

Eighteenth Annual Report

OF THE

Board of Directors

OF THE

Free Public Library

OF THE

City of St. Joseph, Mo.

Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 1908



Nelson-Hanne  
Printing Co.  
107 S. Third St.  
St. Joseph, Mo.

## 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, BUL-  
LARD, 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, in charge Carnegie Branch.

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, Elizabeth Hull, general;  
Joseph Mann, Leon Lyddon, messengers; Mary Reichert, substitute.

CARNEGIE BRANCH: Lulu C. Senter, Librarian in Charge; Ethel Fife  
substitute; W. A. McCamy, janitor.



Mercantile library, St. Louis.  
 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.  
 New Jersey library commission, Trenton, N. J.  
 Newton (Mass.) public library.  
 Ohio State Library, Columbus, O.  
 Omaha (Neb.) public library.  
 Oregon library commission, Salem, Ore.  
 Ottawa (Can.) Carnegie library.  
 Patterson (N.J.) public library.  
 Peabody Institute, Danvers, Mass.  
 Peoria (Ill.) public library.  
 Perkins Institute and Mass. school for blind, Boston, Mass.  
 Pittsburg (Pa.) Carnegie library.  
 Pratt institute library, Brooklyn.  
 Providence (R.I.) public library.  
 Quincy (Ill.) public library.  
 Rockford (Ill.) public library.  
 Rosenberg library, Galveston, Tex.  
 St. Louis (Mo.) public library.  
 Salem (Mass.) public library.  
 San Antonio (Tex.) free public library.  
 San Francisco (Cal.) public library.  
 Scranton (Pa.) public library.  
 Seattle (Wash.) public library.  
 Sedalia (Mo.) free 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.  
 Trenton (N. J.) free public library.  
 Tyler (Tex.) free public library.  
 University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.  
 Virginia State library, Richmond, Va.  
 Washington University association, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Western reserve university library school, Cleveland, O.  
 Wilmington institute free library, Wilmington, Del.  
 Wilson, H. W., Minneapolis, Minn.  
 Winsor (Can.) public library.  
 Wisconsin library commission, Madison, Wis.  
 Worcester (Mass.) free public library.

## Report of Treasurer.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library:

Gentlemen: The statement herewith presents in detail the receipts and expenditures of the library for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1908, as required by law and the by-laws of the Library Board.

The amount apportioned for library expenses for the year was \$16,000, \$13,000 being for the main library and \$3,000 for the branch. Credits to each account were slightly in excess of this, as is shown in the report of the Finance Committee.

As in previous reports, the statement covers all the receipts and expenditures of 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 are reported monthly to the Library Board.

All expenditures through the city departments are accounted for in duplicate vouchers, approved by not less than two members of the Finance Committee, allowed by the Board, after which they are certified to by the President. Original vouchers are on file in the office of the city auditor, duplicates being retained in the office of the librarian.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. A. PFEIFFER, Treasurer.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1908.

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

Before me, Clara B. Davis, 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, 1908.

CLARA B. DAVIS,

Notary Public.

(SEAL)

My commission expires June 1, 1910.



## Main Library—General Account.

### Receipts.

|   |             |             |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| From city apportionment, 1907-08.....             | \$13,000.00 |             |
| Supplementary apportionment, 1908.....            | 163.22      |             |
| Deposit by Board Treasurer from special fund..... | 480.00      | \$13,643.22 |

### Disbursements.

By general warrants on city treasurer:

|  |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Book account—Books.....                  | \$ 3,345.78 |             |
| Periodicals.....                         | 247.44      |             |
| Binding.....                             | 1,552.78    | \$ 5,146.00 |
| Salaries, Librarian and assistants. .... | 6,935.25    |             |
| Heating and engineer.....                | 315.58      |             |
| Printing and stationery.....             | 224.44      |             |
| Janitor service.....                     | 460.00      |             |
| Postage.....                             | 40.00       |             |
| Furniture.....                           | 201.65      |             |
| Telephone.....                           | 42.00       |             |
| Electric light.....                      | 27.50       |             |
| Catalog cards.....                       | 62.02       |             |
| Library repairs.....                     | 3.00        |             |
| Miscellaneous, inc. light and ice.....   | 185.78      | \$13,643.22 |

## Special Fund Account.

### Receipts.

|   |           |             |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| Brought forward in hands Board Treasurer..... | \$ 343.58 |             |
| Brought forward in hands Librarian.....       | 18.54     |             |
| Received from duplicate collection.....       | 377.90    |             |
| Penalties.....                                | 796.01    |             |
| Catalogs.....                                 | 5.20      |             |
| Supplements.....                              | 2.45      |             |
| Miscellaneous.....                            | 107.54    | \$ 1,651.22 |

## Library Exchanges.

(Including Reports or Bulletins, or both.)

