



**LIBRARIES**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON

## History of the public library building and names of donors.

Marchetti, Louis

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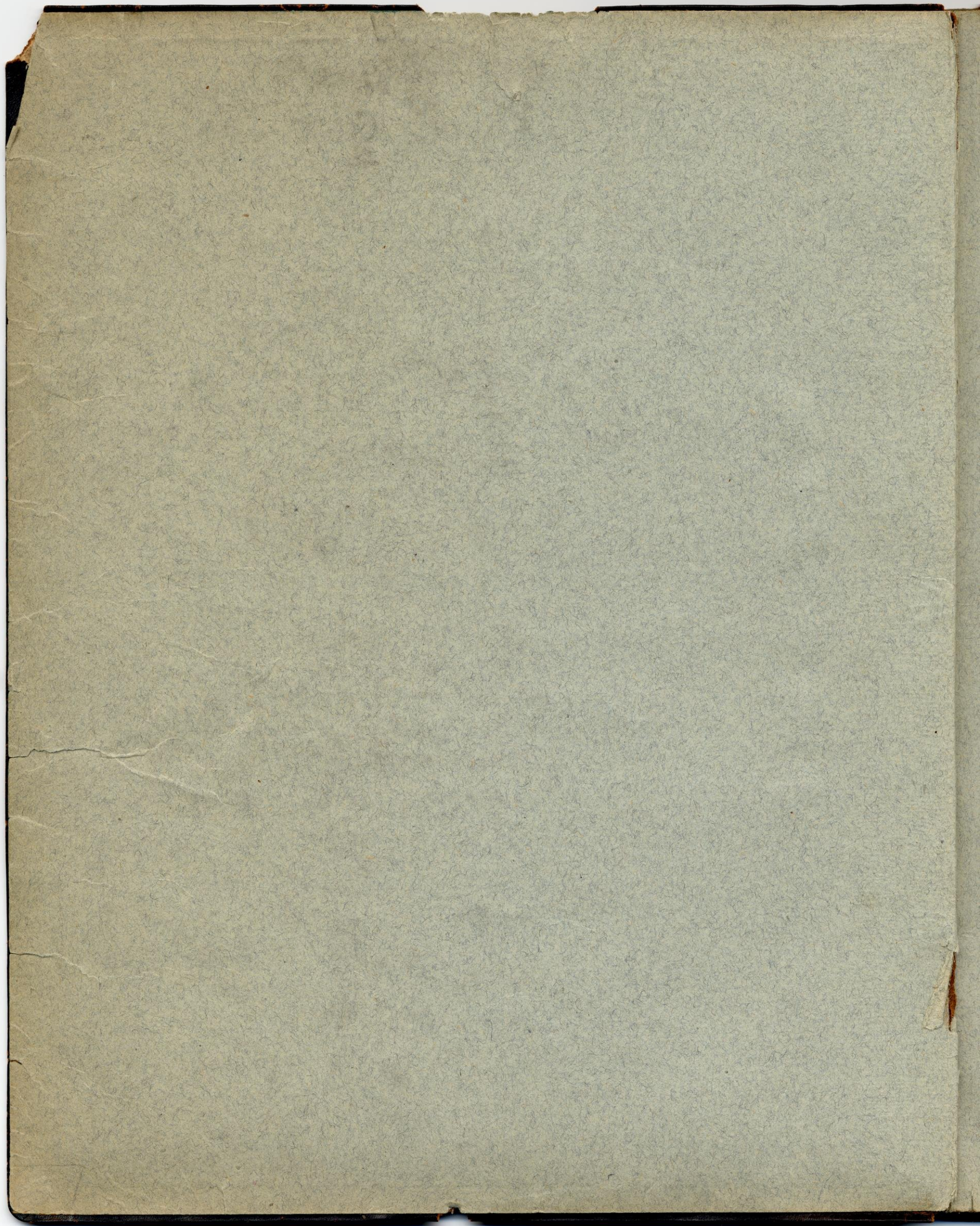
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**HISTORY OF THE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING  
AND  
NAMES OF DONORS**



Record

of the proceedings, leading up, and culminating in the erection and completion of the Library Building of the city of Wausau, with names of Donors attached thereto.

Compiled and presented to the Library

by

*Louis Marchetti*

Fres. L. B. from 1904 to 1908.



F. W. Genrich, Mr. Joseph Ripczinski, and Mr. Carl Mathie ex officio. member as Supt. of Public Schools, Trustees.

In order to obtain the funds and make progress, the President of the Library Board called together a number of citizens for that purpose, where a committee was appointed of which he was made a member, and the committee acting through the President of the Library Board presented to the City Council on the 5th. day of July 1904, a petition, securely bound, signed by a clear majority of all the voters of the city, each signer giving number of residence and street, requesting the city council to enact the following ordinance, to wit:

( First Ordinance )

" Whereas Mr. Andrew Carnegie has offered to donate to the city of Wausau the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars for the erection of a public library building in said city on the condition that a suitable site be furnished and and the city appropriate the sum of twenty five hundred dollars annually for the maintenaince thereof,

Now therefore, it is hereby ordained and resolved as follows:

Section 1. The said offer of Mr. Andrew Carnegie is hereby accepted upon the conditions above stated, and the city of Wausau in consideration therefore hereby obligates itself by this ordinance to levy and hereby levies an annual tax to be collected in the general tax roll of the city of Wausau, the sum of twenty five hundred dollars each year, comencing with the year 1904, and each succeeding year for the support and maintenaince of such public library, and the proper officers of said city are directed to include such levy in the tax roll for the year 1904, and each succeeding year, and to pay such amount to the Library Board of said city each year."

Section 2. This resolution shall not become effective until a proper site for such building shall have been donated and conveyed to the city of Wausau free of charge and expence to the city.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and publication and the acceptance by the proper city authorities of the site as provided in the proceding section." *which ordinance was enacted -*

Thus the proposed library building was brought one step nearer to a realization, but much remained yet to be done before it became effective.

The ordinance was to be of no effect unless:

1. A site was provided free of expence to the city.
2. The proposed site must be approved by the city council.

The second condition was demanded by the council, to prevent the location of the building in a place unduly favoring one part of the city at the expence of another.

It was soon discovered, that a desirable site which would meet with the approval of the council, could not be acquired for a sum less than five thousand dollars, and it became therefore necessary to raise at least such an amount by popular subscription, which arduous work was undertaken by the citizens committee the President of the Library Board acting as Chairman of said committee, and finally accomplished later to wit:

October 3 th.1904,Honorable Walter Alexander made an offer to the city of Wausau to donate to it certain real estate for park purposes,situated in the heart of the city,being the homestead (while he lived) of the pioneer of Wausau,the Hon. Walter D. Mc. Indoe and his esteemed widow Mrs. Katherine Mc. Indoe,which offer is receited fully in the ordinance which was adopted and which reads as follows:

( Park Ordinance)

" The Common Council of the city of Wausau do ordain as follows:

Whereas,on October 3 th. 1904 Mr. Walter Alexander made to the city of Wausau a proposition as follows:                      October 3 th.1904'

To the Mayor and Common Council of the city of Wausau.

The undersigned makes this following proposition : He will deed to the city of Wausau lots 6,5 and 4 of block 3 of the original plat of the city of Wausau for the following purposes and under the following conditions:

The city of Wausau is to acquire by purchase or otherwise lots 1,2 and 3 of block 3 aforesaid,and to name the property so aquired ,being lot 1,2, 3 ,4,5 and 6 of said block 3 ,the Mc. Indoe Park,which shall forever be known by that name and be used as and for a public park only. To be kept up ,used and cultivated as a park at public expense,and that no building ever be erected thereon except a public library building. "

On the acceptance of thisproposition by a suitable resolution adopted by the Mayor and Common Council of the city of Wausau,and the aquisition of said lots 1,2 and 3 by said city,the undersigned will convey to the said city the title to said lots 4,5 and 6,by a good and sufficient deed,and further agrees to obtain an option to said lots 1 and 2 at a reasonable price. Said city to aquire title to lot 3 in said block by purchase or otherwise.

Walter Alexander.



"And whereas, he has since verbally increased said offer by including with said lot 4, 5, and 6, there mentioned, the west forty feet of lot 3 and also a certain other piece contiguous thereto, and pursuant to such offer has deposited with the city a deed of said lot 4, 5, and 6, and said west forty feet of lot 3, and premises contiguous thereto, the consideration for which is the assuming the obligations of this resolution and non other.

" Now, It Is Hereby Ordained And Resolved as follows:

" Section 1. The said deed of conveyance from said Walter Alexander and wife to the city of Wausau be, and the same is hereby accepted.

