

LIBRARY 56% WITH SHOW BY REPORT

Increase of 30 Per Cent in Circulation of Books During Past Year.

MEMBERSHIP NOW 19,493

East Side, Sellwood and Albina Stations Have Been Established and 282,793 Volumes Have Been Loaned.

An increase of about 30 per cent in the circulation of the Portland Public Library for the past year, as compared with its predecessor, is shown by the annual report of the president, Miss Mary Francis Isom. The report shows a total membership of 19,493, and a circulation of 282,793 volumes. The circulation is divided among the various stations as follows: Central, 203,267; Sellwood, 11,570; Albina, 4667; East Side, 4687; county, 25,221; county station, 27,221.

The records of the various departments and many interesting features of the institution are shown by the following excerpts from Miss Isom's report:

With the establishment of additional reading-rooms and of the three branch libraries which, though in the beginning small and the equipment meager, will serve the widely separated districts of Albina, East Side and Sellwood, the prospects for the coming year are most interesting. The problem now is not how to create an interest in the library, not how to encourage the reading of its books, but how, with a restricted staff, to meet the demands of a public that is growing in all sides and from all departments.

The past year has seen the first beginning of much new work, during this coming year the same amount of effort should be expended in making these new points of distribution stable and developing them to larger usefulness. Further expansion should be postponed.

Circulating Department.

New members, 1,548; total number of members, 19,493; attendance (approximate), 153,919; circulation of books, 282,793.

This department shows an increase in the use of its books of nearly 30 per cent over the preceding year and would have far exceeded that had it not been for the epidemic meningitis epidemic which afflicted the city last April and seriously affected the library for four months following. For two months the statistics of this department were far below those of 1906, and recovery was gradual and difficult. At the height of the epidemic the Health Officer ordered the library closed and for two days the building and books were thoroughly fumigated with formaldehyde gas.

The new volumes which were in circulation at the time were fumigated nightly on their return to the library, a process extending over four weeks.

Fearing that the closing of the library and the fumigating of the entire building with the formaldehyde vapor might have been unnecessary, and wishing to be informed for future occasions, a letter was sent to many librarians and some bacteriologists asking five questions, the two most important of which were: "Is it true that books known to have been in houses where cases existed of scarlet fever, measles, diphtheria, typhoid, typhus, or epidemic cerebro spinal meningitis, must they be destroyed or will formaldehyde in a closed room sterilize books stacked on shelves?"

We received the replies to our conclusions are that it is better to destroy books where they have been exposed to contagious diseases, and that the use of formaldehyde will not sterilize books stacked on the shelves.

The detailed work of the circulating department has proceeded as usual, and the results have been very satisfactory. A large number of its members have been seized the opportunities to do what some one has called "reading with the circulating books." To answer the first demand made upon the library and as promptly as possible an encouragement to the new patron. To meet these emergencies, if general lists have been made, also current lists, and five for the Y. M. C. A. classes. These lists are kept in a vertical file near the desk for the convenience of all the assistants.

Children's Department.

New members, 1,745; total number of members, 55,999; attendance (children), 55,999; circulation (children), 49,024; circulation (school), 17,901; circulation (pictures), 15,358.

The panic over the spinal meningitis naturally handicapped the work of this department, particularly in the library, and for three months the circulation practically collapsed, which accounts for the very low figures for the year.

The last two months, however, have redeemed the year and the days have been busy ones in the children's room.

A club of the older boys who frequent the library was organized in December, which has since increased to 25. This is called the "Boys' Club" and its interests are distinctly scientific.

Reference Department.

Total attendance, 28,751; questions requiring research answered, 2,661; books brought for consultation from other departments, 7,239; circulation of books and plates, 273; reading lists compiled, 29; maps indexed, 152; articles indexed, 21; new numbers added, 12,786.

The work of this department has developed along the usual lines with but few changes during the past year. The attendance has been increased, and such numbers that the capacity of the room is often taxed, and on Sundays and holidays particularly, when men see more for special study, it is often difficult to find space in the tables.

Thirty-nine reading lists have been prepared during the year, and two revised. These are for school and club work or in connection with exhibits, and cover a wide range of subjects.

The work of this department would be greatly facilitated and would be of immensely more value to the community if it were in telephonic connection with the outside world. To have information furnished immediately, and to have it furnished immediately, would be a waste of time often doubles its value.

Periodical Room.

Attendance, 4,130; periodicals purchased, 198; periodicals given, 21; newspapers purchased, 21; newspapers given, 67.

The attendance in this room has greatly exceeded that of last year, and it is often too crowded for the comfort of those visiting it. Every available chair is occupied during the hours of the day, and it is not infrequently necessary to stand leaning against the window, leaning on the table, or sitting on the floor. The available space is now entirely filled with racks, and there seems no room for expansion in any direction.

