

SEVENTEENTH 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, 1907.

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.

CHAS. P. CARGILL	H. K. WHITE	J. W. ATWILL
W. E. WARRICK	CHAS. A. PFEIFFER	DR. DANIEL MORTON
REV. HENRY BULLARD	JAMES H. McCORD	G. D. CARTMELL

COMMITTEES.

LIBRARY: WHITE, McCORD, ATWILL. ADMINISTRATION: CARGILL, MORTON, McCORD. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: WARRICK, BULLARD, CARTMELL. FINANCE: PFEIFFER, CARGILL, MORTON. 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, Lillian C. Kerr, cataloging; Bessie McCoy, children's room, main library; Jessie M. Gibson, Jennie K. Willson, desk; Ethel Fife, Annie Knight, general; Joseph Mann, Richard Jameison, messengers; Elizabeth Hull, substitute. CARNEGIE BRANCH: Lulu C. Senter, Librarian in Charge; Ethel Fife, substitute; W. A. McCamy, janitor.

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Printers, Binders,
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107 S. Third St.
St. JOSEPH, - MISSOURI

President's Letter Transmitting Reports.

To the Honorable Mayor and Common Council of the City of St. Joseph, Mo.:

Gentlemen: I take pleasure in submitting for your consideration the annual report of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library of the City of St. Joseph, Mo., composed of the reports of the officers, committees and librarian, for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1907.

These reports give in detail the operations of the library in every department, and indicate for the period named the usual activity, with results corresponding with those of former years.

Consequent upon the increase of revenues as the result of a larger assessment upon which to base the library tax, growth of the library was greater than for some years. Advantage was taken of this opportunity to broaden the work of the institution, especially along industrial lines, with results gratifying to all interested. All departments of the library show an increased use.

The new room for children, provided at the expense (with the exception of floor covering) of the school district, is attractive and duly appreciated by the younger generation, as is shown by its use. The success of the school bond proposition at the fall election, carrying as it did provision for doubling the shelf capacity of the library, and for which a contract has been let, solves a troublesome problem and clears the way for caring for growth in number of volumes for some years to come.

While the normal growth of the city will in all probability provide sufficient revenues for the current requirements of the library, even under existing laws, the librarian voices a serious need when he calls attention to the comparatively small number of books with which the library is expected to meet the book requirements of a large population. The problem is one worthy due consideration on your part, as well as that of every interested citizen of St. Joseph.

Calling attention to the reports herewith, and asking for them careful perusal, as well as frequent examinations of the library, I am,

Yours truly,

J. W. ATWILL, PRESIDENT.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1907.

Report of the Treasurer.

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

Gentlemen: The statement in connection herewith shows the receipts and disbursements of the library for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1907, as required by your by-laws.

Apportionments for the library and branch aggregated \$15,500—\$12,500 for the main library and \$3,000 for Carnegie branch. Credits to both accounts were somewhat in excess of these figures, as will be seen by the report of the Finance Committee.

As heretofore, the statement includes the special fund account; the petty cash received and expenditures made at the library. Collections to the credit of this account are from the duplicate collection, penalties on over due books, books lost and paid for, catalogs and supplements sold, and miscellaneous sources. All expenditures at the library from this account by the librarian are reported to the Library Board at the monthly meetings and approved.

As directed by the By-Laws, expenditures 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. Originals of all 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, 1907.

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
County of Buchanan. }

Before me, Joseph C. Hedenberg, 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, Mo., 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 8th day of May, 1907.

My commission expires November 8th, 1909.

(SEAL)

JOSEPH C. HEDENBERG,

Notary Public.

Main Library—General Account.

Receipts.

From city apportionment.....	\$12,500.00	
Balance from sup. apportionment, 1905-06.....	114.55	
Transferred to library account.....	6.13	
Deposit by Board Treasurer from special fund.....	500.00	\$ 13,120.68

Disbursements.

By general warrant on city treasurer:		
Book account—Books.....	\$ 3,248.66	
Periodicals.....	331.58	
Binding.....	1,286.34	\$ 4,866.58
Salaries, librarian and assistants.....	6,270.92	
Printing and Stationery.....	200.40	
Postage.....	40.00	
Heat and engineer.....	450.69	
Janitors.....	450.00	
Insurance, books.....	121.00	
Cards.....	77.50	
Telephones.....	42.00	
Furniture.....	236.50	
Miscellaneous.....	365.09	\$13,120.68

Special Fund Account.

Receipts.

Brought forward in hands Board Treasurer.....	\$ 355.48	
Brought forward in hands Librarian.....	21.28	
Received from duplicate collection.....	290.70	
Penalties.....	727.32	
Catalogs.....	5.20	
Supplements.....	5.95	
Miscellaneous sources.....	129.15	\$ 1,535.08

Disbursements.