" Section 2. The city of Wausau hereby agrees and obligates itself to use the said premises and lot 1 and 2, and the remainder of lot 3, to be acquired as hereinafter provided as a public park, which with lot 6 upon which a public library is to be erected, shall be known as Mc. Indoe Park. No buildings other than a library building on lot 6 shall be erected on said premises. The city agrees to establish, beautify, maintain and cultivate said premises as a public park.

" Section 3. A committee of responsible citizens having secured a subscription list signed by responsible citizens of the city, pledging over five thousand dollars, to which it is expected further pledges will be added, of which \$ 5000.00 is to be used in purchasing additional premises to go with the premises hereby accepted, the said city of Wausau does hereby agree to accept the \$ 5000.00 proceeds of said pledges and use the same for the following purposes:

" To purchase lot 1 and 2, of said block 3 for the sume of \$ 3000.00 an option at that price having been obtained, and being now available,

and further to obtain title to that portion of lot 3 not conveyed by Mr. Alexander, by purchase or otherwise, as may be advisable.

Section 4. In case the \$ 5000.00 above described shall be insufficient to pay for said lots 1 and 2 and balance of lot 3, then the said city of Wausau hereby agrees and obligates itself to pay out of the general funds of said city such sum as may be necessary to acquire the same.

Section 5. The said city further agrees that the owners of said premises or any owner of any portion thereof, have and are given the right and privilege, unless otherwise provided in the aquisition, to remove from said premises before the city is ready to commence work thereon, this however, to be not later than May 1st. 1906, any buildings situated thereon and may collect rents therefrom until so removed.

Section 6. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

" Adopted this 18th. day of April A. D. 1905.

" Attest,

Charles F. Beck,  
City Clerk.

Approved,

E. C. Zimmerman,  
Mayor.

On the same date the following Ordinance and Resolution was enacted by the Mayor and City Council of Wausau:

( 2 Library Ordinance )

" The Common Council of the City of Wausau do Ordain as follows:

" Whereas, the offer of Mr. Andrew Carnegie to donate a sum for the free  
" public library building in this city was accepted by resolution of July  
" 5, 1904, and an annual tax for its maintenance there provided for such  
" resolution to become effective when a proper site for such building  
" shall have been donated and conveyed to the city free of charge; and  
" Whereas Walter Alexander has this day conveyed to the city of Wausau  
" lot 6 of block 3, of the original plat of the city of Wausau for such  
" site, and has also conveyed certain other property for a public park,

" Now, It Is Hereby Ordained and Resolved as Follows:

" Section 1. The deed of conveyance of said Walter Alexander of said prem-  
" ises be and the same hereby is accepted for the use above stated.

" Section 2. It is hereby declared that the conditions upon which said  
" ordinance of July 5th. 1904, is to become effective has now occurred and  
" the said ordinance is in full force and effect.

" Section 3. Confirming the tax levy provided in section 1 of said ordinance  
" of July 5, 1904, the said city of Wausau hereby obligates itself to  
" levy and collect and hereby levies an annual tax to be collected in the  
" general tax roll of the city of Wausau in the sum of two thousand  
" five hundred dollars (\$2500.00) each year, commencing with the year  
" 1905, (the tax for the year 1904 having already been collected), and each  
" succeeding year thereafter, to be used for the support and maintenance  
" of a free public library to be erected upon lot 6 block 3 of the origin-  
" al plat of the said city out of funds agreed to be donated by  
" Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and the proper officers are hereby directed to in-  
" clude such levy in the tax roll for the year 1905, and each succeeding  
" year, and to pay such amount to the library board of this city each  
" year.

" Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from **and**"  
 " after its passage and publication."

" Adopted April 18, 1905.

Attest,

Chas. F. Beck,  
 City Clerk.

Approved,

E. C. Zimmerman  
 Mayor.

With the adoption of these ordinances the tax levy became a fact, and also the gift of \$25,000.00 from Mr. Andrew Carnegie, but the people who now enjoy the use of the library, and soon will enjoy the park whereon it stands have little conception of the large amount of active and persuasive work which needed to be done, and will never fully realize it.

It was not only the collecting of the funds, but also in aquisition of the title to the strip of lot 3 which caused a long delay, said strip being about 50 by 135 feet and for which the city council finally paid the sum of three thousand dollars, in order to obtain the land by purchase paying therefore the same price which was paid for lots 1 and 2 the corner lots in said block which have 70 by 90 street front , and also another small strip along Washington St., not being exactly a part of the street nor a part of the lots.

The funds and the real estate having been secured at last, the Library Board lost no time in asking for plans; several were presented, and on the 22nd. day of July 1905 after many meetings and deliberations, the plan of Mr. George W. Maher was adopted, and some slight changes having been deemed desirable, the notice to contractors was issued September 28, 1905.

After the plan was adopted Mrs. Helen Van Vechten and Mr. E.B. Thayer resigned as members of the Board having up to this time faithfully taken part in all the preliminary work in full harmony with the Board, and their resignation was wholly caused or prompted from business reasons.

At about this time, Mr. S. B. Tobey having succeeded Mr. Carl Mathie as Supt: of Pub. Schools, took his place on the Library Board in Sept. 1905 and so did Mrs. C. W. Harger and Mr. C. E. Turner in place of Mrs. Van Vechten and Mr. E. B. Thayer, and the Library Board so constituted with the same persons as officers remained without change until the first Monday in July 1908.

At a meeting on the 27th. day of September 1905, the Library Board through its president appointed the following building committee with power and authority in the premises which served until the completion and acceptance of the building to wit:

Mr. H. G. Flieth, Mrs. D. L. Plumer and Mr. C. E. Turner.

On October 18 th. 1905 the representative of Mr. Andrew Carnegie was notified by letter that the contracts were let, and requested for information as to the manner of drawing the grant.

The following letter was received in response thereto to wit:

Home Trust Company,  
Hoboken N. J.  
R. A. Franks, Pres.

October 24th. 1905.

Dear Madam:

I am in receipt of yours of the 18th. inst. also plans and specifications of proposed building, which is entirely satisfactory, provided they can be carried out for the amount at your disposal.

My letter March 3rd. 1905 addressed to Mr. Louis Marchetti, Pres. gives full direction as to the method of procuring funds on account of Mr. Carnegies grant of \$ 25,000.00.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Franks.

Mrs. Mary Dickens,

Sec. Library Board,

Wausau, Wis.

It should be remembered that the building was begun at a time when the country enjoyed a high degree of prosperity, when material and labor was as high as it ever had been if it ever was as high, and that the cost of building was thereby somewhat enhanced over prices ruling several year previous thereto.

The building committee let the main contract to Messrs. Miller and Krause of Wausau for the building proper, the heating to Messrs. Wheeler & Son, the plumbing to Messrs Hett Bros. and the ornamenting to Gimbel Bros. of Milwaukee.

The contracts for lighting and furniture were later made, the stakes were bought from the "Metal Art Construction Co." the shelving ordered from the firm of Janke and Weisse of Wausau, and the furniture was manufactured by the Curtis & Yale Company of Wausau. The wiring was done by Kuntz and Rood and the lamps bought from the "Nearest Lamp Co.", the carpet from the Livingstone Mercantile Co., the marble work was contracted to Hawes, Dodd & Co. and some smaller contracts were given out before the building was completed.

The basement was not contemplated to be finished when the contract was let but it was determined to finish that also and make it fit for occupancy for any purpose it might be needed, and Miller and Krause were engaged to do it, and when the building was ready for occupancy every part and nook and corner of the building was complete as it is now.

The building committee labored faithfully, making the best of contracts, watching the work as it progressed, reported diligently to the Library Board, and the Board in return supported the committee unanimously in every thing done.

The acting chairman of the citizens committee having in charge the raising of funds, worked equally faithful during the whole time, raising and collecting by subscriptions up to July 1, 1907, the sum of \$8103.12, to which several hundred dollars were added after July 1, 1907.

The building was now complete and it was determined by the Library Board to dedicate the building with proper ceremonies on the 3rd. day of April 1907, and the president was directed to take full charge of the dedicating exercises.

In as much as it is improbable that another library will be dedicated within the life of this generation, and as this was the first building of that kind in Wausau, erected under difficulties which no one knows or understands except those who had the matter in charge, it may be worth while if only to preserve them in memory to make the following record

of the exercises had:

The books had been moved into the building and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> <sup>1907</sup> day of April the dedication was had and took this form:

( Dedication )

At ten o' clock the hour set for the beginning of the ceremonies, the spacious floor space was comfortably filled; among the many attendants was Miss Lutie E. Stearns Secretary of the State Free Library Commission, who congratulated the Board on the accomplishment of what it had set out to do.

After mutual exchange of greetings, the assembly became quite, and then Mr. John Miller of the firm of Miller and Krause chief contractors, stepped forward, and in a few well chosen words turned the building over to the Library Board by delivering the keys to the President.

