending high school, are entitled to two cards. Card-holders are required to re-register every two years. From the number registered, all cards cancelled, for any reason, are deducted.

Of the card holders, 3,684 are adults, and 4,175 are minors. Records hereafter will show the age with 14 years as the dividing line.

BRANCH AND STATIONS.

CARNEGIE BRANCH.

Miss Senter, librarian in charge of the Carnegie branch, reports that work has varied little from the routine. The branch contains 4,780 volumes, of which 879 are in the reference collection. Five hundred and fifty volumes were added during the year. Card holders number 1,254. Home use, 14,266 volumes, a gain of 21.7 per cent. Participation in the handling of supplementary reading to the extent of 1,678 volumes is also credited.

Seven new titles were added to the periodicals list, making forty

received. These are used in the reading room the first month, after which nine of the most suitable for general use are placed in temporary covers and issued. These are popular in the order named: Harper's, McClure's, Review of Reviews, Munsey, Scribner, Cosmopolitan, Century, World's work, North American Review, Engineering magazine.

Efforts to interest children in books at the library continue, with satisfactory results. With suggestions and aids from teachers, lists of books suitable for different grades have been prepared, and these have been of decided help. Teachers have shown their appreciation of the library in every way. Classes from the Benton school have visited the library, under the guidance of their teachers, and were given instruction in library use. Most of these are regular patrons.

The Carnegie club, composed of women, and two children's clubs, continue to meet at the library, and to do good work. (Statistics as to the use of the library will be found under Library statistics, circulation, Carnegie branch.)

DELIVERY STATIONS.

No changes are reported in delivery stations, four in number. Use of the library through them was 4,975 volumes, a small increase. An application is on file for an additional station, and for more frequent deliveries at two of the old stations.

CHILDREN AND THE LIBRARY.

Work with children is one of the most important features of library activity. Of the total circulation of the library, 39.2 per cent is credited to the children's rooms and supplementary reading department for grammar grades, of which 21.75 per cent were children's stories. As heretofore reported, the classification of books here is very liberal, many titles being placed in fiction which might with propriety be placed elsewhere.

At the main library Miss McCoy reports a very successful year, 45,984 volumes being circulated, an increase of 40 per cent., and 48 per cent of main library use. As the circulating department here has but about 4,000 volumes it will be seen that the average issue per volume was slightly in excess of eleven times.

The bulletin board is used to great advantage in this department, being changed frequently. At the present time it shows pictures in natural colors of the most popular birds of Missouri. This supplements a special shelf of books on birds, and has proven very attractive to grown people as well as the children.

Some of the more popular subjects emphasized through the means of the bulletin board, with pictures and lists, and special shelves, were:

May: May-day, Nature stories, Memorial day.

June: Flag day, Out-door games and sports.

July: Fourth of July, Hawthorne (portrait, selection from works, lists.)

August: O. W. Holmes.

September: Eugene Field day (in conjunction with schools and state society); James Fennimore Cooper.

October: Discovery day (Columbus); Hallowe'en.

November: Louisa M. Alcott; William Cullen Bryant; Thanksgiving day.

December: John G. Whittier; Christmas day; John Paul Jones.

January: Benjamin Franklin; Daniel Webster.

February: George Washington; Abraham Lincoln; Henry Wadsworth Longfellow; James Russell.

March: Early spring; Return of birds.

April: Paul Revere's ride; Easter; Irving; Froebel; U. S. Grant.

All these were interspersed with drawings from the different schools, by grades, and lists, with maps, on school work.

In June a silk worm exhibit attracted a great deal of attention and caused many books about them to be taken out.

The calendar, with its special days indicated by the dates being covered with portraits or small picture illustrating the subject or topic to be borne in mind, is very popular at both libraries, and the changes each month are eagerly watched for.

Children's home use of books from Carnegie branch was 6,158, 44.5 per cent larger than last year, and 44 per cent of total branch use. Here the library has an especially wide field, and is acceptably filling it.

LIBRARY AND SCHOOL.