Deposited in Gen'l fund, by Board Treas.....	\$ 500.00	
Paid Special Warrant No. 2, periodicals.....	366.90	
By librarian:		
Frieght and express.....	\$ 80.72	
Postage.....	34.11	
Stationery.....	35.05	
Delivery station expenses.....	83.60	
Miscellaneous.....	72.58	\$ 306.06
Balances:		
In hands Board Treasurer.....	343.58	
In hands Librarian.....	18.54	362.12
		\$ 1,535.08

Recapitulation.

Receipts.

From city apportionment, etc.....	\$12,620.68	
Special fund.....	1,535.08	\$14,155.76

Disbursements.

By vouchers on city treasurer, general fund.....	\$13,120.68	
By vouchers on special fund, periodicals.....	366.90	
By librarian.....	306.06	
Balances:		
In hands Board Treasurer.....	343.58	
In hands Librarian.....	18.54	\$14,155.76

Carnegie Branch.

Receipts.

From city apportionment, 1906-1907.....	\$ 3,000.00	
Balance from supplementary apportionment.....	6.26	\$ 3,006.26

Disbursements.

Book account:		
Books.....	\$ 648.02	
Periodicals.....	106.95	
Binding.....	190.48	\$ 945.45
Salaries assistants in charge.....	1,021.50	
Fuel.....	115.05	
Janitor.....	567.50	
Furniture.....	39.00	
Printing and stationery.....	24.20	
Telephone.....	30.00	
Electric light.....	54.90	
Building repairs.....	29.51	
Miscellaneous.....	179.15	\$ 3,006.26

General Recapitulation.

Total Receipts.			
Main library, general fund.....	\$12,620.68		
Special fund.....	1,535.08		
Carnegie library.....	3,006.26	\$17,162.02	
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Total Disbursements.			
Main library, general fund.....	\$13,120.68		
Special fund.....	672.96		
Carnegie branch.....	3,006.26		
Balances:			
In hands Board Treasurer.....	343.58		
In hands Librarian.....	18.54	\$17,162.02	
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CARNEGIE BRANCH BUILDING FUND.

Receipts.			
Received from Mr. Andrew Carnegie.....		\$25,000.00	
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Disbursements.			
For building, furniture, equipment.....	\$24,806.74		
Balance on hand, reserved for completing walk (not built on account of filled ground.....)	193.26	\$25,000.00	
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Report of the Librarian.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library.

Gentlemen: Herewith is presented the report of the librarian for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1907. It covers the seventeenth year of the library's existence.

The most notable progress of the year was the number of volumes added; the increase in circulation; the response to efforts to induce a more extensive use of books relating to industrial trades, and expansion in work with children. The increase in library revenues made it possible to broaden somewhat library activities. The new room for children, with its additional space and extra help in the busiest periods, permitted more and better work with young people than heretofore.

Contents of Library, Growth, Etc.

The library proper contains 38,219 volumes, the net increase for the year being 4,136. In addition, the supplementary reading collection of the school district (cared for by the library) consists of 5,748 volumes, net additions being 1,579, total net additions under control of library, 5,715. Total number of volumes cared for by the library, 45,967.

It is deemed not inappropriate to say that the library is too small for the number of people it is expected to serve. It has not a sufficient number of books, and, without them, cannot hope to fill the field open to it. As a result its work has never been such as to give complete satisfaction in any regard, either to those who use it or to those in charge. Of the 38,219 volumes used in regular library work, 9,967, or 26 per cent, are in the reference department, 10,712, or 28 per cent, are fiction and children's stories, leaving 17,552 volumes, or 45 per cent, in two buildings, to cover every form of human interest and knowledge for a population estimated by the Bureau of Commerce and Labor at 115,000. This is the result of insufficient funds. Every Library Board has recognized the need for books, and restricted expenditures in every direction so that the book fund might be kept as large as possible. The council, in the matter of funds, in later years, has been fair to the library under the law. That, however, has not answered its needs. It should have now not less than twice as many volumes as it possesses. An investment of \$25,000 at this time would place it in position to do work creditable alike to the city and to all concerned. Other places have citizens who met just such contingencies as this, and hopes are not yet abandoned that St. Joseph will find some one who will come to the relief of this institution with a library gift for the immediate purchase of books, or as an endowment, the proceeds to be used in the book fund.

The inventory, just completed, disclosed 85 volumes missing, 31 more than were unaccounted for one year ago. Of the 54 then not found, 8 volumes

have since been returned, making a total of 46 which were evidently stolen. Of the volumes missing this year, 78 are charged to the main library, 25 being from the young peoples' library; 7 to Carnegie branch, of which 2 were charged to the children's section. Twenty-four volumes missing are from the 800 class, 8 being in drama—Isben, Shaw, Phillips, etc. The idea is prevalent in the library that the most of this thieving is committed by non-residents. In the matter of dollars and cents the loss is inconsequential as compared with the value and pleasure of open shelves, to say nothing of the saving effected by permitting patrons to wait upon themselves. Continued losses, however petty, are none too less aggravating, and the increase in the number of volumes missing is to be deplored. The only remedy suggested is increased surveillance, and a possible restriction of use of library to residents only, a ruling which, it is to be hoped, may not be necessary.