Allegheny (Pa.) public library.  
 Atlanta (Ga.) Carnegie library.  
 Berkshire (Mass.) Athenaeum and Museum.  
 Bradford (Pa.) public library.  
 Brooklyn (N.Y.) public library.  
 Buffalo (N.Y.) public library.  
 Carthage (Mo.) public library.  
 Cary Library, Lexington, Mass.  
 Cedar Rapids, (Ia.) public library.  
 Chicago (Ill.) public library.  
 Cleveland (O.) public library.  
 Council Bluffs (Ia.) public library.  
 Davenport (Ia.) public library.  
 Dayton (O.) public library.  
 Decatur (Ill.) public library.  
 Detroit (Mich.) public library.  
 District of Columbia (Washington) public library.  
 Duluth (Minn.) public library.  
 Dubuque (Ia.) Carnegie-Stout library.  
 Duquesne (Pa.) Carnegie library.  
 Easton (Pa.) free public library.  
 East Orange (N.J.) free public library.  
 Enoch Pratt free library, Baltimore.  
 Erie (Pa.) public library.  
 Evanston, (Ill.) public library.  
 Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.  
 Gloversville (N.Y.) public library.  
 Grand Rapids (Mich.) public library.  
 Hartford (Conn.) free public library.  
 Haverhill (Mass.) public library.  
 Helena (Mont.) public library.  
 Illinois State Historical Society, 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 of Congress, Washington.  
 Lincoln (Neb.) public library.  
 Los Angeles (Cal.) public library.  
 Louisville (Ky.) public library.  
 Lynn (Mass.) public library.



|   |    |      |
|---|----|------|
| Tootle, Mr. Harry.....                                | 5  | .... |
| Turner, G. A. H., St. Louis Mo.....                   | 4  | .... |
| U. S. Departments.....                                | 48 | 60   |
| Superintendent of Documents.....                      | 94 | 824  |
| University of Chicago Press.....                      | 1  | .... |
| University of Missouri.....                           | 24 | .... |
| Washington University association, St. Louis, Mo..... | 1  | .... |
| Wheeler, W. W.....                                    | 3  | .... |
| Willson, James K.....                                 | 1  | .... |
| Wright, P. B.....                                     | 2  | .... |



#### Disbursements.

|   |    |        |                    |
|---|----|--------|--------------------|
| Deposited in Gen'l fund by Board Treas. |    |        |                    |
| Main Library.....                       | \$ | 480.00 |                    |
| Deposited in Gen'l fund by Board Treas. |    |        |                    |
| Carnegie Branch.....                    |    | 20.00  |                    |
| Paid special warrant No. 2, periodicals |    | 418.05 |                    |
| By librarian:                           |    |        |                    |
| Freight and express.....                | \$ | 89.78  |                    |
| Postage.....                            |    | 37.75  |                    |
| Stationery.....                         |    | 45.25  |                    |
| Delivery stations.....                  |    | 78.00  |                    |
| Miscellaneous.....                      |    | 86.11  | \$ 336.89          |
| Balances:                               |    |        |                    |
| In hands Board Treasurer.....           |    | 370.53 |                    |
| In hands librarian.....                 |    | 25.75  | 396.28 \$ 1,651.22 |

#### Recapitulation.

##### Receipts.

|                                   |             |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| From city apportionment, etc..... | \$13,643.22 |             |
| Special fund.....                 | 1,151.22    | \$14,794.44 |

#### Disbursements.

|  |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| By vouchers on city treasurer, general fund..... | \$13,643.22 |             |
| By vouchers on special fund, periodicals.....    | 418.05      |             |
| By librarian.....                                | 336.89      |             |
| Balances:  |             |             |
| In hands Board Treasurer.....                    | 370.53      |             |
| In hands Librarian.....                          | 25.75       | \$14,794.44 |

#### Carnegie Branch.

##### Receipts.

|  |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| From city apportionment, 1907-08.....          | \$ 3,000.00 |             |
| Supplementary apportionment.....               | 71.23       |             |
| Deposit by Board Treas. from special fund..... | 20.00       | \$ 3,091.23 |



# Disbursements.

|                                       |        |          |             |
|---------------------------------------|--------|----------|-------------|
| By general warrant on city treasurer. |        |          |             |
| Book account:                         |        |          |             |
| Books.....                            | \$     | 649.63   |             |
| Periodicals.....                      |        | 124.76   |             |
| Binding.....                          | 127.37 | \$       | 901.76      |
| Salary librarians in charge.....      |        | 1,133.00 |             |
| Fuel.....                             |        | 143.40   |             |
| Janitor.....                          |        | 598.75   |             |
| Furniture.....                        |        | 40.00    |             |
| Telephone.....                        |        | 36.30    |             |
| Cards.....                            |        | 15.00    |             |
| Light.....                            |        | 55.45    |             |
| Printing and stationery.....          |        | 1.25     |             |
| Building repairs.....                 |        | 45.08    |             |
| Postage.....                          |        | 5.00     |             |
| Miscellaneous.....                    |        | 116.24   | \$ 3,091.23 |

# General Recapitulation.

## Total Receipts.

|                                    |             |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Main library, general fund.....    | \$13,643.22 |             |
| Special fund.....                  | 1,151.22    |             |
| Carnegie Branch, general fund..... | 3,091.23    | \$17,885.67 |