Direct work with the schools, through the grammar grades, received a fresh impetus by the addition to the school supplementary reading department of the library of 2,410 volumes at the expense of the school district, early in the fall. At the beginning of the fiscal year the collection contained 3,027 volumes. By direction of the school authorities, 1,238 volumes were transferred to certain schools as permanent school deposits, while 30 were worn out or damaged or lost and paid for. The remaining 4,169 volumes were issued 16,806 times. This does not represent the actual use, as the average issue to a teacher is but one-half as many copies as there are pupils in her largest class. The collection contains 42 titles. Aside from the value in school work, the books bring the library to the attention of school children in a manner possible in no other way. To this is attributed in a large measure the rapid increase in the use of the children's library. The school collection has been open to the teachers but three days a week. Changes proposed contemplate setting aside larger quarters, to be open daily, addition to the number of books, and delivery to schools by wagon.

BIOGRAPHICAL SECTION.

Arrangements are completed for starting the local biographical section. Filing cases and cards have been secured, and efforts are now under way to institute what should become an important function of the library, the gathering of local historical material with especial reference to personal connection with important events—in other words, biographical material. An attempt will be made to make this as valuable as possible along genealogical lines, and if a little interest is aroused among the people of St. Joseph the department should in time become one of the most interesting ones of the library. Letters explaining the plan are to be sent out, with the request that the card accompanying be filled out and returned.

IN GENERAL.

The reading rooms continue to grow in popularity, as indicated by the increased attendance. Additions to the periodical list include: Amateur work, American journal of philology, American journal of psychology, Bible student and teacher, Biblical world, Bibliotheca sacra, Booklover's magazine, Craftsman, Everybody's magazine, Little folks, Manual training magazine, Musician, Poet lore, What's in the magazines. The complete list numbers 180 titles, including donations. The new furniture added during the year, tables, chairs and periodical racks, have been much appreciated by patrons as adding greatly to their comfort. A list of periodicals taken may be found in the Bulletin for May.

Revision of the card catalog by the cataloging department progresses favorably. Including approximately 6,500 cards made in this work, about 14,000 cards were filed in the various catalogs. Of these, 5,140 printed cards were received from the Library of Congress at a cost of \$43.93. Other printed cards were received from the Agricultural department and Public documents office, Washington; from the A. L. A. publishing section, for Modern eloquence, and important annuals. Misses Martin, Kerr and (in the latter's absence since Sept. attending library school) White, accomplished a great deal of work.

To the duplicate collection of popular fiction 160 volumes were added, at a cost of \$154.70; 147 volumes were transferred to the free department. Rental receipts were \$269.55. Number of volumes in the collection varies from 167 to 225 from time to time.

Miss Perry, reference librarian, reports a steadily growing use of that department, especially among professional men and mechanics. Club, school and general use keep pace with the growth of the city and the library. Periodicals added, in sets and to fill gaps, are appreciated. Some of the special lists and aids compiled and printed include references on Railroad legislation, Gardening, Fruit-growing, Women and home, all as timely as possible. The library has been of assistance to clubs, schools, colleges, normal schools, students and

teachers in a number of the smaller places in Missouri and Kansas in the matter of reference lists on various subjects. At the request of the officers of the Builders' exchange, a special list of titles of interest to the members was compiled and copies placed in the library and the exchange offices. Class lists for the high school were prepared in conjunction with teachers, at both libraries.

Bindery expense was \$1,213.50, slightly in excess of 42c. a volume. This includes periodicals, newspapers, and books. Several hundred volumes additional should have been bound, but crowded condition of the binderies prevented the work being turned out in time to be included in this report. Through the adoption of different material the expense per volume of binding has been somewhat reduced.

The library co-operated with the Teachers' Association in the lecture courses of the University of Chicago extension work, handling the volumes furnished by the University in connection with the lectures of Professors Troop and Clark. Reference reservations were also made of library books, all of which was appreciated, and of benefit to users and library alike.

Accompanying this report will be found the usual tables of statistics and lists of donors.

In all work undertaken acknowledgment is made of cheerful and willing assistance on the part of the staff, the members of which join me in acknowledging the kindly consideration of the Board at all times.

Respectfully,

PURD B. WRIGHT,

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1906.

Librarian.

STATE OF MISSOURI,
County of Buchanan, ss.