Circulation and Library Use.

The circulation for the year was 183,715, an increase of 10,484, the details of which may be found in the tables of circulation with other library statistics accompanying, and a part of this report. Fiction comprised 66.4 per cent of the total circulation, an increase of .04 per cent as compared with the previous year. With the exception of Carnegie branch, each department showed a slight decrease in the use of fiction, an increase at the branch of 2 per cent offset the decrease, however. With so little change in the total percentage column, no great changes occurred in any special class use. Total use of books on mechanical lines, while still comparatively small, showed an increase of 27.4 per cent, the result of a very satisfactory advertising campaign mentioned elsewhere. Literature, travel and religion were the only classes showing an actual decrease in the number of volumes issued. Library use of books continues to grow, although as patrons become more familiar with the classification, fewer volumes are left upon the tables. The adult department of the main library hardly held its own in the matter of circulation. The new room for the young peoples' library, with new books, and other attractions, not only held the young people longer than heretofore, but drew back to it many who had felt that they had graduated therefrom the year before.

Increased attention having been given in later years to building up certain divisions of fine and useful arts, without proportionate increase in their use, efforts were made during the latter part of the year to effect a change. The list of books prepared by a committee of the Society for Promotion of Engineering Education, was first carefully checked, and some purchases made therefrom; in addition, a careful selection was made of titles relating to subjects of special interest to workers in the industries of St. Joseph, including electricity, woodworking, foundry work, cement and concrete, wool and weaving, producer gas, natural gas and its use, window trimming, etc. A special edition of 1000 copies of the bulletin for October, showing some of the new titles, was issued and copies mailed to every shop in the city, as well as to many individual addresses. Results were unsatisfactory. In the latter part of January select lists of titles on given subjects

were prepared, one of which was published each day in the News-Press newspaper for one month. The first list was of books relating to automobiles, their care, management, repair, etc. The use of these more than doubled at once. Each day the newspaper announced the list to be given the ensuing day. Following the automobile list was one on cement, concrete, concrete-steel, etc. While the books in the library on these subjects were not numerous, from force of circumstances, they were the best to be had. Within 48 hours after the appearance of the list not a single volume was left upon the shelves, and inquiries for the books grew in steadily increasing numbers. The better or more useful books were duplicated, other titles were added as quickly as possible and as funds would permit, and this department is now one of the most popular in the library. With few exceptions, each of the 30 lists published brought new patrons to the library. Least satisfactory was the use of books on iron, steel and foundry work. In an effort to ascertain the cause for this, a traveling library has just been made up and placed in a foundry. It is the intention to send it from one foundry to another, following it with personal interviews with the men who have used the books in an attempt to get them to use the library. Another traveling library is being prepared which will soon start the rounds of certain large machine shops.

Being fairly in touch with the younger generation, and having reasonably well under way the idea of fixing upon them the reading and study habit, no better work is open to the library, in the opinion of this writer, than that of encouraging mechanics—especially the younger shop-trained men—in any line to become, through their own efforts in study and the right use of their brains and time, better workmen, capable of doing the best work, with the consequent increase in wage-earning power. It may, in all fairness, be claimed to mean not only a better and broader life for them, but infinitely more to their families in enlarged opportunities for education and the things which count, and therefore well worth while. To do a portion of this it is not deemed necessary to relax in any way efforts in other legitimate branches of library work.

Registration.

A gain of 393 in the number of card holders is shown, the total now being 8,252. From the total registration all cards canceled are deducted. Actual cards outstanding number 11,484.

Work With Children.

Work with children continues to occupy a leading place in library activities. The old quarters becoming too small, as reported last year, on application the school district provided a new room on the first floor of the library building, containing twice as much floor space as the old. The new room was fitted with washstand, furnished with new bookcases of oak, and the walls were tastefully decorated, all at the expense of the district. Among the pictures hung were the following reproductions: Round Table of King Arthur, Abbey; Madonna of the Chair, Raphael; Hiawatha, Taylor;

Little Fortune Tellers, Reynolds, presented by Mrs. A. L. Bartlett; Before the Battle, Brush, presented by Mrs. J. B. Moss; Choir Boys, etching by Spiegle, presented by Mrs. Minnie Nave; George Washington, Steuart. In shelving the books, children's stories were placed on the two top shelves, class books being placed underneath. This idea was adopted from East Orange, N. J., and has been successful, in that it prevents congestion in given places and encourages children to the use of books other than stories, through bringing the other titles constantly before the eyes of the readers. For the "littlest ones" a special department was created, their books being shelved in a special alcove. It is a delight to witness the pleasure they take in selecting their own books. As opening attractions, a number of new books had been obtained, and an experiment was made with 1600 stereoscopic views with holders, and a number of dissected maps of different countries. Results have proven eminently satisfactory. The views, especially, have been an endless source of pleasure and instruction to the children. Teachers and mothers came in such numbers that it was found necessary to rule that "grown-ups" were not permitted use of the stereos when there were unserved applicants among the children. The views purchased were chosen with special reference to their value as aids in the study of geography, showing the people, their customs and industries, with interesting views in different countries.

