



Madison Free Library, Madison, Wisconsin, forty-second annual report, 1917. 42nd

Madison Free Library (Madison, Wis.)

[s.l.]: [s.n.], June 30, 1917

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/OFE7S4JH645LE9E>

<http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/NoC-US/1.0/>

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

LIBRARY COMMISSION
MADISON, WISCONSIN

MADISON FREE LIBRARY
MADISON, WISCONSIN

**FORTY-SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT
1917**

Forty-Second Annual Report

OF THE

Madison Free Library

MADISON, WISCONSIN

For the Year Ending
June 30, 1917

LIBRARY BOARD

	Term expires
W.M. J. ANDERSON, President	July, 1918
R. B. DUDGEON, Vice-President	<i>Ex officio</i>
E. O. KNEY, Secretary	July, 1918
C. E. BUELL	July, 1917
MRS. B. W. JONES	July, 1917
O. G. U. SILJAN	July, 1917
F. A. GILMORE	July, 1918
F. C. BLIED	July, 1919
J. L. BOURKE	July, 1919
J. G. WYNN	July, 1919

STANDING COMMITTEES

BOOKS

MRS. B. W. JONES	F. A. GILMORE
R. B. DUDGEON	W.M. J. ANDERSON

FINANCE

E. O. KNEY	C. E. BUELL
J. L. BOURKE	W.M. J. ANDERSON

ROOMS

J. G. WYNN	O. G. U. SILJAN
F. C. BLIED	W.M. J. ANDERSON

LIBRARY STAFF

MARY A. SMITH, Librarian
ANNA DEWEES, Reference Librarian
ETHEL ELSE, Cataloguer
H. MARJORIE BEAL, Children's Librarian
MAY C. LEWIS, Assistant
GRACE WHARE, Assistant
RENA LANDT, Assistant
MRS. MADGE WHEELER, Sixth Ward Branch
RUTH RICE, High School Branch

REPORT OF PRESIDENT

To the Honorable, The Mayor:—

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith the annual report for the year 1917 of the Madison Free Library.

I take the liberty of directing special attention to the steady increase in book circulation which the report shows. Each year of the past five has shown an increase over the preceding one until, as the accompanying report shows, the enormous total of 195,018 volumes has been reached. Already more than one half of the entire population of the city are registered as book borrowers at this library.

I am, Sir,

Yours most respectfully,

Wm. J. ANDERSON,
President Madison Free Library Board.

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN

*To the Board of Directors of the Madison Free Library,
Madison, Wisconsin:*

I am glad to present to you the forty-second report of the Madison Free Library, showing that it has held its place in the life of the community the past year.

Quite unexpectedly the figures of circulation when brought together from the different departments showed a slight increase, bringing the total to 195,018, the largest circulation yet recorded. Many libraries over the country have reported a decrease in adult reading, due doubtless to the large reading of newspapers and the employment of time in activities, arising from war conditions. This library noticed a slight decrease at the main desk, scattered among the different classes of books. The classes of magazines, travel and history showed increase due to war interests.

The children's room at the main library showed a little larger total. Undoubtedly the scarlet fever epidemic had some influence here. Cases of contagious disease are reported by the health officer and every book known to have been in a house where such disease existed is burned. Some people, however, do not seem to know this and fear to have children use books when there are so many cases as last winter.

The Sixth Ward branch library made a very decided gain of 5389 volumes in circulation, adult 2865 and children 2524. The total circulation, 28,808 is the largest ever recorded at this branch.

The high school branch loaned 14,095 books, a slight increase.

All public and parochial schools except the Marquette were furnished school libraries. The Marquette is so near the Sixth Ward branch that the children are

Work With served by it.

Schools The school libraries were sent out later than usual and not exchanged during the year and this proved not so good a plan as sending the two sets of libraries yearly. The circulation of books is remarkably

good, considering this fact and the scarlet fever. Several schools like the Longfellow, Washington and Harvey that usually record large numbers of books circulated did not allow the books to leave the schoolrooms while there were so many cases of disease.

The children's librarian made 85 school visits during the year.