In accepting the same the President said:

We accept the building and in doing so the Board thanks you for the fidelity with which you have carried out your contract; our relations with you have been pleasant and agreeable during the whole time the building was in process of erection. The building itself stands as a monument to your capacity and honesty as contractors and builders, and you have by your work, earned this public testimonial.

Reverend E. M. Thompson

Pastor of the St. John's Episcopal Church then in a fervid and solemn prayer invoked divine aid to the end that the library would always be true to its mission as an educational institution to the glory of God



and for the welfare of mankind.

Immediately after the close of the invocation, the powerful accords of Beethoven's grand anthem "The Heaven are telling the Glory of God" sounded through the space, sung by the Wausau Liederkrantz with splendid intonation. Mr. Gustav Mueller acting as conductor.

The audience was yet under the inspiration of the invocation of Rev. Thompson and the grand Choral when,

The President of the Library Board rose and said:

This mansion has been constructed and completed for the reception of the public library of the city of Wausau, and in the name of the people of Wausau whose trustees we are, we dedicate it to public use for the purposes for which it was erected.

After years of wanderings the public library has now found a permanent abode. Here the best thoughts of the human mind are to be collected and preserved for the benefit of our people. May visitors and patrons take away from this building only good and wholesome ideas; may nothing but the best of influences ever emanate from this mansion, so that it may always remain an ornament to its donors; may it ever be an aid to culture, to education, to refinement, and a help in building up character and integrity in men.

May its reading rooms ever be used by students in a receptive mood, willing to profit by the writings of the great men who have unselfishly labored for the human race.

And as we look towards the rising sun, so may our city rise in civic virtue and may we always remember that our own individual welfare is closely interwoven with the welfare of all of our citizens.

Rev. Dr. N. S. Wilson

then closed the ceremony with an eloquent address, referring to the advantages to be derived from a good public library, the use to be made by people of small as well as large means, closing with a solemn prayer, asking the blessing of God upon the generous donors, naming Mr. Andrew Carnegie the principal one, upon the library and the people of Wausau.

With this closed the formal dedication, and after a few more songs by the Wausau Liederkrantz, the Ladies of the Library Board, assisted by the Ladies Literary Club, held a reception during the remainder the day, wellcoming the hundreths of people who viewed the building, which occasion was enlivened by songs and music by the High School choir and orchestra, and by the serving of delicate, light refreshments.

#### Evening Celebration.

The Common Council of the City of Wausau assembled in the evening at the City Hall, from whence they proceeded in a body to the Library, His Honor the Mayor leading; after viewing the building and library, they repaired in a body to the Opera House and took the seats reserved for them.

In spite of the unpleasant and threatening weather the Opera House was nearly filled to its capacity.

On the stage were seated the speakers and the High School Choir, and the Ladies of the Library Board and Librarian occupied the main box.

The orchestra played the "Martha" Overture and when the last sound

had died away, the President stepped forward on the stage and asked the assembly to sing " America. "

The whole audience rose as one person, and led by the orchestra, joined in singing the beautiful national anthem with fire and will. The song being concluded, and the audience seated, the first address was delivered as follows by President Louis Marchetti:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Civilization in Wisconsin is a plant of recent growth. It is within the memory of living men, that the large area of this state lying north of Portage City was uninhabited by, and almost unknown by the white race, excepting a few missionaries, who attempted to bring the gospel to the Indians.

Only a few bands of roving red men hunted through the dark forests, which stretched from the lower Wisconsin up to the great lake, and the occasional white straggler who invaded that territory besides the missionary, was either a trapper or fur trader, not much above the Indian in his mode of life.

And it is only sixty years since the pioneer established himself in Wausau, perhaps on the very spot, at all events not many rods distant from where the library building now stands.

It is fit and proper, that the first permanent building erected in Wausau, which is dedicated to public use in the cause of education and the dissemination of culture and refinement, free from political or sectarian connections, should be erected on the very spot, forever interesting as the place, where the founder of Wausau, the Honorable Walter D. Mc. Indoe emphasized his intention of making his home, by bringing here in the unbroken forest, his young bride from St. Louis, which was at that time the metropolis of the West, and who with a far seeing eye, laid the foundation for a city, where now more than fifteen thousand people have happy and contented homes, a city which is destined to become the greatest inland

city in our State.

For many years the growth of Wausau was slow and uneventful, marked by hard physical work and the privations incident to pioneer life, but by degrees the wilderness was subdued and gave place to civilization.

With the advent of a railroad began a new chapter in the progress of Wausau, and today, we write again a new chapter in its history.

The opening of a library building with a good library within, is evidence of an awakened consciousness of the need of higher culture, of the perception which manifests itself throughout the masses of our people, that the human race needs for its well being, food for the mind as well as food and clothing for the body.

What is it, that distinguishes the cultured man from the barbarian, if it is not his education, his mental and moral training, which broadens his mind, which teaches him to make those needful things, which tend to lengthen his life and make it more comfortable; which enlarges the sphere of his affection, and instructs him in those duties and responsibilities, which are justly demanded of him, as the superior being in the creation.

Man is superior to and distinguished from all other living creatures especially, in that to man alone is given the gift of language, which is the last seal of dignity, stamped by God upon his intelligent offspring. It is by means of language that man advances and progresses, and there are two kinds of languages, the spoken and the written. The spoken language of the master orator sways the multitudes as nothing else can sway them, but the effect of his oration is limited to the compass of the speaker's voice, while the thoughts of the master minds expressed in written language by means of the printing press, speak to the millions living, and the multitudes yet unborn. And it is in libraries where the written language is preserved, it is the library which treasures up the wisdom of the past and compiles the wisdom of our days.

When the ancient civilization of Rome was buried under the ravaging march of barbaric tribes, when the cultivated fields of Europe were laid waste and the tillers of the soil were forced to flee like wild beasts into the forests and marches to escape extermination, there yet remained the roots of the destroyed civilization in the shape of written parchment from which sprang in time a new and better civilization, better, because while acting on the wisdom of the past, it profited by avoiding its errors.

With the discovery of the new world so called, the white race spread over this continent, slowly at first under adverse circumstances, having to conquer the wilderness step by step, until it spread from the Atlantic to the Pacific, everywhere clearing, planting, cultivating, building houses, erecting schools and churches and founding cities.

Man is created to live in society, in close communion with his fellow man; he would not have been given the gift of language if it were otherwise.

The wonderful inventions in mechanical arts, the astonishing discoveries in all branches of science, were only possible by associations of men in cities, where one trade or profession helps to conquer the difficulties encountered by other professions, each supporting the other to the advantage of them all.

Hence the growth of cities, the growth of industrial life, and the immeasurable greater comfort, which mankind now enjoys, when compared to the lack of comforts in past centuries.

But this clustering together of large numbers of people on a small area has its drawbacks; it tends to foster unhealthy sanitary conditions and squalor, and misdirected social upheavals, which as a natural consequence, breed misery and crime.

For these and many other reasons it became the first duty of an enlightened society to counteract the evils which are apt to grow in thickly settled communities and the best way to attain good results in that respect is to act upon the principle, that an ounce of prevention is better than a

a ton of cure.

One of the best means to that end is, to see that the masses are housed in homes of their own, where, feeling secure in his house as his castle, the father can assemble his children around his heart stone, and there, in teaching them the lesson of obedience to parental authority, teaches them the first lesson in their duty of citizenship.

Fresh air, an abundance of pure and palatable water, and possibly a garden however small, surrounding such homes, good schools and clean streets are other necessary means to that desirable end.

Children growing up in such surroundings will grow up clean in body and mind; they will easily acquire the lessons taught in schools, will afterwards choose a useful occupation, and will in time become useful members of society, adding by their labor to the combined wealth and comfort of the nation /

But the school can only prepare the mind for the assimilation of that practical knowledge, which the mature man and woman must acquire, in order to solve the many intricate problems which will demand solution in their life, and in the intelligent discharge of the duty of citizenship, and <sup>to</sup> aid them in acquiring that knowledge is as much the duty of society, as it is to furnish the public school to the child.

This duty is all the more plain in our country, under our form of government, where the people govern themselves. As the stream cannot rise above its source, so will our government be, beneficent and enlightened, or wretched and miserable, as the people in their wisdom or folly make it.

Therefore the more advanced in thought, in intellect, the more refined the sense of justice is, in short the higher the mass of individual stands in all those noble qualities which go to make up culture and character, the better will be our government, the higher the civilization, and the more widespread will be the happiness and comfort of our people.

The public library supplements the good work begun by the school. Not underestimating the value of good newspapers and periodicals, still the public library has its great advantage in combining intellectual food with giving hours of splendid intellectual recreation after the days work is done.

In the language of Carlyle:

" The true university of these days is a collection of books."

And in the words of Oliver Wendell Holmes:

" I look upon a library as a kind of mental chemists shop, filled with the crystals of all forms and hues, which have come from the union of individual thought with local circumstances, of universal principles."