From the children's library, main building, 52,030 volumes were issued, an increase of 6,082, or 13 per cent over the previous year. The number of volumes in the circulation department of this room at this time is 4,883.

Circulation of children's books at Carnegie branch (hereafter more fully treated under branch work) was 8,309. To this total of 60,399, issued to children from the library department proper, is added the number of books issued through the schools, 17,944, making a grand total of 78,283 volumes—42 per cent of entire use of library—as representing children's use.

Miss McCoy, children's librarian at the main library, reports especially satisfactory work with illustrated bulletins, the endeavor being to have not less than two bulletins of importance each month, not neglecting the usual birthday celebrations, minor events and things of local interest—as for instance, the horse, dog and poultry shows. The bulletins creating the greatest interest were (1) devoted to the Eskimos and (2) the Kempton-Wace set of 30 photographs, representing Hiawatha, as presented by the Indians. The Hiawatha pictures will be loaned to several schools next fall to be used with sets of Longfellow's Hiawatha from the supplementary reading collection.

At the request of the supervisor of primary grades of the public schools, lists of titles were made on the following subjects, and sent by the school authorities to teachers as a part of the regular school reading course: First grade, Life in the desert, Arabia, ostriches, camels; second grade, Switzerland; third grade, farm life, China, silk worms, tea. Lists for other grades included North America, Revolutionary War. Numerous lists were made for the debating and study clubs of the various schools and classes.

Circulation in this department of the library was somewhat curtailed by the closing of two schools for a portion of the school term on account of

contagious diseases, all card-holders in these schools being suspended from the use of the library. At the present time one four-room school is on the suspension list.

Library and School.

To the school collection for supplementary reading, a net increase of 1,579 volumes was made, making a total of 5,748 volumes, furnished at the expense of the school district. During the eight months the use of these books are permitted in the schools, 17,800 volumes were issued. This by no means represents the total use of the books. Teachers in the first four grades of the grammar schools are permitted to take one book for each pupil in the largest reading class; while those in grades five to eight are allowed one-half as many copies of books as there are pupils. It frequently happens that one set of books is used by four classes. If the parents of school children were required to purchase the books supplied through this collection, it would require an expenditure annually on their part greater in the aggregate than the entire cost of operating the library. The aim of these books is not only to teach the child to read, but to teach it to want to read and to read things of some value—to create the reading habit of the right sort. Each book issued through the schools is a traveling sign for and advocate of the library.

The school collection is cared for in the room formerly occupied by the young peoples' library, and is open three days a week, being in charge of Miss Knight. Service was more satisfactory than heretofore.

Schools tributary to Carnegie branch were served from that institution 2,286 being issued.

Carnegie Branch.

MISS SENTER.

Extra funds provided at the beginning of the year made it possible to more readily meet the wants of patrons than heretofore. The addition of high school classes (formerly attending the up-town high school) to the Benton school, necessitated the purchase of numerous titles for which there had heretofore been little demand. That these purchases and work with this school were appreciated by teachers and pupils alike is demonstrated by the showing that every pupil in the Benton school has a library card and uses it. This can be said of no other school in the city.

The branch contains 5,564 volumes, 1,235 being in the children's library. Additions for the year were 1,756; 1,196 for adults and 560 for children. The number of volumes issued for home use during the year from the children's department was 8,309, against 6,105 issued last year. From the adult department, 9,464 volumes were issued, being an increase of 1,553.

Total increase in library use was 3,507.

May 22 it was deemed wise to suspend all cards belonging to pupils in the McKinley and Hosea schools, some of the grades having been previously closed on account of smallpox. A little later cards were suspended from all schools of this suburb. June 12th there were 203 cards being held at the library. As a result, the use of books for home reading for the month of June

in the children's department decreased to less than one-half as many as the same month the previous year. All cards were restored to holders by August 1st, when circulation began to increase.

Special collections created to meet the wants of this section of the city have met with gratifying use. This is especially true of books relating to the packing and allied industries. Books and periodicals on meat and animal inspection and refrigeration are in constant demand, and in the government examinations successful applicants have been library students. Gas and gas engines, and cement and wood-working books have also been popular.

The various activities of the library, including club work with adults and children, continue along satisfactory lines.

Delivery Stations.

The discontinuance of the delivery station on Frederick Avenue was responsible for a decrease in the number of volumes thus issued. Arrangements are under way looking to the establishment of a station on the Avenue at a greater distance from the library. Also on South Sixth and South Eleventh Streets, and in the Eastern portion of the city. The school authorities are in position and are willing to provide rooms for branch deposit libraries in various outlying portions of the city, and it is a cause for keenest regret that the library has neither the books nor the money to employ assistants to properly occupy a field capable of such great development. The value of these so-called school deposit branches are beyond question. Had the sum asked for by the library board from the council been granted, it was in contemplation to recommend the establishment this fall of two such branches.

