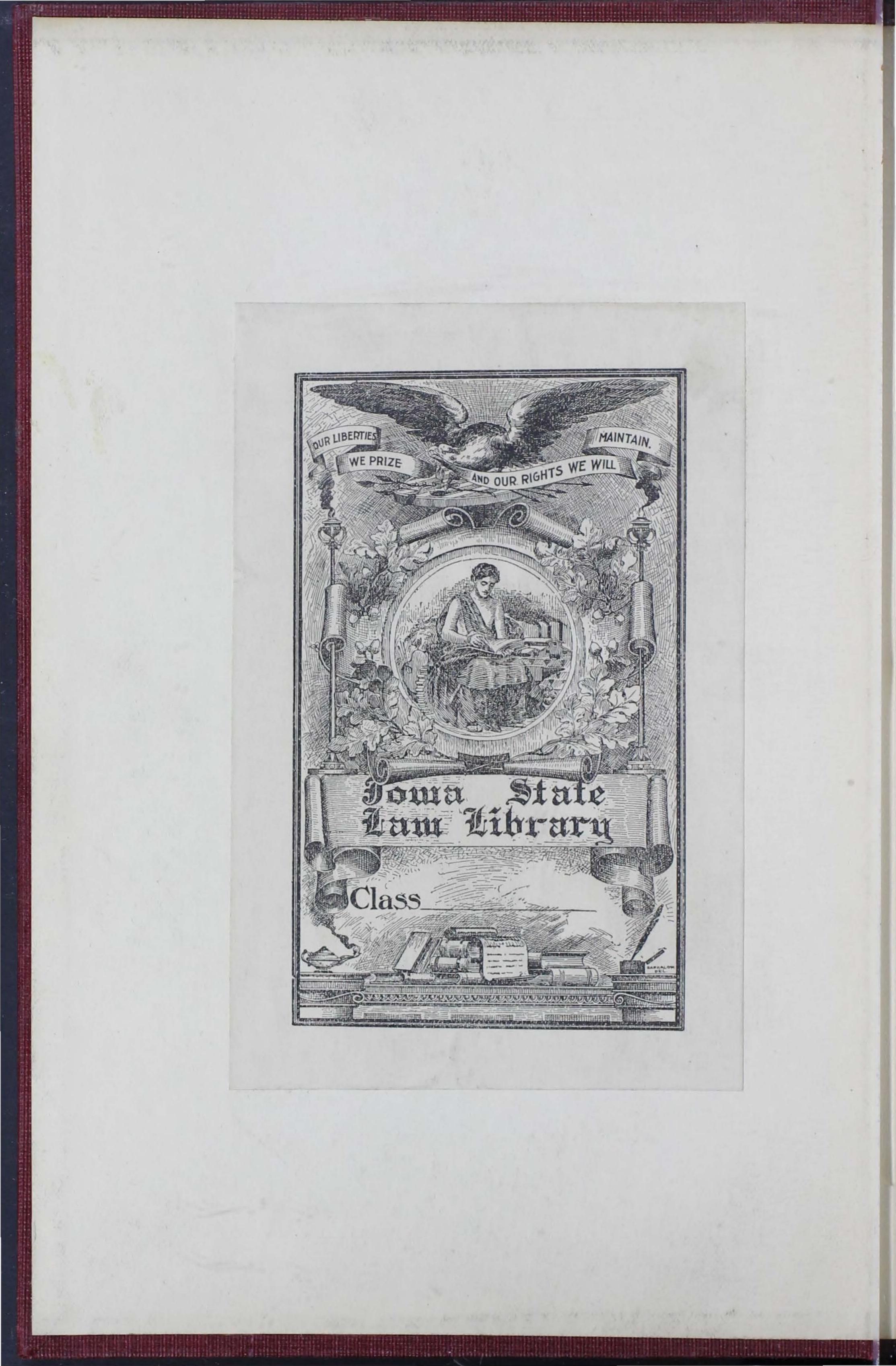