But to have a library makes it necessary to have a place where it can be housed and stored and preserved, and that is the building we have opened today.

The Board has attempted to erect a beautiful building in which to place a library, in the hope that the outside may attract visitors to the inside, that one fine building will give rise to many more, to such an extent that our city will become a city of beautiful and sanitary homes, free from vice and crime so far as good surroundings can make it.

It was with this end in view, that we were willing to accept the donation of Hon. Andrew Carnegie for the building. No conditions are attached to the offer except the maintenance of the library itself, and whether we accept or reject the donation, Wausau would write its name down in shame instead of in pride, if it would ever permit to let its library of over four thousand volumes then, be scattered to the winds, which collection came from private and public sources, and of which there are over six thousand volumes now.

Had the offer been accepted mainly for the purpose of having so much money to spend, ostensibly for a library building but in reality for various other purposes than the professed one, then the acceptance would be justly subject to censure. It was given for a good purpose, and that being so, it was prompted from a good motive. In that sense the money was accepted and expended. It was expected that much good would come from the acceptance and that hope is already realized, and will be still more realized in the future.

Its good effect is already seen by the donations from Wausau citizens of a sum, nearly, if not altogether equal to the Andrew Carnegie donation, mainly by the splendid gift of the Honorable Walter Alexander, whose name will be honored by generations yet to come, by whose gift it was made possible for Wausau to acquire an ornamental park, a public garden, right in the heart of the city.

This library, and the building and the Park, belong to the people of Wausau in their collective capacity, to all of them together, to no one in severalty. Fifty thousand dollars would not reproduce the building with the ground whereon it stands, to say nothing of the value of the library proper and where is there a city in Wisconsin, excepting Milwaukee, which can contend with Wausau when the park is cultivated as it should be.

That ground should be made the finest garden in the city of Wausau. It should be made a place where the working man can rest his eye with pleasure as he goes to or returns from <sup>his</sup> daily toil; where the mother can take her children to give them a view of the surrounding country; where she can show them the beauty of the flower buds as they open their blossoms after being kissed into life by the sun of heaven, where they can feast their eyes on the soft green carpet of nature, and sometimes listen to the melodious strains of music, inspiring lofty sentiments in their breasts, and returning to their home, carry with them the assurance, that manhood and womanhood is esteemed at its true value in Wausau, and that they can bring up their children here, in the well grounded hope of



their ability to give them a fair start in life.

The Persons who have assisted the Board with their donations, have our heartfelt thanks, but more valuable than our gratitude can be, is their consciousness of having aided in this great accomplishment, and they will always have a feeling of profound satisfaction with themselves, when they think of the good deed they have done.

But our work is not completed; more needs to be done, and we still request financial assistance, especially from those who have not yet aided us, and we invite everybody to contribute his mite.

Having concluded, the speaker introduced Mr. S. B. Tobey who spoke upon the subject of,

"The relations between the Public Library and the School."

Address by Mr. S. B. Tobey.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The noblest thoughts of the purest and sweetest souls earth has known are to be found in the library. The loftiest flights of the imagination, the profoundest conceptions of truth are preserved in books. In them are enshrined the holiest affections of the heart. A mine of wealth richer than any of the Klondike is buried there.

Who shall open the blind eyes of children wandering unconsciously about these heaped up treasures? Who shall cause them to know that this is gold, that is base metal. Who shall teach them the value of the precious metal and inspire in them a longing to possess it? Who shall direct that aimless, doleful, inert, lazy boy, devoid of ambition, with his hands in his pockets, slowly dragging his weary way along the street, to the fountain

of inspiration, the library, and awaken in him a thirst for reading that shall make him cry:

" Oh for a booke and a shadie nooke,  
 Eyther in a-dood or out,  
 With the grene leaves whispering overhede,  
 Or the streete cryes all about;  
 Where I may reade all at my ease,  
 Both of the newe and olde;  
 For a jollie goode booke whereon to looke,  
 Is better to me than golde."

And how shall that be done? These are the questions involved in determining the relationship between the public library and the schools.

The public library is a no inconsiderable adjunct to the equipment of the school. It may be made to supplement every part of the work. He must be a poor calculator indeed who, in summing up the forces which are to contribute to his success as a teacher, does not recognize the value of this factor. The teacher who puts the child through the geography of the Sandwich Islands by means of the text book only may do something for him; but the one who, in addition to this, has given him an opportunity to read Marian M. George's book " A Little Journey to Hawai" or " Alices visit to th Hawain Islands," by Miss. Krout, has done much more. The child who has read one of these books has come to regard our new possessions as something more than a bloch of ink on a field of blue. In imagination he feels the warm breath of the Pacific on his brow, the perfume of strange blossoms is in his nostrils; with a leis, or a garland of flowers about his neck, he has sat upon the mat, cross legged like a turk, at the Lauau, or picnic feast, has eaten poi with his fingers; and, at the close of the feast, has joined heartily in " Hawai Ponoii"- the national hymn.

He has tremblingly followed the guide over the treacherous gray floor of Kilaueau's dreadful crater, and awestruck and fearful, has gazed on the lake of molten lava, has seen its jets of flame burst forth with a hiss of fury, and watched the fountains of fire leap high into the air and fall back into the lake with a roar like that of the sea. He has gone in fancy upon one of the semi-annual trips of the provision steamer to Molokai; and from the doorway of the house reserved for the visitors, has looked out toward the home of the noble priest who gave sixteen years of <sup>his</sup> life to the care of the lepers, and crowned these years of sacrifice with the dreadful death which claims all who are subjected to the contaminating leprous touch. The boy has felt a deeper sympathy kindled in his own soul, and Father Damian lives again in the kindlier spirit born of this noble example. Thus through the library, geography becomes a thing of life instead of a mass of statistics.

The teacher of literature who keeps his pupils inside the narrow confines of the textbook will never develop in their minds a love for the study. What a flood of light is thrown upon the writings of Carlyle by a knowledge of his life. With how great interest do we take up Sartor Resartus (the tailor re=tailors) when we know that its philosophy was ground into his soul as, in poverty and loneliness, with dyspepsia "gnawing like a rat at the pit of his stomach", he fought the battle against doubt and unbelief and conquered. With what sincere sympathy our heart goes out to the man who, at the age of twenty six, could write his brother "I say, Jack thou and I must never falter. Work my boy, work unwearidly. I swear that all the miseries of this hard fight, and ill health, the most terrific of them all, shall never chain us down. Two fellows from a nameless spote in Annandale shall yet show the world the pluck that is in the Carlyles". Such brave words from such a man are like a tonic. They nerve

us to greater efforts, while our interest in and knowledge of the man intensifies the attractions of his work. I have no patience with the man who says that the study of biography is not essential to the study of literature. Read and interpret if you can, "In Memoriam" without a knowledge of the life and friendship of its author, /or the "Raven" or "The Deserted Village". So much of literature is made up of the deep, heart experiences of the authors, obscure and dark unless illuminated by a knowledge of their lives. The library is simply indispensable to the study of literature.

In the realm of history not less than in the province of literature do we find the library of primary importance. The textbook will give the frame work, the bare bones of historical facts, will tell the time and place of a historical event, and possibly give a hint of its historical importance; but it remains for the library to cloth the historical skeleton with ~~ref~~undity, dissipate its sepulchral appearance, and inspire life into it. For the purposes of a recitation, a high school boy will learn what his textbook can tell him about Napoleon, and be glad when the ordeal is over and he has a pass mark on the teacher's record book to prove that he knows it; but there is no exhilaration of pleasure in the learning, nor will the impression upon his memory be permanent. It is a piece of disagreeable though necessary drudgery. But give him Headley's "Napoleon and his Marshals" to read, and he follows with unflagging interest the career of "The Little Corporal" from his birth at Ajaccio, in Corsica to his death at St. Helena. In spirit he stands with the young captain of artillery before Toulon, training his guns at the fort which is the key to the harbor and city. He is by his side as the young commander of the Directory's forces pours grape and canister upon the insurgents, puts down the mob in Paris, and, with the voice of canon, proclaims law and order in the capital city. In imagination he charges with the great general across the bridge of Lodi to snatch glorious victory from the hands of the Austrians. With him he scales the Alps, invades Russia,



" Unmindful ,on its flowery strand,  
 " Of God's occasions drifting by !  
 " Better with naked nerve to bear  
 " The needles of this goading air ,  
 " Than ,in the lap of sensual ease,forego  
 " The godlike power to do,the godlike aim to know."

Is he ashamed of honest toil;give him "The Widow Calligan's Boys" and let it teach him silently and resistlessly to

" Work for ~~some~~ good,be it ever so slowly,  
 " Cherish some flower,be it ever so lowly  
 " Labor! all labor is nobly and holy ".