Cataloging Department.

MISSSES MARTIN AND KERR.

On account of the larger number of new titles added, little progress was made in the revision of the card catalog. Including 5,631 printed cards from the Library of Congress, 2,500 from other sources, 15,000 cards were filed in the different catalogs.

Reading Room.

A steady increase in the use of the reading room is reported, as might be expected from an extension of the list of periodicals taken. Titles received regularly, including gifts, now number 217. The following were added since last report: American journal of psychology, American machinist, Business World, Carpentry and building, Concrete, Elementary school teacher, Ice and refrigeration, Iron age, Journal of American history, Machinery, Railway age, Technical literature, Technical world, Theatre and Western musical herald. It was found necessary to keep at the delivery desk certain art, music, and some of the finely illustrated magazines, and require that they be asked for, to prevent mutilation at the hands of vandals.

New binders provided are appreciated by the patrons and preserve the magazines.

Reference Work.

MISS PERRY.

The reference department has always been given the first place in point of expansion, other departments frequently being curtailed in order that at least one portion of the library might the more nearly do the work it was called upon to do. As a result it contains 9,967 volumes, or 26 per cent of the contents of the library. Of these, 3,967 are periodicals, of which 527 were added during the year, needed sets as well as current volumes. In addition to the usual school and club work, a large number of special lists were made on useful arts; a special list on interurban railways and one on cement. A list of 100 good novels for men was prepared and has been found useful. The new bulletin board made it possible to attract more attention than formerly to the current events table. In this work the topics and lists suggested by the "Independent" were found helpful and very useful. No record is kept of library use of books other than a mere count of volumes left upon tables. These numbered 26,410.

Local History Collection.

A number of additions of importance made to the collection of local historical material which the library is slowly gathering, include the complete records of the organization of the first Sunday-school in St. Joseph in 1844, with a list of pupils and the teachers, and a photograph of the building occupied later. Also, the original title catalog of the first circulating library organized in 1845. These were deposited in the library by Dr. Lee L. McDonald. A paper by one of the riders of the Pony Express and another in relation to the "flag incident" in the early days of the war, was secured and filed. A rather interesting collection of St. Joseph souvenir post cards, numbering several hundred, has been made and will be added to from time time. A copy of the Missouri Gazette, St. Louis, for July 26, 1803, being volume 1, number 3, placed between panes of glass and framed, was hung in the reading room and attracts much attention.

New Shelving.

As the result of the voting of bonds for school buildings and other purposes at the fall election, money was set aside by the school district for an addition to the shelving in the stack room of the library. In March the contract for this work was let, and by September 15th it is promised that the problem of shelving books will have been solved for some years. Other important work furnished was the closing with art glass of the light shaft in the rotunda, while still other is in contemplation. It is to be borne in mind that the school district and library board are different organizations, although representing the same people. The co-operation has been beneficial to those interested.

Duplicate Collection.

To the duplicate collection was added 262 volumes, at a cost of \$258.67. Receipts from rental of same were \$290.70. There remain in the collection 169 volumes, 204 having been transferred to the free collection.

In General.

The library again co-operated with the Teachers' Association in the lecture course of Prof. Vincent of the University of Chicago Extension work, and of Prof. Hill of the University of Missouri.

The daily newspapers of the city have shown great interest in the work of the library by publishing many columns of lists, notes and general library information, furnished from this office. To each of them is the library indebted for two copies of the papers, one for the reading room and one for binding.

Aside from the bulletin, no other publication was made during the year. Five hundred copies of the list of 1000 best novels were purchased from the Newark Library and were sold at cost.

The usual table of statistics and lists of donors accompany this report as appendices.

On behalf of the entire staff, advantage is taken of this opportunity to render to the Board of Directors sincere appreciation for courtesies extended.

PURD B. WRIGHT, LIBRARIAN.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1907.

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, Missouri, and made oath that the facts and figures submitted are correct to the best of his knowledge and belief.

My commission expires Oct. 29, 1909.

HARRY H. SMITH,
Notary Public.

(SEAL)

I—Library Statistics.

Book Account.

Number of volumes reported April 30, 1906.			33 864
Additions for fiscal year:			
By purchase	3,554		
By transfer from duplicate collection.	204		
By periodicals bound.	557		
By donations.	591	4,906	
Withdrawals:			
Worn out, burned, etc.	641		
Lost or damaged and paid for.	62		
Lost and not paid for.	21		
Unaccounted for (missing at inventory)	46	770	
Net increase in regular library department.			4,136
Duplicate collection, not heretofore reported:			
In collection May 1, 1906.	164		
Added by purchase.	262	426	
Disposition:			
Transferred to regular collection.	204		
Lost.	2		
Burned.	1	207	
Number volumes in collection April 30, 1907.			219
Number of volumes now in the Library proper.			38,219

School District Department.