During the summer vacation months of 1916, two stations for children were maintained at the Longfellow and at the Hawthorne schools one afternoon a week with a circulation of 1,745 books.

The instruction in the use of a library was continued on the same lines as in previous years. The librarian gave 68 talks in schoolrooms and had 395 eighth grade **Library Instruction** pupils in classes at the library. The high school librarian continued the work in the first and second year high school English classes with 632 pupils in 36 classes.

More books for the permit pupils were kept on deposit at the continuation school and were used more than ever before by that department of the school.

Continuation School The librarian gave talks on the library to night classes in English at the high school.

The instructors co-operated by urging the pupils to register at the library and many became during the winter months regular borrowers.

The reference librarian visited the classes in home economics and gave 12 ten to twenty minute talks with lists of books on the Household, Cookery, Dress, House Building and Business.

During Good Book Week, a large exhibit of good books for Christmas gifts for children was held at the main library building. The Moseley Book Store assisted by **Exhibits** loaning many new attractive copies of the standard books. Many people visited the exhibit and examined the books.

The children's librarian continued the presentation of the subject of best books for children when asked to speak before the Parent-Teacher Association meetings. She was present and talked at the Harvey, the Lincoln, the Doty, the Brayton, the Lapham, the Hawthorne, the Lowell, the Longfellow and the Randall school association meetings. She took books

with her and found parents interested in these best books for their children.

The registration table shows the same transitoriness of many Madison residents. While 2,466 people registered for

Registration cards were withdrawn as their owners after the first time as users of the library, 1,753 due notice had not re-registered. These with the cards cancelled because of death, removal from the city and other causes reduces the net gain to 452. 16,073 people are at present registered.

The book account is interesting because more books were added than in any previous year, but again more books were withdrawn so the net gain was not unusually **Book** large. The number of worn out books was unusual in the main library and in the school collection. **Account** Many of the purchases were therefore re-placements. The year closes with 38,802 books in all departments.

The regular organizations that had previously used the assembly rooms continued their use. Boy scouts, the Red Cross, and the Dry League were granted much **Meetings** use of rooms for their meetings. In all 256 meetings were held with many small committee meetings not recorded. This is the largest use ever made of the building for this purpose.

At the Sixth Ward branch, the Continuation School was again granted use of the assembly room on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. Other evenings were taken by the Camp Fire girls, the Anti-Narcotic league, the girls' and the boys' dancing classes.

The principal gift of the year was the beautiful little fountain given by Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Slaughter in memory of their daughters Elizabeth and Gertrude.

Gifts Many patrons of the library have remembered that the library can use gifts of good books and magazines and to them grateful acknowledgment is made.

Miss Georgia Hough who had been connected with the library for many years was obliged by illness to give up her work and will be missed by many at the loan desk.

Staff Miss May Lewis came as desk assistant in Sept. 1916 and resigned to take a position in Tampa, Florida in April.

Miss Dena Lindley, an apprentice in 1916, came in as substitute assistant.

Miss H. Marjorie Beal, who came to the library as children's librarian in Sept., 1913, leaves this year to take a needed rest.

What has the library done the past few months to help? Books on the war and allied subjects have been bought so far as funds permitted.

The Future All garden and poultry books were in constant use. The government pamphlet, the Small Vegetable Garden, was obtained in quantity and given to all garden makers who requested it. For the housewife, bulletins of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture and of several state agricultural schools were obtained for their suggestions and directions on canning and preservation of food. Books were also bought.

What libraries shall plan for the immediate future on account of the conditions arising in the community because of the war is not doubtful.

First—Children's reading must continue on same sane lines as have been followed.

Second—All possible books should be furnished adults that will help them to a better understanding of the numberless problems of their own country and a clearer perception of conditions in other countries.

Third—The library must furnish the best books for relaxation and refreshment, books not so closely allied with the problems of the day, for in times of intense living books are one of man's great resources.

As a community asset in all these ways, the library's value should increase the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
MARY A. SMITH,
Librarian.