Before me, H. H. Smith, a notary public in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared Purd B. Wright, librarian of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., and made oath that the facts and figures submitted are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

HARRY H. SMITH,

My commission expires October 26th, 1906.

Notary Public.

I—LIBRARY STATISTICS.

BOOK ACCOUNT.

Number of volumes reported April 30, 1905.....	31,200
Additions for fiscal year:	
By purchase	2,407
By transfer from duplicate collection.....	147
By periodicals bound	396
By donations	512 3,462
Withdrawals:	
Worn out, destroyed on account of contagion, etc..	687
Lost or damaged and paid for.....	58
Lost and not paid for.....	28
Unaccounted for	45 798
Net increase for the year	2,664
Number of volumes now in the library.....	33,864

SCHOOL DISTRICT DEPARTMENT.

Number of volumes reported April 30, 1905.....	3,027
Additions for fiscal year.....	2,410
Withdrawals:	
Worn out, lost or damaged and paid for.....	30
Transferred to schools	1,238
Net increase for the year.....	1,142
Number of volumes in school collection.....	4,169
Total number of volumes in library, library and school collections	38,033

ACCESSIONS AND WITHDRAWALS FOR THE YEAR.

Class	Accessions	Withdrawals	Net Gains
General	71	37	34
Philosophy	38	1	37
Religion	124	2	122
Sociology (inc. pub. docs.)	442	9	433
Language	23	3	20
Natural science	102	5	97
Useful arts	140	6	134
Fine arts	104	4	100
Literature	212	37	175
Travel	184	13	171
Biography	160	6	154
History	204	17	187
Periodicals, R. L.	356	4	352
Fiction	1302	654	648
Total	3462	798	2664

EXPENDITURES OF LIBRARY.

	General Fund	Special Fund	Total
Book account—Books	\$ 2,635.70		\$ 2,635.70
Periodicals	358.37	\$ 350.00	708.37
Binding	1,205.50	8.00	1,213.50
Total	\$ 4,199.57	\$ 358.00	\$ 4,557.57
Salaries, library staff.....	\$ 6,542.39		\$ 6,542.39
Fuel and engineer	708.59		708.59
Printing and stationery	253.58	\$ 34.00	287.58
Janitors	960.00		960.00
Electric lights	58.60		58.60
Furniture	307.25		307.25
Postage	38.00	27.10	65.10
Library repairs	8.76		8.76
Building repairs	73.66		73.66
Building insurance	60.00		60.00
Book insurance	15.00		15.00
Telephones	69.00		69.00
Catalog cards	131.49		131.49
Freight and express		91.74	91.74
Delivery station expenses		99.85	99.85
Miscellaneous	129.93	44.66	174.59
Total	\$13,555.82	\$ 655.35	\$14,211.17

CIRCULATION—MAIN LIBRARY—Adult

CLASS	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	Total
General.....	123	98	108	121	99	97	106	136	146	138	154	125	1451
Philosophy.....	53	62	71	59	72	97	88	79	81	65	78	53	858
Religion.....	96	77	71	88	85	81	65	77	120	114	99	82	1055
Sociology.....	107	77	80	115	78	89	95	96	97	117	174	100	1225
Philology.....	4	8	4	7	3	6	8	23	12	8	7	6	96
Natural science ..	98	63	81	53	73	78	74	74	94	97	139	128	1052
Useful arts.....	82	101	107	113	99	103	115	94	142	149	189	125	1419
Fine arts.....	93	91	88	95	79	97	86	66	96	100	142	132	1165
Literature.....	474	268	327	321	260	427	450	448	613	471	612	412	5083
Travel.....	280	258	292	260	297	305	314	324	311	236	336	229	3492
Biography.....	195	106	144	132	153	162	204	182	204	195	233	187	2147
History.....	200	109	115	119	152	175	223	184	211	218	319	213	2238
Current Magazines.....	290	312	322	350	335	305	294	277	334	234	363	289	3755
Fiction.....	5743	5596	6425	6154	5689	5496	5444	5348	6660	6119	7194	5357	71225
Total	7838	7226	8235	7987	7474	7518	7566	7408	9121	8361	10089	7438	16629

CIRCULATION—MAIN LIBRARY—Children's Room.