County Department.

Branch libraries, 2; deposit stations, 15; fire companies, 7; new members, 2,608; circulation, 27,221.

It is not easy to draw comparisons of the work of this department between 1906 and 1907, except in the membership, which has doubled, and the circulation of books, which has tripled. In 1906 there were 29 deposit stations, there are now but 15, those discontinued having been supplanted by branch libraries or read-

READING ROOMS.

The reading-rooms have proved an economical and effective method of book distribution, and are maintained by the cooperation of the residents of the locality with the library, the former providing the room heated and lighted, while the library is responsible for the salary of the custodian and furnishes the books and magazines. The rooms are open for five hours during the afternoon and evening, and in addition each custodian is required to spend one morning each week at the Central Library for instruction and suggestion. A small group of books is placed in each reading room, and between 200 and 300 circulating books. These are kept fresh by weekly exchange, and the delivery of books specially requested supplements this deposit collection. The first reading room was opened at South Portland on January 16, and followed by Montavilla on February 9, St. John on April 15, Forest Hill on April 27, and Graham on May 16.

Deposit Stations.

Circulation, 11,570; new members, 1,548; total number of members, 19,493; attendance (approximate), 153,919; circulation of books, 282,793.

Though the number of stations is smaller than in 1906, the circulation of books shows an increase of 3000. The problem in the maintenance of these traveling libraries lies in finding suitable places, and in securing a custodian, nearly everywhere, and if the public-spirited citizen imbued with a love of books, and a desire to help his neighbors were always one with the man who has the convenient country home or available postoffice, a list of well-patronized library stations would be much longer.

Sellwood Branch.

New members, 454; total number of members, 534; attendance (approximate), 15,358; circulation, 11,570.

The reading room at Sellwood, which was maintained for two years by the residents of Sellwood, was opened as a branch library on March 12. The building, which was formerly a store, was remodeled as much as it would allow, the furnishings freshened, shelves, tables and chairs replaced, and a collection of books, and Miss Mary C. Corbush was placed in charge. The library has had to overcome the feeling that it was a boys' club, and perhaps a club of unruly boys, but the pleasant atmosphere that has been established by the librarian, and the prompt response to inquiry and request, as well as the diligent cleaning of school, mill and factory, has borne fruit and the respect of the community has been won.

Albina Branch.

New members, 462; total number of members, 513; attendance (approximate), 15,358; circulation, 11,570.

Efforts had been made early in the year to find a suitable location for a branch library in this crowded section of the city, but it was not until September that vacant store room in the Emporium building was discovered of sufficient size to warrant the experiment. This room was comfortably and pleasantly furnished and on September 16 the branch was opened in charge of Miss Elizabeth G. Deane. It was with which the people of Albina, young and old, have taken advantage of this opportunity, and the number of those who believed most thoroughly in it. It has been almost impossible to keep the shelves supplied with books until its special collection could be made ready.

East Side Branch.

New members, 462; total number of members, 513; attendance (approximate), 15,358; circulation, 11,570.

The necessity of a library on the East Side has been a matter of concern since the opening of the new High School, the hundreds of scholars who attend it have to travel a long distance to the Central Library. No provision has been made for the use of the school building, and the Board of Education has petitioned for the use of the southeast basement room in the High School building. The request was granted, and on October 1 the library was opened. Miss Elizabeth K. Clarke, graduate of Pratt Institute Library School, 1907, was appointed librarian. The room is pleasant and sunny, with windows above ground, and it has been actively appreciated by the teachers and scholars of both the High School and the Hawthorne School. Fortunately for the convenience of this branch, the room is in demand by the manual training department and the library is probably by ready for occupancy upon March 1.

Cataloging Department.

Volumes catalogued during the year, 12,477; volumes plated, labeled and prepared for the shelves, 18,293; volumes prepared for binding, 446; volumes prepared for rebinding, 4,675; volumes discarded, 1,599.

Without this department all the other departments would fall, as a fire cannot burn without fuel, it seems fitting that the account of its work should conclude the report of the year's activities. Thirteen thousand four hundred and seventy-seven volumes were added to the library, a gain of 304 over 1906, surely a good record; of these, however, only 446 were new titles, showing that most of the increase was in copies for the branches.

In addition to the usual routine may be noted the preparation of the books and catalogues for the three branches, the cataloging and shelving of the Government documents, the cataloging of much "Oregoniana," legislative journals and session laws, and documents, etc., and the completion of the catalogue for the circulating room.

Order Department.

Addition by purchase, 11,559; addition by gift, 621; additions by former charged, 76; copies, 221; additions for circulation, 11,254; additions for reference, 1,332; volumes discarded, 1,599.

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Gifts.