TABLE 1
Book Account, 1916-17

	Main Library	Sixth Ward Branch	High School Branch	School Collection	Total
No. of vols.					
July 1, 1916..	26,076	2,536	2,386	5,491	36,489
Additions:					
By purchase ..	1,763	327	365	1,774	4,229
By gift	103	39	...	...	142
Other sources..	288	58	...	6	352
Total	2,154	424	365	1,780	4,723
Withdrawals	971	340	58	1,041	2,410
No. of vols.					
July 1, 1917..	27,259	2,620	2,693	6,230	38,802

TABLE 2
Rent Collection, 1916-17

Main Library—			
No. of volumes July 1, 1916			226
Additions			248
Withdrawals:			
Transferred to Main library	170		
Transferred to Sixth Ward branch	29		
Withdrawn	37		236
No. of volumes July 1, 1917.....			238
Sixth Ward Branch—			
No. of volumes July 1, 1916			18
Additions			29
Transferred to free collection			10
No. of volumes July 1, 1917			37

TABLE 3
Circulation Statistics, 1916-17

	Main Library		Sixht Ward Branch		Stations		School Collection	High School	Total
	A	C	A	C	A	C	C	A	
Periodicals—Bound ..	113	131	4	4	1	...	...	...	243
Periodicals—Current ..	4,217	530	2,737	396	6	20	...	641	8,547
General works	74	...	...	...	...	...	...	78	152
Philosophy	1,269	18	27	...	...	...	1	21	1,336
Religion	1,050	438	27	172	29	45	433	710	2,904
Sociology	2,996	285	25	52	18	1	304	2,477	6,158
Philology	155	1	2	...	2	...	...	562	722
Science	1,452	1,414	38	657	8	112	2,125	554	6,360
Useful arts	2,245	961	135	429	2	48	320	997	5,137
Fine arts	3,098	611	452	143	11	4	78	57	4,454
6 Literature	6,532	1,384	182	682	8	79	2,733	928	12,528
Biography	2,388	658	85	201	10	49	876	501	4,768
Travel	1,970	1,388	125	509	1	104	1,905	196	6,198
History	2,825	1,630	151	718	6	162	2,527	4,948	12,967
Fairy tales .....	...	4,639	...	2,166	...	396	5,092	...	12,293
French	56	...	...	...	...	...	...	81	137
German	1,079	...	260	...	...	...	...	384	1,723
Norwegian	168	...	63	...	...	...	...	...	231
Yiddish	37	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	50
Italian .....	...	...	...	...	51	...	...	...	51
Music	603	...	206	...	...	...	...	...	603
Pamphlets	673	...	206	...	...	...	...	625	1,504
Fiction	49,249	17,175	10,114	7,614	4,261	1,352	10,159	335	100,259
Rent	5,251	...	432	...	...	...	...	...	5,683
Total	87,500	31,263	15,065	13,743	4,427	2,372	26,553	14,095	195,018

TABLE 3
Circulation Statistics—(continued)

Total adult circulation	121,087
Total children's circulation	73,931
Grand total	195,018
Percentage of fiction adult and children	54
Percentage of children's books circulated	37
No. of days library was open for circulation	305
Average daily circulation—Main library	389
Average daily circulation—Sixth Ward branch..	94
Largest monthly circulation—Main library—March	11,764
Smallest monthly circulation—Main library—Aug.	8,268
Largest monthly circulation—Sixth Ward branch—	
November	2,969
Smallest monthly circulation—Sixth Ward branch	
—July	1,504
No. of pictures circulated	9,526
No. of mounted poems circulated	839
Circulation of books on teachers' cards	1,543
No. of Sundays library was open	34
No. of people using main library on Sunday	1,547
No. of people using branch library on Sunday ..	780