## Total Disbursements.

|                                    |             |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Main library, general fund.....    | \$13,643.22 |             |
| Special fund.....                  | 754.94      |             |
| Carnegie Branch, general fund..... | 3,091.23    | \$17,489.39 |
| Balances:                          |             |             |
| In hands Board Treasurer.....      | 370.53      |             |
| In hands Librarian.....            | 25.75       | \$17,885.67 |

# Carnegie Branch Building Fund.

## Receipts.

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Rec'd from Andrew Carnegie, Apr.-Oct., 1902..... | \$25,000.00 |
|--|-------------|

## Expenditures.

|                                      |             |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Heretofore reported.....             | \$24,806.74 |             |
| Completing walks, Dec. 28, 1907..... | 193.26      | \$25,000.00 |

# IV—Donors and Donations.

|  | Vols. | Pamp. |
|--|-------|-------|
| Atwill & Hyatt.....  | 14    | ....  |
| Balch, Thomas Willing, Philadelphia.....   | 1     | ....  |
| Benton Club.....   | 1     | ....  |
| Bolton, Mrs. Sarah K., Cleveland, O.....   | 1     | ....  |
| Boston Book Co.....  | ....  | 1     |
| Buchanan County Horticultural Society.....   | 45    | ....  |
| Bullard, Rev. Henry.....   | 18    | ....  |
| Carnegie Institute, Pittsburg, Pa.....   | 1     | ....  |
| Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of teaching....                                    | 2     | ....  |
| Carter, James Coolidge by Lewis Cass Ledyard for Execu'rs                                  | 1     | ....  |
| Combe Printing Co.....   | 23    | ....  |
| Canada—Census and Statistics Office.....   | 1     | ....  |
| Canada—Department of Agriculture.....  | 2     | ....  |
| Chase, F. A.....   | ....  | 10    |
| Donley, Dr. C. H.....  | ....  | 1     |
| First Church of Christ, Scientist.....   | 3     | ....  |
| Illinois Historical Society, Springfield, Ill.....   | 2     | ....  |
| Iowa—State Library Commission.....   | 1     | ....  |
| Joseph Lodge No. 73, I. O. B. B.....   | 3     | ....  |
| Kansas State Historical Society.....   | 7     | ....  |
| Kelly, Clyde.....  | 1     | ....  |
| Kenney Directory Co., N. Y.....  | 1     | ....  |
| Library of Congress.....   | 6     | ....  |
| McCoy, C. N.....   | 3     | ....  |
| Martin, Misses Martina and Eudora.....   | 66    | 100   |
| Mast, Miss Eda.....  | 24    | ....  |
| Missouri School for Blind, St. Louis, Mo.....  | 4     | ....  |
| Missouri—State Departments.....  | 30    | ....  |
| National Assn. of Manufacturers, N. Y.....   | 1     | ....  |
| N. Y. (State) Legislature. Committee of 1906 to investigate<br>condition of the blind..... | 1     | ....  |
| N. Y. (state) education department.....  | 2     | ....  |
| Orr, Mrs. Florence.....  | 3     | ....  |
| Putnam, Harry L.....   | 31    | ....  |
| St. Joseph, Mo.—Building department.....   | 2     | ....  |
| St. Louis Public Library.....  | 1     | 1     |
| School District of St. Joseph.....   | 2     | ....  |
| Second Church of Christ, Scientist.....  | 3     | ....  |
| Smith, Mr. Calvin, Kansas City, Mo.....  | 2     | ....  |
| Smithsonian Institute.....   | 4     | ....  |
| Spratt, William E.....   | 8     | ....  |



### III—Circulation.

| CLASS                    | Main Library  |              | Carnegie Branch |             | School Collection | School Deposits | Total         | Per Cent.     |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | Adult         | Children     | Adult           | Children    |                   |                 |               |               |
| General .....            | 1668          | 421          | 16              | 7           |                   |                 | 2112          | 1.05          |
| Philosophy .....         | 863           | 23           | 73              |             |                   |                 | 959           | .42           |
| Religion .....           | 1175          | 455          | 109             | 32          | 312               | 34              | 2117          | 1.05          |
| Sociology .....          | 1233          | 859          | 112             | 131         | 392               | 64              | 2791          | 1.39          |
| Language .....           | 124           | 1792         | 11              | 369         | 5794              | 15              | 8105          | 4.04          |
| Natural science .....    | 973           | 1681         | 184             | 543         | 2166              | 206             | 5753          | 2.87          |
| Useful arts .....        | 2270          | 392          | 381             | 69          | 8                 | 12              | 3132          | 1.56          |
| Fine arts .....          | 1842          | 681          | 101             | 198         |                   |                 | 2822          | 1.47          |
| Literature .....         | 4546          | 1600         | 493             | 452         | 2562              | 70              | 9723          | 4.85          |
| Travel .....             | 2554          | 3411         | 375             | 683         | 1312              | 365             | 8700          | 4.39          |
| Biography .....          | 2062          | 1608         | 205             | 286         | 1443              | 79              | 5683          | 2.80          |
| History .....            | 2464          | 3307         | 554             | 723         | 2195              | 298             | 9541          | 4.76          |
| Current magazines .....  | 3995          | 70           | 119             |             |                   |                 | 4184          | 2.08          |
| Children's stories ..... |               | 37841        |                 | 6314        | 2933              | 958             | 48046         | 23.97         |
| Fiction .....            | 76448         |              | 10362           |             |                   |                 | 86810         | 43.30         |
| <b>TOTAL..</b>           | <b>102217</b> | <b>54141</b> | <b>13095</b>    | <b>9807</b> | <b>19117</b>      | <b>2101</b>     | <b>200478</b> | <b>100.00</b> |