Number of volumes reported April 30, 1906.			4,169
Additions for fiscal year.		1,843	
Withdrawals:			
Worn out, lost and paid for.	87		
Transferred to schools.	177	264	
Net increase for the year.			1,579
Number of volumes in school collection.			5,748
Total number of volumes in library, library and school collections.			43,967

Accessions and Withdrawals Classified.

Class	Accessions	Withdrawals	Net Gain
General.	109	9	100
Philosophy.	47	1	46
Religion.	98	4	94

Sociology (inc. pub. docs.).....	481	4	477
Language.....	60	2	58
Natural science.....	224	13	211
Useful arts.....	218	4	214
Fine arts.....	146	2	144
Literature.....	172	33	139
Travel.....	257	19	238
Biography.....	202	9	193
History.....	273	17	256
Periodicals, R. L.....	527	1	526
Fiction, inc. children's stories.....	2092	652	1440
Total.....	4906	770	4136

Expenditures of Library.

	Gen'l Fund	Spec'l Fund	Total
Book Account—Books.....	\$ 3,896.68		\$ 3,896.68
Periodicals.....	438.53	\$366.90	805.43
Binding.....	1,476.82		1,476.82
Total.....	\$ 5,812.03	\$366.90	\$ 6,178.93
Salaries, library staff.....	7,292.42		7,292.42
Printing and stationery.....	224.60	35.05	259.65
Postage.....	40.00	34.11	74.11
Fuel and engineer.....	565.74		565.74
Janitor service.....	1,017.50		1,017.50
Insurance, books.....	121.00		121.00
Telephones.....	72.00		72.00
Furniture.....	275.50		275.50
Building repairs, branch.....	29.51		29.51
Miscellaneous:			
Catalog cards.....	87.50		87.50
Stereoscopic views.....	123.55		123.55
Magazine binders, reading room.....	67.84		67.84
Typewriter, exchange.....	40.00		40.00
A. L. A. expense.....	100.00		100.00
Electric light.....	71.84		71.84
Ice.....	19.80		19.80
Picture frames.....	18.55		18.55
Moving shelving.....	8.50		8.50
Freight and express.....		80.72	80.72
Delivery station expenses.....		83.60	83.60
General.....	139.06	72.58	211.64
	*\$16,126.94	†\$672.96	\$16,799.90

*Expended through city departments.
†Expended from contingent fund.

Library Receipts and Disbursements.

Receipts.

Brought forward.....	\$ 21.28	
From duplicate collection.....	290.70	
Penalties.....	727.32	
Supplements.....	5.25	
Catalogs.....	5.20	
Books lost and paid for.....	49.29	
Books sold.....	4.31	
Contribution from unknown source.....	22.00	
Miscellaneous.....	53.55	\$1,179.60

Disbursements.

Deposited credit Sec.-Treas.....	\$855.00	
Incidental expenses:		
Freight and express.....	80.72	
Postage.....	34.11	
Stationery.....	35.05	
Delivery station expenses.....	83.60	
Miscellaneous.....	72.58	
Forward.....	18.54	\$1,179.60

Circulation.

CLASS	Main Library		Carnegie Branch		School Sup. Reading	Total	Per Cent.
	Adult	Children	Adult	Children			
General.....	1304	227	6	13		1550	.84
Philosophy.....	902	27	59			1988	.53
Religion.....	1078	538	74	23	293	2006	1.09
Sociology.....	1383	608	103	95	362	2551	1.39
Language.....	131	1377		128	6420	8056	4.87
Natural science.....	1213	1999	98	314	1664	5188	2.83
Useful arts.....	1757	442	169	57	132	2557	1.39
Fine arts.....	1501	637	88	131		2407	1.39
Literature.....	4717	1790	437	327	2412	9683	5.27
Travel.....	3020	3588	318	670	1051	8947	4.33
Biography.....	2019	1571	205	255	1076	5126	2.79
History.....	2235	3469	534	512	1892	8642	4.70
Current magazines.....	3675	54	290			4019	2.18
Fiction, including children's stories.....	71033	35503	7083	5734	2642	121995	66.40
TOTAL.....	95968	52030	9464	8309	17944	183715	100.00

Donors and Donations.