TABLE 4

Registration, 1916-17

		Adult	Children	Total
No. of borrowers July 1, 1916..	11,547	4,074	15,621	
Additions:				
New borrowers	1,697	769	2,466	
Re-registrations	1,029	364	1,393	
Transferred from children's room	265	...	265	
Summer borrowers 1916	112	17	129	
Subscription borrowers	4	...	4	
Deposit borrowers	83	...	83	
Total	3,190	1,150	4,340	
Withdrawals:				
Cards expired—Re-registered..	1,029	364	1,393	
Cards expired—Not re-regis- tered	1,461	292	1,753	
Transferred to adult department	...	265	265	
Summer borrowers 1916	112	17	129	
Subscription borrowers	2	...	2	
Deposit borrowers	82	...	82	
Cards cancelled	205	59	264	
Total	2,891	997	3,888	
No. of borrowers July 1, 1917..	11,846	4,227	16,073	

TABLE 5
Financial Statement, 1916

Receipts:

Balance	\$284.26
City appropriation	14,408.15
Interest on funds	137.44
Wis. Library Commission rent	472.03
Rent of rooms	150.25
Subscriptions	36.00
Fines	699.70
Sixth Ward branch	173.04
New cards	18.60
Lost books	41.32
Waste paper	27.26
Postals	16.21
Miscellaneous	1.47
	—————
	\$16,465.73

Expenditures:

Main library:

Books and periodicals	2,251.95
Car fare	22.30
Dray	32.60
Drygoods, towels	3.65
Freight and express	34.14
Furniture and fixtures	145.75
General supplies and expense	62.56
Heat, light, power and gas..	1,651.88
Insurance	162.00
Laundry and janitor supplies	46.97
Printing, stationery, binding	1,228.80
Repairs and replacements ..	454.92
Salaries—Librarians	6,051.95
Janitors	1,211.60
	—————
	13,361.07

Sixth Ward branch:

Books and periodicals.....	300.88
Car fare	10.20
Dray	4.25
Freight and express .....	.45
Furniture	20.55
General supplies and expense	5.40
Heat, light and gas	87.79
Insurance	20.40
Laundry and janitor supplies	9.56
Printing, stationery, binding	165.26
Repairs and replacements...	129.25
Salaries—Librarians	609.00
Janitor	157.20
	1,520.19

High school branch:

Books and periodicals	457.12
Printing, stationery, binding	107.42
Salaries—Librarian	805.00
	1,369.54

Ninth Ward branch:

Books and periodicals	3.62
Car fare	2.90
Dray .....	.50
General supplies and expense	.25
Salaries—Librarian	2.10
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1916	9.37
	205.56
	\$16,465.73

APPENDIX

Library Statistics

Arranged according to the form adopted by the American
Library Association

Annual Report for year ending June 30, 1917 Madison Free Library, Madison, Wisconsin

Population served (Census 1910)	25,531
Terms of use—Free for lending and reference	
Total number of agencies	29
Consisting of Central library	1
Branches	2
(One occupies its own building)	
Stations	7
Schools	19
Number of days open during the year:	
For circulation	305
For reading	339
Hours open each week for lending	72
Hours open each week for reading, Oct.-May....	76
Total number of staff	10
Total valuation of library property	\$116,100
Number of volumes at beginning of year.....	36,489
Number of volumes added during year by purchase	4,229
Number of volumes added during year by gift....	142
Number of volumes added during year by binding	104
Number of volumes added during year otherwise.	248
Number of volumes withdrawn during year.....	2,410
Total number at end of year	38,802
	Adult Juvenile Total
Total recorded use	121,087 73,931 195,018
No. of vols. of fiction loaned for	
home use	69,642 36,300 105,942
No. of pictures loaned for home use	9,526
No. of restricted loans (overnight)	14,095

	Adult	Juvenile	Total
Number of borrowers registered during the year	1,896	786	2,682
Total number of registered bor- rowers	11,846	4,227	16,073

Finance—

Receipts:

Unexpended balance	\$ 741.65
Local taxation	14,408.15
Invested funds	150.00
Fees (subscriptions)	36.00
Fines	872.74
Duplicate pay collection ...	401.45
Other sources	864.58
	—————
	\$17,474.57

Payments for maintenance:

Books	2,004.43
Periodicals	773.17
Salaries—library service ..	7,468.05
Salaries—other service ..	1,368.80
Insurance	182.00
Heat	1,262.44
Light	438.96
Other maintenance	3,314.56
Balance	662.16
	—————
	17,474.57