#### Summary and General Statistics.

Number of days open, 359.  
Number of Sundays open, 51 (1:30 to 6:30 p. m.)  
Average daily issue, 558; increase, 33.  
Average secular daily issue, 618; increase, 54.  
Average Sunday issue, 201; increase, 54.  
Largest issue in one day, Main Library, Feb. 15, 1908, 943.  
Smallest issue in one day, Main Library, Sept. 26, 1907, 236.  
Largest issue in one day, Carnegie Branch, Dec. 2, 1907, 136.  
Smallest issue in one day, Carnegie Branch, July 18, 1907, 22.  
Largest total issue, one month, March, 1908, 21,294; increase, 2,514.  
Smallest total issue, one month, Sept., 1907, 11,990; increase, 1,278.  
Circulation: Adult, 115,312; children, 85,166; total, 200,478. Increase, 16,763.  
Number of card-holders, 8,640; increase, 387. Cards outstanding, 12,931; increase, 1,447.  
Expenditures, \$17,489.39.  
Circulation per attendant, 19,093 (inc. one-half time of substitute.)  
Proportion of salaries to total expenditures, 46.7 per cent.  
Proportion of expenditures to book account, 36.96 per cent.  
Cost of circulation per volume circulated to payroll, .0323; to total expenditures, .0872.

### Report of Librarian.

To the Board of Directors of the Free Public Library.

Gentlemen: This report, presented in accordance with law, covers the operations of the library for the fiscal year ending April 30, 1908, the eighteenth year of its existence. The period covered is notable in several respects, as witnessing the largest use, satisfactory growth, the acquisition of much needed shelving, and renovation of the building. Further, that the value of the library to the public at large is becoming more generally recognized has been made apparent by the demands upon it. This is not the least satisfying of the results of the year.

#### Registration, Cards, Etc.

Registered card holders number 8,640, a gain of 387 for the year. These hold 12,931 cards, 312 of which were issued to teachers. This is an increase of 1,447, accounted for by an increase in the demand for the non-fiction (or extra) card, issued to any patron over eighteen years of age, or to any student in the high school.

#### Accessions, Contents of Libraries, Etc.

There are in the library, exclusive of the school supplementary reading department, 42,311 volumes, a gain of 4,092. School department contains 6,413, an increase of 665 volumes. Total number of volumes cared for and used by library, 48,724. The net growth of the library proper for ten years ending with this report was 27,452 volumes, 16,876 being added during the last five years.

Losses are somewhat less than last year. The inventory discloses 76 volumes missing, as compared with 85 one year ago. Six volumes reported unaccounted for in the last report were afterwards found, leaving the net loss by stealing at 79 volumes. Doubtless some of the books reported as missing this year will be found later.

An increased number of books are missing from the children's room. The report this year shows 31 volumes, or two-fifths of the entire loss, chargeable to this department. Last year but 25 volumes were so reported. Recommendations have been made to the Building and Grounds Committee for railings, the adoption of which, it is hoped, will permit a closer surveillance of users.

Nothing can be added to the statement of last year regarding the inadequacy of the library in the matter of books. For the last two years its percentage of growth, although greater than heretofore, has barely kept pace with the increased use, the outlook thus affording little hope of increasing the foundation stock. This is a matter of keenest regret, as until some-



thing is gained in this direction the library may hope to accomplish but a tithe of the work open to it. The utter futility of attempting to satisfactorily serve over one hundred thousand progressive people with 42,300 volumes (including public documents) is so well recognized as to need little comment.

#### Circulation and Library Use.

Books issued for home use numbered 200,478, an increase of 16,763, or 9.12 per cent. The statistical table herewith gives full details of circulation, including classes and departments. It will be noted that a change has been made in reporting fiction. Heretofore children's stories have been included under this heading. Adult fiction formed 43.30 per cent of the entire circulation, children's stories 23.97 per cent. As a basis of comparison, if reported as heretofore, it would show fiction and children's stories as being 67.2 per cent of entire circulation, an increase of three-fourths of one per cent. The making of all new fiction 7-day books at the branch, the placing of duplicate pay collection there and the enlargement of the same department in the main library, offers a possible explanation for this increase. While approximately 200 titles in English fiction were added, a number were gifts and will not be replaced. One hundred and seventy-eight titles represent the addition to the permanent collection.

Every month of the year but October witnessed an increase, the decrease for that month being in the school department. Notable gains occurred in the January-March period, coincident with the financial depression. This experience is probably true of the library world generally.