CLASS	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	Total
	General	38	20	41	21	15	26	48	45	29	33	42		19	377
Philosophy	4	3	3	2	2	3	3	1	3	6	6	1	33
Religion	42	12	41	31	27	43	52	35	36	30	63	55	467
Sociology	59	45	31	37	42	32	47	35	32	56	66	68	600
Philology	66	52	37	24	23	33	60	51	53	34	80	79	592
Natural science	202	117	169	157	83	118	166	179	216	161	264	238	2070
Useful arts	14	20	24	21	12	28	39	28	37	32	50	43	343
Fine arts	63	51	41	41	27	39	46	31	53	46	58	70	566
Literature	218	136	98	96	84	92	205	201	206	147	230	179	1892
Travel	306	193	181	197	194	303	358	288	311	300	470	407	3513
Biography	95	83	100	93	72	115	163	130	140	181	175	141	1483
History	246	165	148	177	107	232	345	277	287	342	428	298	3052
Current magazines	6	24	6	6	3	2	5	3	7	3	5	4	79
Children's stories	2721	2668	2743	2343	2075	1797	2185	2499	2872	2560	3266	2642	30871
Total	4080	3594	3663	3746	2766	2863	3722	3803	4332	3933	5203	4243	45948

CIRCULATION—CARNEGIE BRANCH—Total.

CLASS	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	Total
General	4	7	11	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	17
Philosophy	5	7	11	3	4	4	2	2	2	2	5	2	56
Religion	5	9	19	5	10	10	10	10	16	15	12	11	130
Sociology	7	6	16	7	13	13	13	10	16	13	17	10	139
Philology	1	27	10	10	22	22	22	22	27	25	34	21	285
Natural science	26	33	42	20	12	23	35	31	27	50	56	43	398
Useful arts	17	15	14	7	13	16	19	17	24	25	19	21	218
Fine arts	14	20	6	7	11	17	11	15	25	22	19	51	182
Literature	57	39	55	29	22	43	59	55	75	54	68	59	615
Travel	49	33	52	40	30	79	82	106	101	108	153	112	943
Biography	14	27	15	9	12	31	31	41	48	59	64	44	395
History	26	21	42	31	23	60	69	70	82	95	135	86	741
Current magazines	20	4	6	9	7	19	20	22	28	30	31	25	221
Fiction, including children's stories	707	694	737	711	602	696	753	794	1024	1009	1303	1096	*10126
Total	952	942	1025	890	740	1016	1111	1178	1479	1504	1900	1529	†14266

CIRCULATION—CARNEGIE BRANCH
Children's Department. Included in above table

*Fiction	298	275	256	248	170	269	318	361	404	387	611	457	4054
†Classed Books	107	91	86	77	51	175	214	207	218	274	324	277	2101
Total	405	366	342	325	221	444	532	568	622	661	935	734	6155

CIRCULATION—School Supplementary Reading Department

CLASS	May	June	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	Total
Religion	104	38	60	77	14	63	58	414		
Language	415	828	420	523	648	817	773	1056		5485
Natural science	63	190	176	119	177	216	302	279		1522
Literature	242	521	118	335	273	360	334	585		2768
Travel	84	714	284	103	123	59	18	64		1449
Biography	53	189	15	134	123	77	121	114		736
History	83	406	12	227	290	150	273	221		1662
Children's stories	292	19	605	173	280	284	454	421		2770
Total	1232	19	3567	1236	1686	1995	2147	2126	2798	16806

CIRCULATION—Recapitulation.

CLASS	Main Library		Carnegie Branch	School Sup. Reading	To	Per Cent.	
	Adult	Children					
General	1451	377	17		1845	1.065	*
Philosophy	858	33	56		947	1.546	36
Religion	1055	467	130	414	2066	1.192	738
Sociology	1225	600	139		1964	1.154	292
Language	96	592	35	5485	6258	3.613	1280
Natural science	1052	2070	398	1522	5042	2.909	1847
Useful arts	1419	348	218		1985	1.134	539
Fine arts	1165	566	182		1913	1.104	281
Literature	5083	1892	615	2768	10358	5.978	1856
Travel	3492	3513	943	1449	9397	5.433	2016
Biography	2147	1483	395	736	4766	2.751	908
History	2238	3052	741	1662	7693	4.440	2963
Current magazines	3755	79	221		4055	2.340	*271
Fiction, inc. children's stories	71225	30871	10126	2770	114992	66.361	11618
Total	96261	45943	†14266	16806	173281	100.	24071

†Children's use: Fiction, 4,054; classed books, 2, 104.