We are educating for what? To give knowledge only? A dictionary or an encyclopedia has vastly greater learning than the profoundest scholar. Children are not mere receptacles into which to pour knowledge. We are training children? For what? That they may do something. What thing? If the thing they are to do does not make this old world better,if somebody's burdens are not made somewhat lighter ,his pathway brighter,by the doing , it were better never done. The world needs not so many "Mergers" of the Rockefeller = Morgan type. It has too many now. It needs the Rockefeller, the Carnegie,the Peabody, the Stout givers.

We need to train a man not only to "paddle his own canoe",to paddle it up stream ,and against wind and tide;but to throw a line to a weaker brother.If we wish to make the best use of our libraries we must search them to find that which will contribute the most to character building, and put our pupils in friendly touch with it.

" Were I so tall to reach the Pole/  
 " Or grasp the ocean in my span,  
 " I must be measured by my soul;  
 " The mind's the measure of the man".

Five thousand children in this city are to be influenced directly or indirectly by this public library. They constitute the dearest treasure

that our citizens possess. Through the library, the fathers and mothers, the teachers in the schools, and the librarians may wield a most potent influence for good with these children. If we are wise enough to know that boys and girls do not have the more mature tastes of men and women, that they are going through a progressive development and that no amount of forcing upon them of books that they do not like will contribute to their stock of knowledge or the building of noble character, we shall have cause in future to rejoice that our children have been given the privilege which this library may confer. It is not too high an ideal, I think, that we should desire at least one good book adapted to the age of childhood for each child in this city. In no other way can we more wisely spend our money than in providing for them the books which they will enjoy and the books that will do them good and I have full assurance that when the teachers in the public schools and in the parochial schools shall ask the Common Council or public for generous provision of books for children, they will not ask in vain. We adults may deprive ourselves of what we will, but we shall not be willing to withhold from our children that which will make for noblest manhood and womanhood, and for the largest and happiest life.

After the close of this address the High School Choir, Miss Strauss directing, sang a beautiful melodious song with precision and ton quality.

The next speaker introduced was Mr. C. E. Turner who spoke on the subject

" As a man of business views the library "

((Address of Mr. C. E. Turner.))

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I note by the program I am expected to speak as a business man, expected to define I presume the relation of our business man to our public library. I must confess I <sup>have</sup> ~~am~~ been unable to satisfactorily define that relation to myself so if I do not speak closely to those lines I trust I may be pardoned. Being a business man, and not a patent talking machine, I am conscious that whatever I shall say and however I shall say it this audience will be disposed to be lenient and not critical.

A little while ago the business men of Chicago held a "Goodfellowship Banquet" or a "Welfare Banquet", and there gathered around the banquet board that evening 2,500 of Chicago's business men, and there blazed in incandescent letters above and across the Speakers table this motto, as indicating the chief sentiment of the evening, - "There is live work for live men."

In contemplating the reopening and dedication of our Public Library, this gift of a business man, and in contemplating the relation of our business men to that public library, it would seem to me that there has come to our business men a new and added responsibility, and again that motto could be well thrown <sup>across</sup> the horizon of the business men of Wausau, in letters of living light, - "There is live work for live men."

There also developed another sentiment and another spirit at that banquet that is necessary for the intellectual, industrial, and cultured growth and progress of every city, and that was the spirit of "I will."



Not only is ~~##~~ an individual's character determined and fashioned by the kind of sentiment, but a city's progress and its prosperity is determined and fashioned by that kind of sentiment of its citizenship, - for growth and progress must come from within, and not from without. Carnegie may plant a splendid home for our Public Library, he may till the soil, he may plant the seed, but the harvest will be what the citizenship of Wausau makes it, and the harvest to the business men of Wausau will be in proportion as they take advantage of its educational facilities.

The natural condition of a state, city, nation or an individual is to progress, is to learn, is to grow. If there is a business man in Wausau who is so chained to the chariot wheels of business, that has so run his splendid faculties into the one groove of business that nothing appeals to him but the eternal chase for dollars, if the planting and building of this splendid temple of wisdom and its objects do not appeal to him, I pity that man, for while he lives, and breathes and moves, he is dead to intellectual growth and cultured sentiment. I am somewhat familiar with Wausau's business men, and I know they will wellcome this new condition. They will feel proud that Wausau has at last taken her place besides her sister cities of the State of Wisconsin so far as her public library is concerned. I know they will profit by the broadening and widening influences of a well equipped Public Library, - I know they will be loyal, - I know they will be patriotic. "Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself has said, "This is my own my native land?" I am wondering if there breathes a man or woman in Wausau tonight who does not feel, who does not realize, who does not know that <sup>with</sup> the reopening and dedication of this splendid building, there has been added one more opportunity to Wausau's educational advantages. And while I know that Wausau has had what she is pleased to term a Free Public Library for perhaps a quarter of a century, this is the first time in that quarter of a century she has had a home for her Public Library that is commensurate with Wausau's pride, Wausau's

ambition, Wausau's progressiveness. I know there have been hopes, I know there have been dreams,, but this is the first time in a quarter of a century there has come the fulfillment of your hopes, the realization of your dreams. It seems to me that as the years come and the years go, this day will stand out as one of the bright days that have come to Wausau, one of the important historic days that have come to Wausau, for, with this building, well equiped, will come increased desire for learning, increased desire for reading, and opportunity for higher and nobler impulses of life. To my mind, this reopening of the Public Library, is the most important event of the year;- great indeed the deliberations and actions of our City Council,- great indeed the importance and influences of our Lecture Courses, great indeed the importance of the different organizations of our city, But more important still are these temples dedicated to learning. In all ages the measures of a nations worth has been its building it has made dominant ,and,if that is true of a nation's worth,may it not be true of a city's worth? It was true in old greoian history,when all paths led to the Parthenon,that temple of art and beauty,and other generations have expressed themselves in their cathedrals,and other civilizations have burst into view through their fortresses and castles. But for American civilization ,the one thing that stands out prominently is its school houses,its universities,its libraries;and when our country is visited by foreigners ,they go back to their fatherland to say/" America worships her school houses,her universities ,her libraries." That is a reputation that this nation ought to be ,and is proud of. It may be that there are some who worship the Golden Calf ,but in some way,somehow ,there is being chiselled into the heart and mind of this great American people that the things that make life worth living are the attributes of the heart,the mind and the soul. More and more the people of this great nation are appreciating the value of education,until we stand before the great nations of the earth a veritable nation of schools,of universities,of libraries.

I have said that I have been unable to define the particular relation of our business men to our Public Library, I have been unable to separate one class of our citizens from another and define their relations, for ours is a democracy of opportunity and the child of the business man is wellcome to the allurements of the Public Library's threshold, together with the child of the washerwoman, - one is as wellcome as the other, - each may enter within its splendid walls to reap as best he can the educational advantages resting there. Each may climb as high as he can; and anything that threatens that democracy of education, that democracy of opportunity, threatens the very foundations of our free institutions; but if our business men's responsibility, of citizenship is increased, if their taxes have increased, by virtue of this temple of wisdom, they are recompensed by the increased educational advantages they have for themselves. For I take it that a business man should be a growing man, and if he purposes to keep up with the procession in these strenuous times, he will find it necessary to revolutionize his brain every six months if he keeps up with modern thought and modern literature. But if we sweep this all to one side and say "Business is Business" and must be first, last and all the time, that it means nothing to us, I say without fear of contradiction, it means much to our children. Standing as they do on the threshold of a busy life, with the battle just ahead, they will need all the educational influences that can be thrown around them, with its wonderful results. To the young man standing at the headwaters of the stream of life, looking out into the future, yearning for success, full of hope, with an ambition, for ought we know of a Napoleon, to that young man I would say "Pay some attention to what your earning capacity will be. Do not fail to take advantage of the opportunities of the Public Library, for your earning capacity will be determined largely upon what you know. If you put your hand to the ax, the spade or the shovel, you will earn from \$ 1.50 to \$ 2.00 per day; but if you can put your finger upon the telegraph key, backed by knowledge and education, you may earn \$ 5.00 per day, but if you dip your intellect into ink and give to the world something

that it demands ,you may get for a single poem \$ 1000.00 for the world stands ready to pay for the genius of knowledge . I would say to the business men as well as to every other citizen, that if this progressive step in Wausau means nothing to you, it does mean an opportunity at least ,for your children to bask in the sunlight of the world's best literature.

In conclusion let me say again that it has been hard for me to talk with only one class of our citizenship in view. Indeed, it has been hard for me to say just what a business man is, just what that term means, for the man sawing wood, wielding the ax, or shovelling upon the railroad that is his business, and the results of that daily toil is as near and dear and as important to him, as the results of the business' man's toil who thinks in millions and deals in millions. More and more it is being appreciated that whether we have little or much, the important thing is how much we get out of the little or much. More and more it is being appreciated that it does not matter what kind of a house we live in, the important thing is the kind of a life we live in the house. In the establishment of the Public Library, well equipped, and all that it means, standing as it does for refinement and culture, standing as it does for the highest, truest, and best things in the community, it is important for the best development of the best citizenship of Wausau..