The circulation table offers proof of the value of close supervision of reading, especially as applied to younger readers. In the school supplementary reading department, where the greatest care is exercised in the selection and use of books, less than 15 per cent were children's stories; in the school collection sent out from the library, in which the supervision is less strict, about 40 per cent of books issued were children's stories, while in the children's rooms of the library proper, which are crowded at certain hours, use of stories varies from 65 to 70 per cent. No stronger appeal for ample expert assistance in the children's room is possible. While every care is exercised in the selection of books, the individual child needs attention.

Other than a record of the number of volumes left upon the tables, no account is kept of library use. Indeed, it would be all but impossible to do so without an unnecessarily large stack room force. Volumes left upon tables numbered 25,843, an increase of 2,161 volumes. No use is made of these figures in the regular library statistics.

#### Reference Department.

Of the total net growth of the library, 1,037 volumes, or 25 per cent, were placed in the reference collection. This includes government and state documents. In the bound periodical section the net growth was 506 volumes, a number of important sets being added in addition to the binding

## II—Expenditures of Library.

| Book account:     | General fund | Special fund | Total       |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Books.....        | \$3,995.41   |              | \$3,995.41  |
| Periodicals. .    | 372.50       | \$418.05     | 790.55      |
| Binding.....      | 1,680.15     |              | 1,680.15    |
| Salaries.....     | 8,068.25     |              | 8,068.25    |
| Heat. and eng...  | 458.98       |              | 458.98      |
| Janitor service.. | 1,058.75     |              | 1,058.75    |
| Print. and sta..  | 225.69       | 45.25        | 270.94      |
| Postage.....      | 45.00        | 37.75        | 82.75       |
| Repairs.....      | 48.08        |              | 48.08       |
| Furniture. ....   | 241.65       |              | 241.65      |
| Telephone.....    | 78.30        |              | 78.30       |
| Elec. light. .... | 82.95        |              | 82.95       |
| Cards.....        | 77.02        |              | 77.02       |
| Miscellaneous..   | 302.02       | 86.11        | 388.13      |
| Fght. & exp..     |              | 89.78        | 89.78       |
| Deliv. sta....    |              | 78.00        | 78.00       |
| Total.....        | \$16,734.45  | \$754.94     | \$17,489.39 |

#### Library Receipts and Disbursements.

##### Receipts.

|   |          |            |
|---|----------|------------|
| Brought forward.....  | \$ 18.54 |            |
| From duplicate collection.....                                      | 377.90   |            |
| Penalties on overdue books.....                                     | 796.01   |            |
| Catalogs.....   | 5.20     |            |
| Supplements.....  | 2.45     |            |
| Miscellaneous, including books damaged, lost and paid for, etc..... | 107.54   | \$1,307.64 |

##### Disbursements.

|   |          |            |
|---|----------|------------|
| Deposited credit Secretary-Treasurer..... | \$945.00 |            |
| Incidental expenses:                      |          |            |
| Freight and express.....                  | 89.78    |            |
| Postage.....                              | 37.75    |            |
| Stationery.....                           | 45.25    |            |
| Delivery stations expenses.....           | 78.00    |            |
| Miscellaneous.....                        | 86.11    |            |
| Forward.....                              | 25.75    | \$1,307.64 |



## I—Library Statistics.

### Book Account.

|   |       |       |        |
|---|-------|-------|--------|
| Number of volumes reported April 30, 1907.... |       |       | 38,219 |
| Additions for fiscal year:                    |       |       |        |
| By purchase.....                              | 3,533 |       |        |
| By transfer from duplicate collection. ....   | 164   |       |        |
| By periodicals bound.....                     | 529   |       |        |
| By donations.....                             | 486   |       |        |
| By increase in duplicate collection (353)...  | 134   | 4,846 |        |
| Withdrawals:                                  |       |       |        |
| Worn out, burned, etc.....                    | 606   |       |        |
| Lost or damaged and paid for.....             | 52    |       |        |
| Lost and not paid for.....                    | 17    |       |        |
| Unaccounted for.....                          | 79    | 754   | 4,092  |
| Number of volumes now in library.....         |       |       | 42,311 |

### School Supplemental Reading Department.

|  |     |       |        |
|--|-----|-------|--------|
| Number of volumes reported April 30, 1907....    |     |       | 5,748  |
| Additions for fiscal year.....                   |     | 1,175 |        |
| Worn out, lost, etc.....                         | 66  |       |        |
| Transferred to schools.....                      | 444 | 510   |        |
| Net increase for year.....                       |     |       | 665    |
| Number of volumes in school collection.....      |     |       | 6,413  |
| Number of volumes in library, inc. school col... |     |       | 48,724 |