*Decrease.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

No. of days open, 357½. (Sundays, 1:30 to 6:30 p. m.)

No. of Sundays open, 52.

Average daily issue, 483. Increase, 67.

Average secular daily issue, 548. Increase, 72.

Average Sunday issue, 114. Increase, 43.

Largest issue in one day (not inc. supplementary reading) March 24, 1906, 1006.

Smallest issue in one day, Dec. 21, 1904, 217.

Largest issue on Sunday, March 18, 1906, 201.

Largest issue in one month, March 1906, 19,318. Increase, 2,618.

Smallest issue in one month, September, 1905, 10,980. Increase, 1,256.

DONORS AND DONATION.

Vols.	Nos.	Pam.	Donors
19	Atwill and Hyatt.
...	300	...	Beale, Prof. F. F.
...	Bartlett, Mrs. Herschel, oil painting.
...	3	...	Boston Book Co., Boston, Mass.
13	Bullard, Rev. Henry.
...	...	13	Burnham, Burt, and one sub. to magazine.
2	Boyden, Mrs. E.
1	Carnegie, Andrew, New York.
...	...	5	Canada—Minister of Agriculture.
1	Cashmere, J. H., Denver, Col.
...	Cochran, Mrs. C. F. (Maps.)
10	250	...	Dyer, Mrs. W. F.
8	D. A. R., St. Joseph chapter, and sub. to mag.
16	Educational Pub Co., Boston, Mass.
2	Esping, Mrs. G. V.
...	12	...	Fiegenbaum, Miss Mary.
10	8	8	Fulkerson, Hon. F. B.
1	Golding, Mrs. L. T. (Portraits of the presidents.)
1	Griffis, Rev. W. E., Ithaca, N. Y.
1	Hawks, Miss Mary.
...	36	...	Holman, F.
5	Hull, Frank.
5	I. O. B. B., Joseph Chapter No. 73.
1	Jewish publication society of America.
1	Loring, James M., St. Louis, Mo.
1	McBride, R. O.
...	...	2	McDougal, Judge H. C., Kansas City, Mo.
10	Massey, Mrs. C. M.
1	Mayer, E.
2	Meyer, Mrs. S.
1	Michel, John.
3	Missouri Bureau of geology and mines, Rolla, Mo.
2	Missouri Building Association Dept.
...	Morton, Dr. Daniel, sub. to magazines.
1	Moss, Mrs. J. B.
100	...	18	Nave, Mrs. Minnie H.
...	1	...	Newcomb, H. T., Washington, D. C.
2	News-Press.
...	...	5	Owens, Miss Luella Agnes.
1	Peace congress, Boston, Mass.
...	150	...	Powers, Mrs.
2	Robins, Earle L.
...	...	1	Roden, C. B., Chicago, Ill.
4	...	3	St. Joseph, City of.

1	...	...	School district of St. Joseph.
2	...	...	Schwab, Rev. Isaac.
6	...	...	Senter, Miss Lulu C.
1	...	...	Smith, Mrs. M. E. and Cotton, S. E., Sedalia, Mo.
1	...	...	Smythe, Mrs. R. M., N. Y.
...	...	...	Stewart, Arthur A., cut of building.
3	...	...	Swanger, Hon. John E., Jefferson City, Mo.
...	326	...	Thomas, Mrs. Roscoe.
12	12	6	U. S.—Bureau of labor statistics.
221	...	233	U. S.—Public documents office and departments. (Maps)
39	...	...	University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
...	...	...	Watch tower Bible & Tract society. sub. to 2 mags.
70	200	...	Weakley, A. B., Moorehead, Kan.
1	...	6	Westminster college, Fulton, Mo.
2	...	...	Wheeler, W. W.
...	1	...	Wilson, H. W. Pub. Co., Minneapolis, Minn.
2	...	2	Wright, Mrs. Purd B.