	Vols.	Pam.
Agee, Van.....	1	
Altamus Co., Henry, Philadelphia.....	1	
Atlas Portland Cement Co., N. Y.....	1	
Atwill, J. W.....	3	4
Atwood, F., Concordia, Kans.....	1	
Beale, Prof. F. F.....		65
Binswanger, Mrs. Lena.....	5	
Boston Book Co., Boston.....		5
Bullard, Rev. Henry.....	7	
Canada—Census office.....	1	
Combe Ptg. Co.....	47	
Cox, Ethel Louise, Brooklyn, N. Y.....	1	
D. A. R., St. Joseph Chapter, sub. to mazazine.....	2 pictures loaned	
Davos, Switzerland.....	1	
Essex Institute, Salem, Mass.....	1	
Fiegenbaum, Annie.....		15
Fife, Miss Ethel.....	2	
Francis Street M. E. Church.....	65	
Glossup, Emma E.....	4	
Hyatt & Atwill.....	34	
Illinois state historical society.....	1	
Irvine, J. M.....	2	
Joseph Lodge, No. 73, I. O. B. B.....	11	
Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kans.....	2	
Kansas City Board of Education.....		2
Larned, Charles, Oxford, Mass.....	1	
Lemon, Mrs. John S.....	20	
Library of Congress.....	6	
Lillie, Walter.....	1	
Little, Arthur W.....	1	
Lombard, Louis, Lugano, Switzerland.....	1	
Mayer, Emmanuel, subs. to two newspapers.....		
Mercantile Library, St. Louis, Mo.....	25	
Mexico—State department.....	3	
Missouri—Adjutant-General.....	5	
Board of agriculture.....	2	5
Bureau of geology and mines.....	2	2
Labor commissioner.....	2	
Railroad commissioner.....	5	
State auditor.....	9	

State Treasurer.....	3	
Supervisor building and loans.....	1	
University.....	3	4
Morton, Dr. Daniel.....	17	5
Moss, Mrs. Joseph B., one picture.....		
Nash, Harvey.....	2	
N. Y. State Library.....	11	
New Zealand, dept. of tourist and health resorts.....	1	
News-Press.....	2	
Ottawa, Canada, supt. of instruction.....	1	
Order of the Cross, Paynton, Eng.....	1	
Personal helps pub. co., Des Moines, Ia.....	1	
Pike, Vinton.....	40	
Isaac Pitman sons, N. Y.....	1	
Roberts, A. G.....	3	
St. Joseph, City of.....	2	
St. Joseph High School, senior class.....	1	
Schwab, Dr. Isaac.....	13	
Scientific American compiling dept., N. Y.....	16	
Second Church of Christ, scientist.....	4	
Seeley, Mrs. W. L.....	1	
Sellstedt, L. G., Buffalo, N. Y.....	1	
Sons of the Revolution, St. Joseph Society.....	1	
U. S. Pub. docs. office and depts.....		
University of Chicago.....	7	70
Westminster college.....		6
Wyeth, Mrs.....		150

Library Exchanges.

(Including Reports or Bulletins, or both.)

Allegheny (Pa.) public library.
Atlanta (Ga.) Carnegie library.
American Library Association.
Bradford (Pa.) public library.
Brooklyn (N.Y.) public library.
Buffalo (N.Y.) public library.
California state library, Sacramento, Cal.
Carthage (Mo.) public library.
Cary Library, Lexington, Mass.
Cedar Rapids, (Ia.) public library.
Chicago (Ill.) public library.
Cleveland (O.) public library.
Curtis memorial library, Meriden, Conn.
Davenport (Ia.) public library.
Decatur (Ill.) public library.
Detroit (Mich.) public library.
District of Columbia (Washington) public library.
Dubuque (Ia.) public library.
Duluth (Minn.) public library.
Duquesne (Pa.) Carnegie library.
East Orange (N.J.) public library.
Enoch Pratt free library, Baltimore.
Evanston, (Ill.) public library.
Gloversville (N.Y.) public library.
Grand Rapids (Mich.) public library.
Hartford (Conn.) public library.
Haverhill (Mass.) public library.
Helena (Mont.) public library.
Hoboken (N.J.) public library.
Illinois state historical society library, Springfield, Ill.
Indiana library commission, Indianapolis, Ind.
Iowa library commission, Des Moines, Ia.
J. Herman Bosler library, Carlisle, Pa.
Jersey City (N.J.) public library.
John Crerar library, Chicago, Ill.
Kansas City (Mo.) public library.
Lawrence (Mass.) public library.
Library company of Philadelphia.
Library of Congress, Washington.
Lincoln (Neb.) public library.

Los Angeles (Cal.) public library.
Louisville (Ky.) public library.
Lynn (Mass.) public library.
Mankato (Minn.) public library.
Mercantile library, St. Louis.
Metropolitan museum of art library, N. Y.
Milton (Mass.) public library.
Milwaukee (Wis.) public library.
Minnesota library commission, St. Paul, Minn.
Nashville (Tenn.) public library.
Nebraska library commission, Lincoln.
Newark (N.J.) public library.
New Haven (Conn.) public library.
Newton (Mass.) public library.
New York public library.
Omaha (Neb.) public library.
Oregon library commission, Salem, Ore.
Ottawa (Can.) Carnegie library.
Ottumwa (Ia.) public library.
Patterson (N.J.) public library.
Pennsylvania home teaching society and free circulating library for the
blind, Philadelphia, Pa.
Peoria (Ill.) public library.
Philadelphia library co.
Pittsburg (Pa.) public library.
Pratt institute library, Brooklyn.
Providence (R.I.) public library.
Quincy (Ill.) public library.
Rockford (Ill.) public library.
Rosenberg library, Galveston, Tex.
St. Louis public library.
Salem (Mass.) public library.
San Francisco (Cal.) public library.
Scranton (Pa.) public library.
Seattle (Wash.) public library.
Sedalia (Mo.) public library.
Sioux City (Ia.) public library.
Superior (Wis.) public library.
State historical society of Missouri, Columbia.
Toledo (O.) public library.
Toronto (Can.) public library.
Utica (N.Y.) public library.
Wilmington institute free library, Wilmington, Del.
Wilson, H. W., Minneapolis, Minn.
Wisconsin library commission, Madison, Wis.
Worcester (Mass.) free public library.