At the conclusion of this address the male' choir of the High School sang- Schumann's,

" The Two Granadiers."

The last address was made by Mr. C. B. Bird, who took for his subject,

"Wausau of the Future."

( Mr. C. B. Bird's Address. )

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The topic "Wausau of the Future" gives me great latitude, not possessed by the previous speakers. They spoke of what exists. I am to speak of what is not- as yet; therefore I may predict what I please. If it does not come to pass, you will long since have forgotten what I said. If it does come to pass, you may be sure I will then remind you of my predictions.

The future of a city cannot be foretold. It depends upon what the people of the city make it. A man, within reasonable limitation, may make of himself what he will, and a city made up of men certainly is in the same position. When Mr. Hennessey said to Mr. Dooley, "We are a great country," Mr. Dooley replied, "Yes Hennessey, we are a great country, and the greatest thing about is we know we are great." I have been afraid we are sometimes too much disposed to rest on our laurels, to sit back and point to our past progress, our great water powers and natural advantages, simply assume that we are going to grow anyway and let it go at that, without doing anything to make ourselves grow. But that will not do. A person who drifts with the tide never gets anywhere and, if I may mix the metaphor, the person or city simply drifting with the tide will sooner or later get caught on a snag and stick there ~~with~~<sup>by</sup> ~~inertia enough to get~~  
~~off~~

Still in some respects the future may be foreseen. The dedication of this library is indicative of one element helping to shape our future. I

do not think that persons, who have already reached middle life without acquiring the habit of getting their information by reading what others who know things have said, will change their habits at this late day. For them the library will mean but little.

However, the young people who are growing up will be materially influenced by it. I know there is a disposition in some quarters to say: "These libraries don't amount to anything for the children. They simply take a lot of ~~trashy~~ novels and read them and are worse off than before." That is a very serious mistake. It is not the fact. While some novels may not be especially useful, yet the novel always praises virtue and condemns vice, and the end is made to result accordingly; the villain is always killed off, while the hero is loaded with honor and glory and gets the most attractive girl of the lot.

But we are getting of late years an entirely different class of stories for young people, that are doing them a world of good. Let me give you just one illustration. I was taught in school that the cause of the war of 1812 was the British impressment of American seamen, but I did not really comprehend what that meant, although fully explained. Now it is different. Any boy who reads Cyrus T. Brady's "For the Freedom of the Sea" will have impressed upon his mind for all time to come just what were the causes of that war, and will also have gotten a pretty good knowledge of some parts of our history which will teach him how to exercise intelligently the right of suffrage upon certain questions. You remember the story? England made the claim "Once an Englishman, always an Englishman", and was insisting on that right by stopping American vessels on the high seas and taking from them persons born on English soil who had withdrawn their allegiance to King George and had sworn fealty to the new stars and stripes. Martin, of English birth, was one such, having been naturalized in this country, by which he and his son became American citizens. While upon an American vessel they were seized and forcibly impressed into the

English naval service. On a charge of disloyalty, Martin was condemned by the Captain of the vessel to be flogged before the mast. The story of this scene is enough to bring tears to the eyes of any man. It is a hard tale, but it is well to tell it, because it does not exaggerate the facts of that time. After the punishment, when Martin's back was a mass of mangled blood and flesh, he was tossed to one side. Then, instead of being carried below, the captain ordered that he remain there to witness the same punishment inflicted upon his son. Martin then gathered together what little strength was left in his body, and by a sudden dash seized the captain, dragged him through an open port hole, and the two sank beneath the surface of the water, never to rise. Thereafter this vessel, with Martin's son upon it, was captured in a naval fight, and the story was told to the crew of the famous Constitution. Soon after that the Constitution and the Guerriere were clearing their decks for that memorable action, the fiercest and most hotly contested naval controversy of the entire war. Just as a few years ago, when our sailor boys were preparing for action, the cry ran back and forth from deck to deck, "Remember the Maine," so at that time while the Constitution was clearing for action the cry was sent back and forth from one end of the ship to the other, "Remember Martin," "Remember Martin," "Remember Martin," and a new courage inspired the heart of every American seaman aboard, sufficient to turn the tide of battle and lower the English flag to the Constitution's despised stars and stripes. The news of that victory inspired new hope and confidence and courage in the heart of every American and probably had as much to do as did any one single battle toward bringing about the final result of that war, with victory to the American nation.

While the treaty of peace thereafter declared made no mention of the cause of the conflict, yet it was tacitly understood that thenceforth there should be no further impressment of American citizens into the English or

any other service. And the "Freedom of the Sea", the result of that war, has established the doctrine recognized by all the nations of the world, that any individual, no matter where born, has the inherent right to choose for himself in what country he shall live and to what flag he shall give his allegiance. The result has been taken advantage of by millions and millions of individuals, who since then have renounced the allegiance to the European king or potentate which they owed by birth and, coming to this country, have sworn allegiance to our flag and to our laws and have helped to build up our commonwealth. As a result anyone of these may with impunity go back to the land of his birth to visit the scenes of his childhood, and if any indignity be offered him, he has but to wrap about him the stars and stripes of his adopted country and all the powers of Continental Europe will not dare to touch one hair of his head.

The boy by being simply told the facts of history will not appreciate this situation, but if he reads this story (and if he starts it, you cannot stop him from going through to the end) he will know the fact and never forget it. When he becomes of age he will have a firm basis on which to help determine the policy of this country. If the sentimental cry "Hands across the sea" is set forth, to cause us to enter into alliance with the English speaking people simply because of a similarity in language and because of the sentiment of mother country, this boy will know that the assistance which has been rendered us of late years has hardly as yet evened up the score and if we are to enter into any such alliance it must be, not because of any sentimental claim or past favors, but because, and only because, of plain, definite, positive humanitarian advantage which will result to ourselves or the world at large.

But let me speak of a few other advantages which we have here. There is no use of mentioning our water powers. We continually pat ourselves on the back with reference to those; probably too much. Unless we develop them they are nothing. But nevertheless, I must say that one very prominent



citizen of Wisconsin, and one who has always had large foresight, said not long ago that in his judgment in twenty five years from now the Wisconsin River valley would be more thickly populated than is the Fox River valley today. As to that, the future only can tell.

Then we have the advantage of not having some things possessed by cities. We have had no grand juries in this community, and don't need any. While other cities have been busy investigating graft charges by grand juries, we have none of that because we have no graft among our public officials. They may make some mistakes, but they are honest mistakes. They are not dishonest grafters and never have been. That is a big factor toward assisting in the building up of a city.

Then have you ever thought of our geographical situation? Has it ever occurred to you how far one must travel before reaching other cities of this size? Go towards the east and you will go pretty near to the eastern boundary of this state. You will go to Marinette, Green Bay, Appleton, Oshkosh and Fond du Lac before finding cities of the same size. On the south it is the same. No city of this size is reached until we get to Madison, situated in the tier of counties next to the southern tier in the state. On the west it is the same. We go to the Mississippi river, to La Crosse and to Eau Claire, before any such city is reached, and on the north we travel clear to the northern boundary of the state, to Lake Superior. This city is planted right down into the middle of this vast territory. And what is this territory? It is that country which, according to the last census reports, has grown in proportion more rapidly than any other portion of the state. Right in the middle of this growing territory this city of Wausau is placed. The city that is in the center always has the advantage over those upon the borders.

So much for natural advantages. But unless we take advantage of them and improve our opportunities, they will be of no use to us. If we want to

grow and build up, we have got to do something to help it along. If we sit still and grow like Topsey, there is danger that we will be just as onery as Topsey, and when the time comes that we have to be trimmed up and civilized, it will take a tremendous effort and lots of expense.

One thing especially that we need is more breathing room. The American people have not yet learned the advantage of parks and recreation grounds and breathing places for the people. We are just beginning to learn it.

Many of our cities are learning it too late and they spend millions of dollars to acquire thickly inhabited and populated sections from which they tear down large and expensive buildings, so as to make parks. A few years ago those same places might have been bought for a very small expenditure of money, but it was not then seen and now the additional debt must be paid.