LIBRARY EXCHANGES.

(Including Reports or Bulletins, or both.)

Allegheny (Pa.) public library.
 Atlanta (Ga.) Carnegie library.
 Bradford (Pa.) Carnegie library.
 Brooklyn (N. Y.) public library.
 Buffalo (N. Y.) public library.
 Carthage (Mo.) free public library.
 Carlisle (Pa.) J. Herman Bosler library.
 Cedar Rapids (Ia.) public library.
 Chicago (Ill.) public library.
 Cleveland (O.) public library.
 Creer library, Chicago, Ill.
 Davenport (Ia.) public library.
 Dayton (O.) public library.
 Decatur (Ill.) public library.
 Detroit (Mich.) public library.
 Dubuque (Ia.) public library.
 Duluth (Ia.) public library.
 El Paso (Tex.) public library.
 Erie (Pa.) public library.
 Evanston (Ill.) public library.
 Galveston (Tex.) Rosenberg library.
 Grand Rapids (Mich.) public library.
 Hartford (Conn.) public library.
 Haverhill (Mass.) public library.

Helena (Mont.) public library.
 Hoboken (N. J.) public library.
 Iowa Library Commission, Des Moines, Iowa.
 Jersey City (N. J.) public library.
 Kansas City (Mo.) public library.
 Kansas State Historical society, Topeka, Kan.
 Lawrence (Kan.) public library.
 Lawrence (Mass.) public library.
 Lexington (Ky.) public library.
 Lexington (Mass.) public library.
 Lincoln (Neb.) public library.
 Los Angeles (Cal.) public library.
 Louisville (Ky.) public library.
 Lowell (Mass.) public library.
 Mercantile library, St. Louis, Mo.
 Metropolitan Museum of Art library, N. Y.
 Milton (Mass.) public library.
 Milwaukee (Wis.) public library.
 Minnesota library commission, St. Paul, Minn.
 Nashville (Tenn.) Carnegie library.
 Newark (N. J.) public library.
 Nebraska library commission, Lincoln, Neb.
 New Haven (Conn.) public library.
 New York (N. Y.) public library.
 Omaha (Neb.) public library.
 Oregon library commission, Salem, Ore.
 Ottumwa (Ia.) public library.
 Paterson (N. J.) public library.
 Peabody Institute, Danvers, Mass.
 Peoria (Ill.) public library.
 Philadelphia library Co., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Pittsburg (Pa.) public library.
 Pratt institute library, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Providence (R. I.) public library.
 Quincy (Ill.) public library.
 Reading (Pa.) public library.
 Rockford (Ill.) public library.
 St. Louis (Mo.) public library.
 San Francisco (Cal.) public library.
 Scranton (Pa.) public library.
 Sedalia (Mo.) public library.
 Syracuse (N. Y.) public library.
 Tacoma (Wash.) public library.
 Toronto (Ont.) public library.
 Washington (D. C.) public library.
 Western reserve university library school, Cleveland, O.
 Westminster college library, Fulton, Mo.
 Wisconsin library commission, Madison, Wis.

COMMITTEE REPORTS.

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library.

Gentlemen: In the year just closed few changes occurred in the personnel of the library staff. Miss Senter, librarian in charge of Carnegie branch, reported ill in the last report of this committee and absent on leave, returned to her duty early last fall. Miss Lillian C. Kerr was granted leave of absence in September to attend the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, library school, her place being filled temporarily by Miss Hilda K. White, of the Illinois library school. Miss Kerr will return to this library during the summer, and Miss White will take a second year in the library school. The only other changes in the library staff were confined to the messenger force, reported as they occurred.

As anticipated in the last report, it was found necessary to provide additional help in the library, the substitutes being used for extra hours in both departments. Increased use of the children's department was as marked as the year before, and if this continues additional time will be required on the part of the substitutes, possibly requiring full time.

Respectfully submitted,

C. P. CARGILL,
 JOHN MICHEL,
 JAS. H. McCORD,
 Administration Committee.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1906.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library.