Committee Reports.

Administration Committee.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

Gentlemen: Changes in the library staff during the year were as follows: Miss Kerr returned to her duties from the library school in September, and Miss White, who had been filling her position, returned to school. Richard Jameison was appointed a library messenger, taking the place of Charles Smith, resigned. Increased use of the children's library necessitating additional force, and the substitutes having for a year been doing full time, Miss Elizabeth Hull was appointed substitute from the eligible list, she having taken the library examination. Miss Mary Reichert, on application, was admitted to the library training class without pay.

Illness among the members of the staff and their families quite seriously interfered with the work of the library at times. The librarian has reported that as soon as the financial condition of the library will admit he will apply for a stenographer and business clerk. The members of this committee are of the opinion that it would be wise to create the position.

Respectfully submitted,

C. P. CARGILL,
JAMES H. McCORD,
W. E. WARRICK,

Administration Committee

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1907.

Library Committee.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Gentlemen: As of greatest importance, the committee notes the net addition of 4,136 volumes for the fiscal year, making the total now in the library 38,219, with 5,748 volumes under its control in the school collection, or a total of 43,967.

In an effort to partially overcome the binding and replacement expenses, a large number of duplicates copies of standard story books for children and approved fiction for adults, in the best binding obtainable, were purchased. While additions under these headings aggregated 34.7 per cent of the net increase for the year, expenditures were about 18 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent of the book account. With these additions as noted, fiction and children's stories form 28 per cent of the volumes of the library at this time. With these volumes performing 66 per cent of the circulation, it may be seen why bindery and replacement expenses are so heavy. As a distinct business proposition, the number of volumes should more nearly approximate use.

As heretofore, purchases were made under the governing rules of the Board.

Considering the steadily increasing circulation and library use, the books of the library are maintained in fairly good physical condition.

Increased attention is paid to reference and industrial works, which by their use, seem to meet with approval.

Respectfully submitted,

H. K. WHITE,
JAMES H. McCORD,
J. W. ATWILL,

Library Committee.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1907.

Finance Committee.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library.

Gentlemen: Your committee respectfully reports that it has examined the statement submitted by the Treasurer; that it shows the financial transactions of the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library, and checks with the books of the City Auditor.

As stated in our last annual report, the apportionment for the year was \$15,500, \$12,500 for the main library and \$3,000 for Carnegie branch. Supplementary apportionments added to the main library account \$120.68, and to Carnegie branch \$6.26. Total library fund from the city, therefore, was \$15,620.68. From the special library fund \$500 was added, credited to the main library account. Total expenditures through the city to the account of the library, therefore, were \$16,120.68; through the special library account, \$672.96; or a grand total through all departments of \$16,799.90.

A communication was submitted to the Finance Committee and Comptroller of the city at the close of the city's fiscal year, asking an allowance for the main library of \$13,500; for Carnegie branch proper, \$3,000; for branch ground improvements, \$500. The apportionment ordinance as introduced and passed allowed the main library \$13,000 and the branch \$3,000.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER,
C. P. CARGILL,
DANIEL MORTON,

Finance Committee.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1907.

Buildings and Grounds Committee.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library.

Gentlemen: As heretofore, all expenditures except those of little consequence, made under this committee, were by authority of the Board, and amounts may be seen under appropriate headings in the reports of the treasurer and librarian.

The Board of Education arranged new quarters for the children's library on the west side of the ground floor of the main library, on sugges-

tions made by this committee; also provided an art glass cover for the light shaft in the rotunda, the committee participating in awarding both contracts. The Board also set aside funds for new shelving from the bonds voted at the fall election, and at the March meeting a contract was awarded the Art Metal Construction Co. for shelving which will double the present capacity of the library in both the open shelf department and in the newspaper files department.

The new children's room is double the size of the old one, the new shelving is very attractive, and the room is deservedly popular.

There is nothing new to report in connection with grounds surrounding Carnegie branch, turned over to the care of the Park Commissioners. Renewed attempts have been made to secure new walks, and hopes are entertained that the ensuing year will see a great portion of the needed work done.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY BULLARD,

G. D. CARTMELL,

W. E. WARRICK,

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1907. Building and Grounds Committee.