The library has been the recipient of many gifts, including Government documents, and 2382 pamphlets, including trade catalogues. The most important gifts have been the beautiful set presented by Miss Mary F. Felling. Through her constant generosity the library is building up an unusual and rare art collection and one of which we can be justly proud. Mr. H. W. Scott has presented the valuable Johnson's famous dictionary in large folios, and Mrs. M. V. Russell, in memory of her husband, who was specially interested in Albina, gave 61 volumes to the Albina branch.

The library again gladly acknowledges its debt to the papers, both of city and county, for space given for book lists and notices, particularly to the editor of the Nachrichten, who, without request, lists the German books in the library for the benefit of his readers, with an excellent notice upon the opportunity of the library of others.

Perfect fitting glasses \$1 at Metzger's.

CANDIDATES PUT ON THE GRIDIRON

They Willingly Attend Club's Banquet to Hear Themselves "Joshed."

SONGS TO THE PRESIDENTS

Elephant and Donkey Unite in Duet and Sing Soufully—President and Would-Be Presidents Pour Forth Oratory.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—"It was a grand political rally and barbecue in the hall of the Willard House." This was the official description of the twenty-third annual Winter dinner tendered tonight by the Gridiron Club to as many of its friends as could conveniently be seated at the flower-bedecked tables in the great ballroom of the New Willard Hotel. Cut flowers, glass palms and potted plants, with splashes of beautiful coloring made by the red poinsettias and other Winter-blooming plants, had transformed the handsome room into a bower of floral beauty.

Candidates in Limelight.

Into this scene of almost tropical splendor were introduced, with characteristic Gridiron felicity, aspirants to the Presidency for state candidates tonight. Into the limelight were brought William J. Bryan, still "the peerless leader," Vice-President Charles W. Fairbanks, Justice George Gray, Speaker Joseph G. Cannon, ex-Attorney-General Judson D. Harmon and United States Senator Philander C. Knox, all of whom figure as factors in the Presidential equation. The President of the United States Theodore Roosevelt who, it was alleged at the dinner had longer than any other to his declination of another term as President, was afforded an opportunity to look over at close range some of those who are in the best of his possible successors.

Songs Full of Jollity.

An impressive feature of the dinner was the inauguration of a new president of the club, James Henry, of the Philadelphia Press. During the evening songs were sung to the President and the candidates for the Presidency, and they were all rollicking songs full of jollity and without a sting or bite in any of them. Indeed, the song book was which, with the court jester constituted the literary features of the dinner, afforded not only the candidates themselves but all of the guests a lot of food for thought. On the covers of the song book were the elephant and the donkey, singing as if they really meant it. The song book was a souvenir of the banquet and was dedicated to "the candidate who stays put."

Mourn for Emory Smith.

During one period of the banquet songs or jents were lunched while elegant tribute was paid by members and guests to the memory of Charles Emory Smith, whose death only a few days ago prevented him from being present at this dinner as one of the club's guests of honor.

Among the speakers during the evening were President Roosevelt, Vice-President Fairbanks, Mr. Bryan, Judge Gray, George Ade, Speaker Cannon, Representative John Sharp Williams, Senator Knox, Secretary Root, Ambassador Hays, Richard C. Wright, Rev. Henry Y. Satterlee, bishop of Washington.

Among those present were Secretaries Strauss and Wilson, Postmaster General Meyer, the Brazilian Ambassador, the Minister from Switzerland, Senators Beveridge, Kittredge, Long, Newcomb, Scott, Perkins, Stone, Representatives Loudenslager, Lowden, Moore, Tawney; Governor Hoggatt, of Alaska.

One More Week

In which to take advantage of Nicoll's tempting offer of A FULL SUIT AND EXTRA TROUSERS

For the Price of Suit Alone

Suit and Extra Trousers \$25 to \$50

NICOLL'S SPECIAL

Full black or blue chevrot or Thibet Suit, with extra trousers of same or striped material \$25

Satisfaction guaranteed in all cases. Garments to order in a day if required. Full Dress and Tuxedo Suits a specialty.

WILLIAM JERREMS' SONS, 108 THIRD STREET

Hans and Gertrud Fleischmann, son and daughter of the old collector, who took up their father's work after his death. Cummerford came to San Francisco at the suggestion of Gustavus P. Gunn Clark, the director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The search had already covered a large number of the galleries in the East when the advice of Sir Gaspar was asked, and the collection of the millionaires in San Francisco as the possible repositories of the missing masterpiece were suggested. Cummerford found that the picture had been owned here and had been lost in the fire.

VANDERBILTS MAKE PEACE

Cornelius, Oldest Son, Agrees to Give Away His Sister.

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—(Special.)—The Vanderbilts have finally become reconciled to the marriage of Gladys to Count Szechenyi.