Gentlemen: The statement submitted by the Treasurer has been examined, and your committee reports that it shows the financial transactions of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, checking with the books of the city auditor.

The city apportionment for library purposes for the year was \$13,200, \$10,700 for the main library and \$2,500 for Carnegie branch. A claim for a balance of \$70.40 made by this committee last year was allowed, and a supplementary apportionment by the council placed in the fund for the main library \$151.82 additional and for Carnegie branch \$32.60. Total library fund from the city, therefore, was \$13,455.82. To this was added \$100 from the special fund, credited to the main library account. Total expenditures through the city to the account of the library therefore aggregated \$13,555.82; through the special library account, \$655.35; or a grand total through all departments of \$14,211.17.

In view of the fact that there had been no increase in the library apportionment for two years, an estimate for the ensuing year's needs was submitted, calling for a total of \$15,500—\$12,500 for the main library and \$3,000 for Carnegie branch. These amounts were included in the general apportionment ordinance introduced before the Common Council, and at the meeting of that body April 30, were allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,
C. P. CARGILL,
JOHN MICHEL,
Finance Committee.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1906.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library.

Gentlemen: While the growth of the library for the fiscal year just closed is not so large as the year before, it is pleasing to note that one of the principal causes for this was its increased use in all departments. The inventory just completed shows that the library proper contains 33,864 volumes; school collection, 4,167 additional. The increase in the number of volumes issued was 24,071. Following a slightly larger increase of the year before, more books were worn out and the bindery and clerical expense was proportionately larger. More volumes in the best binding obtainable were purchased than heretofore, which, while it makes the cost per volume somewhat larger, will reduce future binding expense.

All purchases were made under rules governing the committee.

Use of the children's departments was somewhat notable, the volumes in the children's rooms at the main building being issued on an average of nearly once a month. At the branch the average issue was seven times. Both departments are sadly in need of additional volumes, and it is hoped to greatly relieve this condition during the coming year.

Work with the schools is advancing steadily, and with this as a potent lever, children's use of the library is rapidly becoming one of its leading features, 39.8 per cent of the total number of volumes issued for home use being thus credited. As heretofore, this work is heartily supported by the school officials and teachers.

In the reference department important additions have been made. In the periodical section, in addition to filling in a number of small vacancies in sets, the following were completed: American journal of sociology, Cassier's magazine, Education, Musical record, Nation, and Poet lore.

The library was fortunate in securing at greatly reduced prices, Reed's Modern eloquence, 15v.; Tissot's Life of Christ, 4v. (containing

the reproduction of the famous pictures); Thomas, ed., Famous composers and their music, 16v.; the more popular volumes of the International library of technology; and a number of less important but equally useful volumes.

In conclusion, your committee cannot refrain from calling attention to the steady increase in donations by friends of the library, as shown by the list in the report of the librarian.

Respectfully submitted,

H. K. WHITE,
JAS. H. McCORD,
J. W. ATWILL,
Library Committee.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1906

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library.

Gentlemen: All expenditures made under the jurisdiction of this committee may be seen under appropriate headings in the report of the Treasurer. These have been reported to the Board, and all expenditures other than of a minor nature were made by your authority.

A serious effort was made during the past year to get walks laid throughout the grounds. Your committee cooperated with the Park Commissioners, with the authority of the Board, but lack of means in the Commission's department prevented. The balance of the donation of Mr. Carnegie, \$193.26, in the hands of the Board treasurer, was placed at the disposal of the Commission, for these walks, but as sufficient money was not available to complete the work, it was laid over until this year. It is hoped that this necessary work will not be delayed longer.

Proposed changes and additions to the stack were submitted to the Trustees of the School District of St. Joseph, and an allowance was provided for these in the proposed issue of bonds at the recent election, when no election was declared. The children's room is in a most congested condition, but it is hoped that some arrangement may be made that will permit of relief being afforded in advance of another election.

Additional book stacks are becoming a crying necessity, and some means will have to be devised to care for the normal growth of the library, if the proposed bond issue is again submitted and defeated.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL MORTON,
W. E. WARRICK,
HENRY BULLARD,

Buildings and Grounds Committee.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1906