### Accessions and Withdrawals Classified.

| Class                            | Accessions | Withdrawals | Net Gain |
|----------------------------------|------------|-------------|----------|
| General.....                     | 154        | 9           | 145      |
| Philosophy.....                  | 35         | 3           | 32       |
| Religion.....                    | 113        | 5           | 108      |
| Sociology (inc. pub. docs.)..... | 520        | 11          | 509      |
| Language.....                    | 62         | 17          | 45       |
| Natural science.....             | 143        | 11          | 132      |
| Useful arts.....                 | 379        | 12          | 367      |
| Fine arts.....                   | 237        | 4           | 233      |
| Literature.....                  | 240        | 42          | 198      |
| Travel.....                      | 214        | 17          | 197      |
| Biography.....                   | 146        | 29          | 117      |
| History.....                     | 260        | 21          | 239      |
| Periodicals, R. L.....           | 529        | 23          | 506      |
| Children's stories.....          | 694        | 213         | 481      |
| Fiction.....                     | 986        | 337         | 649      |
| Duplicate collection.....        | 301        | 167         | 234      |
| Total.....                       | 5013       | 921         | 4092     |

of current volumes. Miss Perry, reference librarian, reports a constant increase in the demands for information and in the use of the reference collection. Club use grows steadily, practically every club in the city furnishing a copy of study program for advance preparation. Work with schools, and especially the high school, steadily assumes greater proportions. An increase in the use for business purposes is not least in importance. Lists prepared cover almost every imaginable topic. At times the capacity of the reference tables is seriously taxed. Not the smallest part of the work is that with educational institutions, clubs, and individuals in the surrounding country.

### Children's Library.

Despite the establishment of two school collections, children's use of the library was greater than ever before. Miss McCoy, at the main library, reports the issue of 54,141 volumes, a gain of 2,111, while Miss Senter issued at the branch 9,807, being 1,498 in excess of last year. Total issue of children's books from the two departments was 63,948. Aggregate use of books by children was 85,166 volumes, 42.5 per cent of whole library use. School supplementary reading accounts for 19,117, and the school collections for 2,101. Total use five years ago was 24,710, a gain of 60,456. Work continues most satisfactorily along the lines outlined one year ago, strictly educational work receiving increased attention. A lack of proper reference books has interfered somewhat with the work in this department, and hopes are entertained that funds will speedily permit the correction of this.

Some difficulty has been experienced in meeting the demands in the section for the younger readers, created last year. There was a lack of suitable books, and a shortage in the supply. The latter condition could easily be met. As much cannot be said as to the former. The best titles are being constantly duplicated, but that does not meet all requirements.

### Carnegie Branch.

From the report of Miss Lulu C. Senter, branch librarian, the following is taken:

Carnegie branch now contains 6,229 volumes, the number added during the year being 756. This includes those added by gift, by purchase, and seven transferred from the main library.

The reference department contains 1,091 volumes, the juvenile circulating department 1,361, and the adult circulating department 3,777. Ninety-one books were cancelled and withdrawn during the year. Of this number seven were missing last year, four were lost and paid for, eighteen were burned on account of contagious diseases, and 62 were worn out.

Total number of registrations for the year was 598, of which number 365 were new members and 233 renewals. Adults 315, children 283. One hundred and sixty-eight non-fiction cards were issued. Through people leaving town, death, and other causes, 18 cards were cancelled, making the number of cards now in use 1,397.



Number of books issued for home use for the year was 22,902 volumes, an increase of 5,129 volumes over last year. The percentage of fiction read remains the weak point, the figures for the year just past being a trifle higher than last year, 72.81 being the per cent of this year, whereas last year it was 72.11. This may be ascribed largely to making all new adult fiction 7-day books, and to diminished use of non-fiction cards as the novelty has worn off.

There have been 245 volumes added to the children's section, making a total now in this department of 1,438. Number of books circulated, 8,953; 43 per cent of the entire circulation. Sixty-three per cent of the juvenile reading was fiction. During the winter months a glance into the children's room after school hours never failed to convince a visitor that the children fully appreciate the privileges of the library.

Work done in the reference department continues to be very satisfactory. A number of important books have been added to the shelves, and we find ourselves better able from month to month to give information to those in search of it. The pupils of the public schools and especially those of the high school and the Benton school are availing themselves more and more of the opportunities it offers for assistance in their school work. Great use is made of the bound magazines, as these furnish the simplest and most satisfactory means of doing reference work. Several titles were added to the current magazines.

#### Library and School.

The school supplementary reading collection, provided at the expense of the school district and maintained as a library charge, under Miss Fife, now number 6,143 volumes, the net increase for the year being 665 volumes; 510 volumes were transferred to schools, worn out or lost and paid for. Issues numbered 19,117, being 1,163 more than the year before. In many of the schools each book is used by several pupils, so that the issue does not represent the actual use.

In an attempt to reach children who are not patrons of the library, and to relieve the rush on the children's room, two small school libraries were installed in March, one of one hundred and eighty-two volumes being placed in the Humboldt school, and one of one hundred and thirty-four volumes in the Floyd school, the first in the better portion of the city, the second in the poorer. For the two months in which this department has been tried, Humboldt school issued 1,555 volumes and the Floyd school 546 volumes, or an average issue for the two schools of seven times for each volume. School libraries were formerly sent out, but the inability of the library to properly supply the children who came to it for books caused their abandonment. With increased resources the experiment was renewed with results as stated. Additional schools will be supplied the coming fall.

The usual demands of the schools have been met by Miss McCoy; lists of books and references being furnished on many topics required by teachers.