Count Szechenyi, the oldest son, has agreed to his mother's wish that he come back to his rightful place as head of the family and give his sister away to the Count. Gladys, who has been married to Alfred, the second son, has also agreed to attend the wedding and to greet the Count as a brother-in-law.

Among the handiest gifts are those from the members of Miss Vanderbilt's most immediate family. The silverware, the Count's gift, is especially rich and beautiful. It is a tea service of exquisite workmanship.

From Mr. and Mrs. Alfred and Mr. and Mrs. Szechenyi, the Count's gift, is a full dinner service of silver. Mr. and Mrs. William Edgar Shepard sent a beautiful set of desert plates. Mrs. Shepard is Mrs. Vanderbilt's sister. The bride will have jewels and gems galore. The handsomest stones as well as those of greatest value are in the bride's collection. The diamonds sent by Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Vanderbilt. The gift of the bride's mother is a very rich and effective large tiara of solitaire diamonds with a large tiara, also of diamonds and pearls.

There is a set of gold plate from Miss Kathlene Vanderbilt and Senator and Mrs. Richard C. Wright sent a large massive centerpiece of silver.

FARMER RECOVERS HOME

Lost Title to Timber Barons When Hermann Was in Land Office.

SEATTLE, Wash., Jan. 25.—(Special.)—George Anderson, of Seattle, has at last recovered title to 100 acres of fine land near Snoqualmie, which he originally took up as a homestead and which by various deals came into possession of the Northern Pacific Railroad and the Puget Sound Lumber Company through alleged unfair dealings of Blinger Hermann, then Commissioner of the Land Office.

Anderson made settlement on the property in 1896. He built a home and did other work, but his wife took sick and he was forced to leave in 1897. In July, 1906, the Northern Pacific filed on the land and Anderson appealed to Blinger Hermann without avail. Then the railroad company sold the land to the Weyerhaeuser Lumber Company.

Suit was brought in 1906, and Secretary of the Interior Charles D. Smith proposed to donate the land to the timber company to reconvey the lands to the Government. Both companies refused to consent, and the Secretary's ruling, but the final ruling in Anderson's favor was made in December, he having been informed of the fact only a day or so ago.

The land is worth \$300 an acre.

STRAYS GO AFTER FLEET

Brazil Picks Up Deserters—Chilean Squadron to Give Welcome.

RIO JANEIRO, Jan. 25.—The police of this city have captured six sailors from the American battleships, who had either deserted or failed to return on board before their vessels sailed from here three days ago. They will be sent after the fleet on a collier.

A dispatch from Valparaiso says that the Chilean squadron which will welcome the American battleships to Chilean waters has arrived at Valdivia. The British cruiser Sapho, which has been on the west coast, is now on her way down to Punta Arenas.

A large party of Chileans has chartered a special steamer and will go out from Valparaiso to greet the American squadron as they pass up the coast.

ACQUIT LIEUTENANT JONES

Presidio Court-Martial Finds Army Officer Not Guilty.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 25.—Lieutenant Thomas A. Jones has been acquitted by a court-martial at the Presidio, after a trial lasting three months. Jones was charged with having received a bribe a horse and buggy from Otto Johnson, a contractor at Sausalito. He was also charged with mismanagement of the quartermaster's department at Fort Baker.

The court-martial grew out of accusations made against Sergeant Grindley, who was at Fort Baker at that time. Grindley was tried by court-martial and acquitted.

AT THE HOTELS.

Hotel Portland—Toshio H. Ayashi, Tokio; M. A. Warren, Lincoln; W. F. Collins, New

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Benjamin's

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WILL END IN A FEW DAYS

If you desire to take advantage of this liberal offer to secure the finest Ready-to-Wear Garments obtainable we suggest that you call at once. REDUCTIONS:

\$20 Suits, Overcoats \$15.00

\$25 Suits, Overcoats \$18.75

\$30 Suits, Overcoats \$22.50

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Sale Includes All Suits of Fancy Cheviots, Cassimere, Worsted Materials

SPECIAL SHIRT SALE 30 Dozen Regular \$1.25 Values 80c

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Paderewski, Grieg, De Pachmann, Busoni, Pugno, Leschetzsky, Stavenhagen, and Many of the World's Other Most Famous Pianists.

The Welte-Mignon is acknowledged the most wonderful musical invention in history. It is little short of a miracle. To hear it is to be literally ushered into the very presence of the greatest artists of modern times. Those who will hear Carreno, in her recital at the Heilig February 3d, will be interested in hearing her also upon the Mignon, either before or after her engagement; for it is not so much in hearing an artist once as in the repeated performances that the greatest appreciation is derived. Through the Mignon, it is possible to not only hear practically every great pianist of today, but to hear them as often as one may desire, at will—to study, to compare, to enjoy, as is possible in no other way.

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