What <sup>a</sup> city wants is beauty. The idea that the cultivation of beauty is of no practical value to a city is all wrong. There is something about beautiful and pleasant surroundings that makes for good citizenship. What is the trouble with Chicago today? Every time we go there why do we want to get away just as quick as we can? Because of that down-town rattle-de-bang, clang-clang, sort of a thing. It goes into our ears and gets onto our brains and pretty near drives us crazy, and we flee in distraction. It is the same thing with impressions on the eye. If the surroundings are pleasant and agreeable, if there are nice parks, well kept up and preserved, if the laws <sup>w</sup> of a city are kept clean and tidy and the houses in shape, the person who sees them and lives in that city is happy and contented, he is satisfied with himself and the world, he loves his fellow men and likes to associate with them, and it makes a happy and contented community. On the other hand, if everything which strikes the eye is topsy-turvey, is disheveled and torn up, those same rattle-de-bang impressions go through the eye onto the brain and the brain becomes jangled and weary and it makes a discontented people. Those who have studied brain disease say that it helps toward insanity. So what Wausau needs is more beauty, and more places

where it can be cultivated. But we also need more breathing places for the people. Whatever we do now should be done with reference to what the effect will be twenty-five years from now. We want to look at any matter with reference to the present advantage and also with reference to how it will seem after a number of years have passed by. Cities all over the country are realizing their mistakes. Even now in Madison, which is not a large city, the project is proposed of buying several blocks at a cost of several million dollars, so as to add more space to the capitol park of the state, so that our new capitol building may have surroundings fitting to the dignity of a growing state. I am not expressing an opinion one way or the other on that proposal. I am simply calling attention to the fact of wasted opportunities years ago when all of this territory might have been had practically for a song.

Now, there is one thing in particular which is pressing itself upon us just now. That library building of ours needs more room. Any one who looks at the surroundings will agree to that at once. The additional lot under consideration should be bought. It is going to be bought some day, that is just as sure as anything can be. The whole trend of municipal improvements shows that. It is needed and if we do not see it now, future generations will see it when it will cost a good many times the present cost. We may be shortsighted again, but, if so, it will be at the cost of our children.

One instance of our shortsightedness is seen right now that we have reached the street car stage. We wish our streets were wider, and the worst part of it is when the city was platted the streets running north and south were made only sixty feet wide, while the side streets were given sixty-six feet. We have just awakened to the fact that the city before accepting a plat had the right to determine whether the arrangement of the streets, <sup>their size, etc.,</sup> is such as will adequately take care of the traffic in a large and growing city, and the city can refuse to accept a plat which does not make

such provisions for the future. If this had been realized at the time when our original plat was laid out and provision made on the assumption that we might some day need a street car here (which idea, however, would have been laughed to scorn at that time), provision for this future contingency might have been made and we would have had wider streets, but, that chance is now past. Let us not make the same mistake with reference to other things. Let us look at what we do with an eye to the future, not simply to the present.

Let us each in his own way, do something to help in the building up of our city, knowing that it will not build itself. Let us be intelligent and farsighted so that when the time comes for us to move into the silent city of the great majority, and our children and our children's children occupy our places and walk in the paths we now tread, they will be thankful to us for our farsightedness and the heritage which we have left to them. This, in short, is all I can say with reference to the future of Wausau. It is to be what we make it. Let us each do our share to make it right.

Immediately after the close of Mr. Bird's address, Mr. S. M. Quaw arose from the audience, saying:

Mr. Chairman:

I understand the program, splendid as it was, is now finished, and if so, I desire to make a motion if it is in order; and being assured that he was in order, and any motion could be laid before the meeting, Mr. Quaw made the following motion, to wit:

"I move it is the sense of this meeting, that the city council of the city of Wausau, be, and the same is hereby requested to purchase the Lemke property so called, as an addition to the McIndoe Park, provided the same can be had at a reasonable price."

The motion having been put by the Chairman, it was carried with enthusiasm and unanimity.

Thus closed the Dedication of the Wausau Library Building.

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After April 1904-

The building was now complete and occupied, its costs, were slightly in excess of the estimate, the furniture ordered and purchased *in* the high tide of high prices, was much higher than expected, the Board having acted throughout on the principle, that the best, the most durable was the cheapest in the end.

When it come to settle up and pay for all that was contracted, there remained a debt little less than Three Thousand Dollars, and the inadequacy of our library for a city such as Wausau, was equally apparent.

If the library was to be of some benefit, of some value to our people it was apparent that more books must be put upon the empty shelves, causing another expenditure of money, and there was no prospect if immediate assistance from private sources.

This was the situation, when the Board began anew a correspondence with Mr. Andrew Carnegie, asking a grant of \$ 4,000.00 under similar conditions as was the first grant.

His response was a prompt assent to the request, and it was unanimously voted, that the Library Board should make a request to the City Council for an annual tax levy by which this grant should become available.

The Library Board therefore,, on the 6th. day of August 1907, appeared before the City Council and through its president made a statement of the financial condition of the library, the need of further endowment to meet the growing demands of the growing population, and also, that if this grant would be made available through the action of the Council, it would not only strengthen the library by getting it out of debt, but leave the sum of \$ 1,000.00 for needed improvements upon the ground and park, and the Board pledged itself to expend such sum in those needed betterments.

In response to this request, the City Council granted the request, and enacted the following Ordinance:

( 3rd. Library Ordinance. )

Whereas, Mr. Andrew Carnegie has heretofore donated to the city of Wausau the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars for the erection of a Public Library Building in said city, on condition that a suitable site be furnished and the city appropriate annually the sum of \$ 2,500.00 for the maintenance thereof, all of which has been carried out; And

Whereas, said Andrew Carnegie has further offered to donate the additional sum of \$ 4000.00 on the condition that the city appropriate the sum of \$ 400.00 more annually for the further maintenance thereof:

Now, Therefore, it is hereby ordained and resolved as follows:

Sec.1. The said offer of Mr. Andrew Carnegie is hereby accepted upon the condition above stated and the city of Wausau in consideration therefore hereby obligates itself by this ordinance to levy and hereby levies an annual tax to be collected in the general tax roll of the city of Wausau of the sum of Four Hundred Dollars (\$ 400.00 ) each year in addition to the \$ 2500.00 heretofore levied, commencing with the year 1907, for the support and maintenance of such public library, and the proper officers of said city are directed to include such levy in the tax roll for the year 1907, and each succeeding year, and to pay such amounts to the Library Board of said city each year.

Sec.2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect from and after its publication.

Adopted this 6th. day of August 1907.

Attest:

Charles F. Beck,  
City Clerk.

Approved,

M. H. Duncan,  
Mayor.

By this act of the Common Council and the generosity of Mr. Andrew Carnegie on this as well as on other occasions, the library was at once put on a sound financial basis ; money was now on hand to invest in the purchase of needed books to the selection of which the Supt. of Schools Mr. S. B. Tobey and the Librarian Miss Katherin Kramer brought their large experience; since September 1. 1907 the library was kept open daily from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. except Sundays, and the monthly reports of the Librarian show the phenomenal increase in circulation as compared with the previous year, from a monthly average of 2019 for the year ending July 1. 1907 , to a monthly average of about 5700 for the last six months ending July 1/ 1908

This increase in the circulation of books and the patronage of the reading rooms are the best evidence that the library is becoming a factor in the intellectual growth of Wausau; that the advantages it offers, are appreciated and used by the people, and the time is not far distant when its influence for good will hardly be controverted.

When the plan for the building was adopted it was found expedient to have the building face the park rather than Main and Jefferson Strs. as first intended. This change in position was at first much criticized at the time, and so was the entrance to the library ground proper, which is now in process of erection.

This last work made it necessary to remove a tree which stood right on the side walk and lot line, and on the spot where the north pier for the entrance is to be located. The tree had to be removed, or the proposed improvement abandoned .

When it became known that the tree was to be cut down or removed, to make room for the entrance, protests became numerous; a <sup>newly elected</sup> high city official made himself the champion of this sentiment, and it was given out with



almost official sanction, that no appropriation would be made by the city for the work ( none had been asked for, nor was it intended to ask for one ) and that no member of the Library Board, voting for such removal, would be reappointed.

Ommitting to comment on the propriety of this attempt to coerce the action of an independent Board, responsible to nobody but the people of Wausau, the Library Board ordered the proposed entrance erected, and in this as well as all other things done, camly submits its action to the unbiased and intelligent judgment of the people of Wausau, relying for its vindication upon the future as well as the present generation.

Public Libraries in large as well as in smaller cities, are more or less dependent on private aid. While they are public institutions, they are in their very nature educational institutions, and as such are frequently made the recipients of gifts. The law even contemplates that gifts, bequests and legacies be made for their maintenance and enlargement by people of wealth. Such no doubt will be the case in Wausau.

I have strong faith that in the future as well as in the past some persons will financially assist the Library Board to the end, that the entrance will be completed as planed, as well as the exterior of the Building.

Public sentiment will demand in a manner not to be misunderstood, that Mc. Indoe Park be beautified to comport with the dignity and standing of our city, and then the grounds will be found to be in full accord with the building, presenting a fine harmonious whole, and then if not before, the foresight of the Library Board of 1904 to 1908 will be recognized and their actions approved.