For some months an alphabetically arranged list of contents of the edu-

have been most liberal in the matter of space. All local papers are received as gifts of the publishers.

Instead of collections of books for the fire department houses, special cards are issued to each hose house, on which books are issued for a period of one month. This permits of personal selection and gives satisfaction.

The library was represented at the meeting of the American library association at Ashville, N. C., in June, by the librarian, and at the Missouri library association meeting at Warrensburg in October, by two members of the staff; at the joint meeting of the Iowa and Nebraska library association at Omaha and Council Bluffs in October, unofficially. It is represented on the Missouri Library Commission through appointment by the governor of the librarian, who has served as its president since its organization.

In a general way the foregoing represents what has been accomplished, in two buildings, at a total expenditure of \$17,489.39.

The usual tables accompany and form a part of this report: I, Library statistics; II, Expenditure; III, Circulation; IV, Donors and Donations; V, Library exchanges.

To the staff acknowledgement is made for interested and painstaking efforts, and to the library board for consideration at all times.

Respectfully submitted,

PURD B. WRIGHT,  
Librarian.

St. Joseph, Mo., May 1, 1908.

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

Before me, Clara B. Davis, 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.

CLARA B. DAVIS,  
Notary Public.

(SEAL)

My commission expires June 1, 1910.



several men's clubs, and when it is realized that the proposed amendments make radical changes in state government an increased interest will follow, both as to the questions and the lists.

For its annual receptions the Y. W. C. A. requested the co-operation of the library. For the "Current Events" classes a bulletin board loaned by the library showed illustrations of events of interest studied; for the literary classes, the books used by the members in their studies were on display; and in the domestic science department alongside the cakes, bread, and other edibles, were shown the books recommended and used by the instructor and the class.

Not a little attention has been given the collection of city charters in an effort to make the library of assistance in the matter of municipal legislation now before the people, and the collection includes the laws governing the progressive cities of the country. The resources of the library have been placed at the disposal of the committees interested. Acknowledgement is made to Mr. C. B. Roden, of the Chicago Public Library, for a copy of the proceedings of the Chicago Charter Convention and the resultant bill, and to Hon. W. E. Spratt, retiring mayor, for interest shown and assistance given.

A gratifying use has been made of the special collection on packing house, meat inspection and live stock books in Carnegie Branch. Examinations for appointments under the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry as meat inspectors, etc., have resulted unusually favorable to users of this collection.

#### In General.

Sunday users of the Library numbered 15,664, the branch being credited with 4,401. Of the total, 4,850 were children. The number of volumes issued on Sundays was 10,273, 2,462 being from branch. By departments the circulation was as follows: Adult, main, 4,120; branch, 1,311; juvenile, main, 3,691; branch, 1,151. The main library was open but fifty-one Sundays, on account of failure of gas for heat.

Volumes issued through the delivery stations, which continue as heretofore, numbered 6,190, a slight increase for the year.

Through the exchange department of the Library of Congress, a number of valuable books have been received. Among these were desirable state reports.

In addition to keeping all new accessions classified and cataloged, Misses Martin and Kerr have made progress in some classification changes and in the reorganization of the card catalogue. In addition to 4,135 cards, from the Library of Congress and 2,107 other printed cards, 4,374 cards were typewritten. Total cards filed, 10,916.

Issue of books for the vacation period, June 15 to Sept. 15, inaugurated last year, was appreciated, and the privilege will be taken advantage of more generally in the future.

The newspapers of the city, recognizing the news value of library matters,

cational periodicals received by the library has been compiled, carbon or mimeograph copies made, two of which were placed in each school of the city, the idea being that they be used as bulletins on each floor. To this was appended a list of titles of new books of interest to teachers currently received. This has had the co-operation of the school authorities, and the use indicates the appreciation of the teachers. "It is a saver of time and a great convenience," reports one principal.

With high school students the most important work is, as heretofore, that done by the reference department. Instructors are permitted to draw extra books for use in the class rooms. A growing use of the library by students is noted. Lack of table space occasionally hampers best work, as at the present time, when each student is required to prepare an essay in the forestry competition originated by the Runcie Club. The crowds at times are larger than can be accommodated.

#### The Library and Mechanics.

Continued efforts to interest mechanics in the use of the library have been productive of only fairly satisfactory results. Use of periodicals relating to the industrial arts has gained rapidly, following a largely increased use of the reading room by men. This is especially noticeable on Sunday afternoons. In addition to the shop mailing list for the quarterly bulletin, special lists for plumbers and engineers were compiled, printed and circulated through the aid of the City Plumbing and Engineering Boards; for packing house and meat inspection workers, and distributed in the packing district. Advantage was taken of the publication in the A. L. A. Booklist of "Some industrial arts books," compiled by this library, to secure 1,000 copies as separates for distribution in the shops, stations, and from the library. This list included electricity in general, paints and painting, cement, tin and metal work, carpentry and woodworking, tools and mechanics, iron and steel, as well as the plumbing and steam users lists referred to. A traveling library containing books of especial interest to foundry workers is in its third foundry. No record of the use of the books has been kept, but, with one exception, interest was created where shown and used. Personal visits were made by the librarian to a number of the largest machine shops at the noon hour and short talks made regarding the library and its use. While the rate of increase for the year in the use of the entire library was a little over 9 per cent, that recorded for useful arts was about 22.5 per cent. This looks most interesting when thus stated, but it is not nearly so impressive when it is known that this 22.5 per cent represents 572 volumes, or five volumes a year for 114 men. It is making steady headway, however, in a most satisfactory direction.