## List of Donors to Public Library,

Wausau Wis.

Andrew Carnegie		\$ 29,000.00	
Ladies Literary Club, Wausau	\$ 782.80	Mrs. D. L. Plumer	\$ 500.00
C. C. Yawkey	500.00	Mrs. D. L. Plumer	66.66
G. D. Jones	275.00	C. J. Winton	250.00
First National Bank	250.00	Nat. Ger. Amr. Bank	250.00
Marathon County Bank	250.00	Mathie Brewing Co.	250.00
Wausau Law & Land Ass.	200.00	W. H. Bissel	150.00
C S. Curtis	150.00	B. Heinemann	150.00
F. P. Stone	150.00	B..F. Wilson	150.00
W. L. Edmonds	150.00	Kreutzer, Bird & Ros.	150.00/
E. B. Thayer	100.00	Barker & Stewart Lbr.Co.	100.00
S. M. Quaw	100.00	Geo. Ruder Brew. Co.	100.00
M A. Hurley	100.00	Hotel Bellis	100.00
H. E. Mc Eachron	100.00	H. G. Flieth	100.00
C. E. Turner	100.00	Robert Kickbush	100.00
J. N. Manson	100.00	W. B. Schofield	100.00
James Mc Crossen	100.00	Wausau Ele. Light Co.	100.00
J. A. Underwood	100.00	J. D. Ross	100.00
J. M. Smith	100.00	J. A. Porter	100.00
D. Sauerhering	100.00	Wausau Gas Co.	100.00

Mrs. P. O. Van Vechten	\$ 66.66	W. T. Trevitt	\$ 50.00
F. L. Hudson	50.00	E. C. Zimmerman	50.00
L. Sexsmith	50.00	A. Weichman & Son	50.00
G. H. Wegner	50.00	H. C. Stewart	50.00
W. W. Albers	50.00	D. T. Jones	50.00
L. M. Willard	50.00	John Manser	50.00
J. Slimmer	50.00	From 4th. July-Peters	50.00
Goodwillie Bros.	25.00	Livingston Merc. Co.	50.00
F. A. Gooding	50.00	T. C. Ryan	50.00
W. H. Mylrea	50.00	Healey & Brown	35.00
C. A. Collins	25.00	J. W. Miller	25.00
C. L. Warren	25.00	W. A. Paff	25.00
C. F. Dunbar & Co.	25.00	Kretlow & Lamont	25.00
Nick Zender	25.00	H. L. Rossenberry	25.00
J. L. Komers	25.00	John Ringle	25.00
Russel Lyon	25.00	H. B. Conlin	25.00
A. W. Zibell	20.00	G. F. Anderes	20.00
L. Marchetti	20.00	Regner & Ringle	20.00
J. Ripczinski	20.00	G. A. Barwig	20.00
E. L. & F. E. Bump	25.00	Mrs. Mary Dickens	16.00
Pardee Drug Co.	15.00	H. B. Huntington	15.00
Fred Jawart	15.00	O. C. Belanger	15.00
A. L. Kryshak	15.00	A. H. Clark	10.00
W. A. Green	10.00	W. N. Allen	10.00
John Keifer	10.00	G. Nafz	10.00
Geo. Stuhlfauth	10.00	Henry Miller	10.00
Charles Chubuck	10.00	Agnes French	10.00

Robert Schmidt	\$ 10.00	P. O. Means	\$ 10.00
Henry G. Mc Crossen	10.00	L. E. Spencer	10.00
H. C. Hett	10.00	J. Gensman	10.00
Hett Bros.	10.00	Moses Katz	10.00
L. Fingerhut	5.00	Anton Mehl	5.00
A. T. Koch	5.00	J. Anderes	5.00
Neuling & Beier	5.00	Heimann & Baer	5.00
H. S. Wright	5.00	R. W. Jawort	5.00
A.L. Brown	5.00	Frank O' Connor	5.00
Otto Mueller	5.00	Rich. Baumann	5.00
John Stark	5.00	W.D. Siebecker	5.00
R.W. Chellis	5.00	Max Cohen	5.00
Seim Brothers	5.00	C.B. Meyer	5.00
J. Rhode	5.00	Wm. Schoeneberg	5.00
W.H. Nablo	5.00	G. W. Wilson	5.00
Wm. Kuckuck	5.00	E. Friede	5.00
M. H. Duncan	5.00	Ritter & Deutsch	5.00
A. R. Bardeen	5.00	A. Frank Oswald	5.00
W.B. Philbreek	5.00	F.E. Chartier	5.00
G.A. Thielke	5.00	J. W. Coates	5.00
J. E. Cole	5.00	J. P. Jogerst	5.00
A.A. Bock	2.00	R.H. Juedes	2.00
E. C. Rhodes	2.50	F. C. Nicholas	2.50
John King	2.00		
Little Girl's Sew. Soc.	26.00		

Total Amount of Donations from Wausau citizens \$ 8514.12

Names of Little girls Sewing Co. on next page.

The little girl's sewing society, which proved their interest in the library, by arranging among themselves meetings where they by work and play, raised this fund of \$ 26.00 consisted of the following :

Marie Bird	Ruth Kreutzer	Cornelia Mc. Crossen	
Imogen Krisky	Helen Coates	Myrtle Dunegan	
Dora Lake	Ethel Sherman		
Mary Corwith	)		
Ruth Winkley	)	Ushers ,	Karl Mathie )
Ruth Alexander	)		Norton Kelly )
			Cashiers

The writer has endeavored to preserve the main facts for future reference, and has more particularly attempted to make some record of the persons who with their means came to the assistance of the Library Board when assistance was much needed. In their work of building and completing, the Board is under obligation not only to the donors herein mentioned, but also to many others who assisted with kind words in getting the grants. The committed of citizens who assisted faithfully in raising the funds and making public sentiment for the accomplishment of this work, Messrs. D. L. Plumer G.D. Jones , C. S. Curtis and Chas. J. Winton together with Mr. C. C. Yawkey deserve particular mention.

The gift of the ground for park purposes by Mr. Walter Alexander, by which the library could be placed in the center of the city as well as the center of the population, making it equally accessible from all parts of the city, and which can now be reached from nearly

all parts of the city by a street car line, solved the ticklish question of location in an admirable manner, satisfactory to all.

Little mention has been made of the donation of the ground by Mr. Walter Alexander, except as made absolutely necessary in this compilation, but no doubt, when the park will be cultivated and opened to the public, fitting acknowledgment will be made to the memory of Hon. W. D. Mc. Indoe and his nephew Mr. Walter Alexander.

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STORY	ROOM TO BE WARMED	SIZE OF ROOM	CUBIC FT.	WALL	GLASS	TEMP.	NO. OF Rad. Coil	COMPUTED SURFACE HOT WATER	SURFACE CALLED FOR	Hetta Estimate	STYLE HIGH
Bas	Toilet	6x7x8	336			70°	1	14		14	Wheeler Est.
"	Store Rm	16x21x8	2688	60	36	"	1	56		72	
"	Stair Hall	10x15x8 } 6x10x10 }	1800			"	1	28		35	
1 <sup>ST</sup>	Librarians Rm	11x15x13	2145	206	54		1	78		120	
"	Childrens Rm	26x34x19	16796	1080	288		4	450		670	
"	Reference Rm	11x15x13	2145	206	54		1	78		120	
"	General Rd. Rm	26x34x19	16796	1080	288		4	450		670	
"	Stack Rm	16x21x19	6384	296	104		2	160		195	
"	Corridor	16x21x19	6384	-	-		-	slide 32			
"	Womens Toilet	6x10x10	600	40	6		1	16		20	
"	Vestibule	7x8 <sup>6</sup> x10	600	20	60		1	54		60	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Directors Rm	10x20x8 <sup>6</sup>	1700	160	32		1	85		65	
			58374				18	1500		2041 <sup>7</sup>	1800 <sup>7</sup>
								150 = 10%			
								1650 <sup>φ</sup>			

Ratio  
# Rads to Cubic Contents  
1-70 35.37

Boiler  
+50%  
1650  
825  
2475

Thorsdell Bros Co.

NOTES

Public Library

NAME OF PLANT

Nausau Mis

LOCATION

Geo. W. Maher.

ARCHT. OR ENG.

ADDRESS

12-18-05

DATE

SURVEYED BY

KIND OF JOB

HEIGHT OF STACK

INSIDE DIAMETER

BASEMENT HEIGHT TO JOIST

BASEMENT HEIGHT TO BEAMS

KIND OF BUILDING

EXPOSURE

ANY INDIRECT

AUTOMATIC REGULATION

HOT WATER SUPPLY

KIND OF BOILER

COIL IN BOILER

COVERING

EXPOSED RISERS