The first report of the library showing the issue of useful arts books was that of 1897, when the number was reported at 370 volumes. Six years later (1903) this number had grown to 785, since which time the use has steadily increased, use by years being as follows: 1904, 1,033; 1905, 1,446; 1906, 1,985; 1907, 2,557; 1908, 3,132. Transposed into percentage, the in-



increase in the use of this department in eleven years assumes the formidable figure of 850 per cent, as against somewhat less than 100 per cent for the entire library. This use has been the result of library efforts only. In the absence of trade and manual training schools, progress in encouraging the use of mechanical books has been necessarily slow. With the advent of manual training in the schools, now firmly established, it should be less difficult in the future to induce younger mechanics to use the library. Students are trained to use the library, and there are hopes that the habits thus formed will continue.

#### **Publications.**

In addition to the library bulletin, issued quarterly, containing the most important accessions, with some library notes on occasion, publications included a live stock and packing house list, issued and used in connection with the live stock show last fall; a list for plumbers, and one for engineers and steam users, mentioned elsewhere. The A. L. A. Booklist for February contained a list of books under the heading, "Some industrial arts books of popular use in the Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo." This was compiled in this library for publication as separates here, its use being granted the Booklist on request. One thousand copies were purchased and distributed in the shops of St. Joseph.

With the suspension of the periodical, "What's in the magazines," the library undertook to list, for library use, the most important articles in the leading periodicals. Separate compilations were made covering "Religious topics," "For Business Men," "Arts and crafts," "For Women," "Literature and fine arts." Copies were regularly placed in the reading rooms, open shelf stack room, and furnished the daily newspapers. The News-Press published them each month as of interest to its readers.

#### **Duplicate Collection.**

Duplicate copies of popular fiction were issued 7,558 times, receipts therefrom being \$377.90. Two hundred and sixty-eight volumes were added to the collection during the year at a cost of \$263.12. One hundred and sixty-four volumes were transferred to the free collection.

#### **Reading Rooms.**

Two hundred and fifty-three periodicals are received at the main library reading rooms, 52 of which are gifts. There is a constant growth in the use of the rooms, that by men on Sundays and evenings being most noticeable. In the selection of magazines an attempt is made to provide for the needs of the community.

#### **Assembly Room Use.**

The assembly room on the second floor of the library building, while under control of the school board, is cared for at the partial expense of the

library. In addition to being used for a large number of teachers' meetings, certain school classes, etc., the arts and crafts committee of the Civic Federation of woman's clubs gave its first exhibit here, drawing large crowds. Miss Sherwood's course of six lectures on story telling to children were well attended. The room is also used for the regular meetings of the children's play ground association, the Kindergarten association, Daughters of the Revolution, County teachers' meetings, and meetings of like nature. Here were shown the collection of paintings of the Western artists' association, brought to the city by the Runcie Club, for one week, and the Turner collection of prints. Each exhibit was visited by several thousand people.

#### **The Neely Memorial.**

As a memorial to the late Prof. Edward Bayly Neely, superintendent of the public schools of St. Joseph from 1864 to 1894, there was placed in the public library building a bronze bust, heroic size, on a marble base. The securing of funds and selection of artist was the work of the teachers in the schools. Appropriate exercises were held in the assembly room on the date of its unveiling, March 28. The bust occupies a place of prominence in the east alcove.

#### **Bindery.**

Binding expenses were \$1,680.15, representing 3,850 volumes bound, 595 of which were periodicals. Average cost per volume, 43.6. Of the total bound, 344 were for the branch, 44 being periodicals.

#### **General Extension Work.**

The library has endeavored to supplement the work undertaken by any society, organization or committee interested in the public welfare by the preparation of reading lists on the matters or questions under consideration. In a number of instances the persons starting the movement have acknowledged the benefit of the assistance thus rendered. In addition to copies of such lists for bulletin board use in the library, copies were also furnished to all persons interested, and to the local newspapers. The most important lists were as follows:

"Tuberculosis; its prevention and cure," for the Anti-Tuberculosis league of the Buchanan County Medical association; "How to tell stories to children," and "Some stories to tell," for the Sherwood lectures before the teachers; "Arts and crafts—In general," "Bookbinding," "Bent-iron work," "Leather working," "Pyrography," "Stencils and Stenciling," "Pictures," for the arts and crafts exhibition; "Poultry," for the exhibition of the fine poultry association; "Dogs," for the Dog show association; "Children's Playground," for the St. Joseph Playgrounds association.

Two reading lists which have been of more than general interest, and which will grow in use before the fall elections, cover two important constitutional amendments to be voted upon at the November election, "Initiative and Referendum," and "Taxation." Each list has been used by