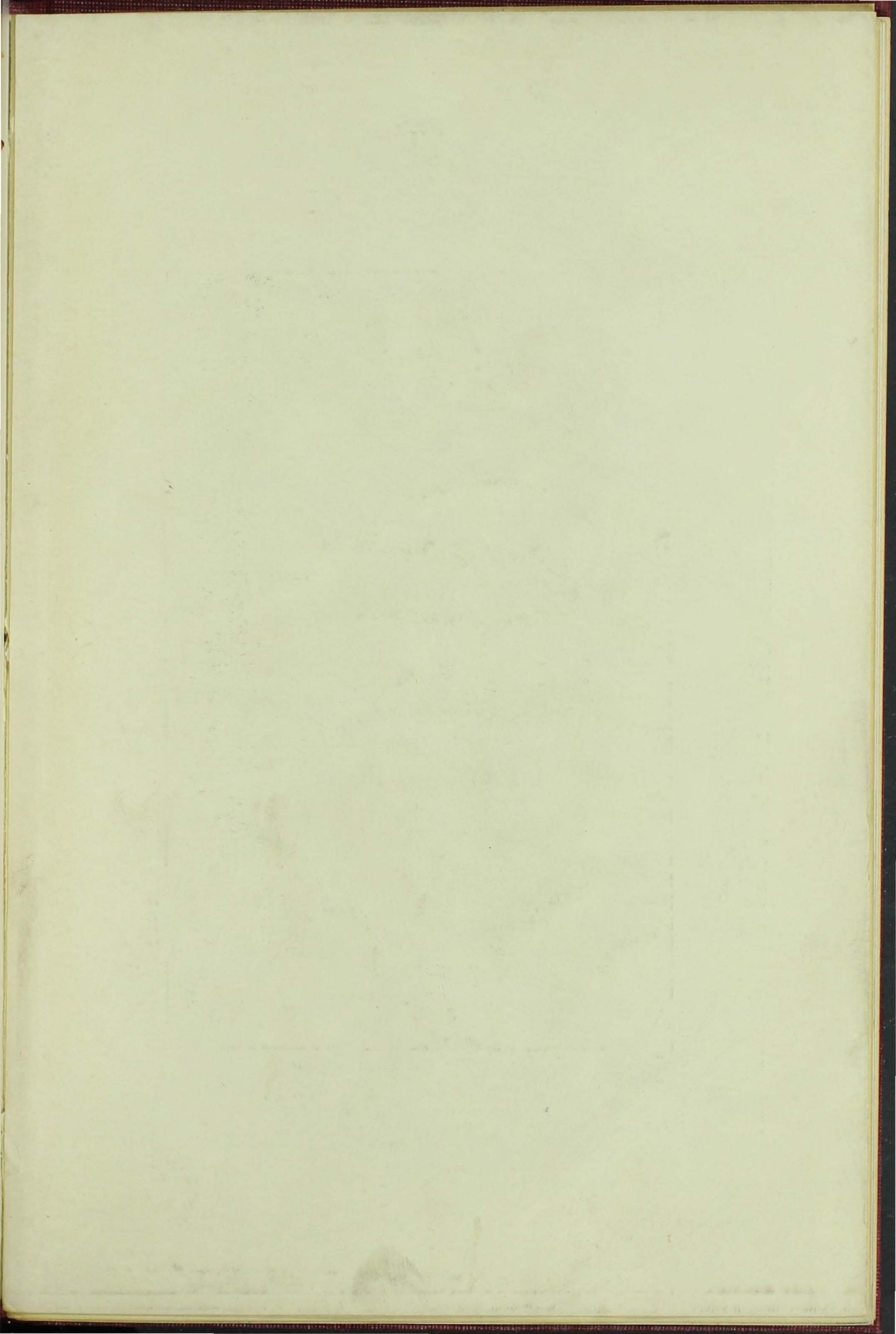
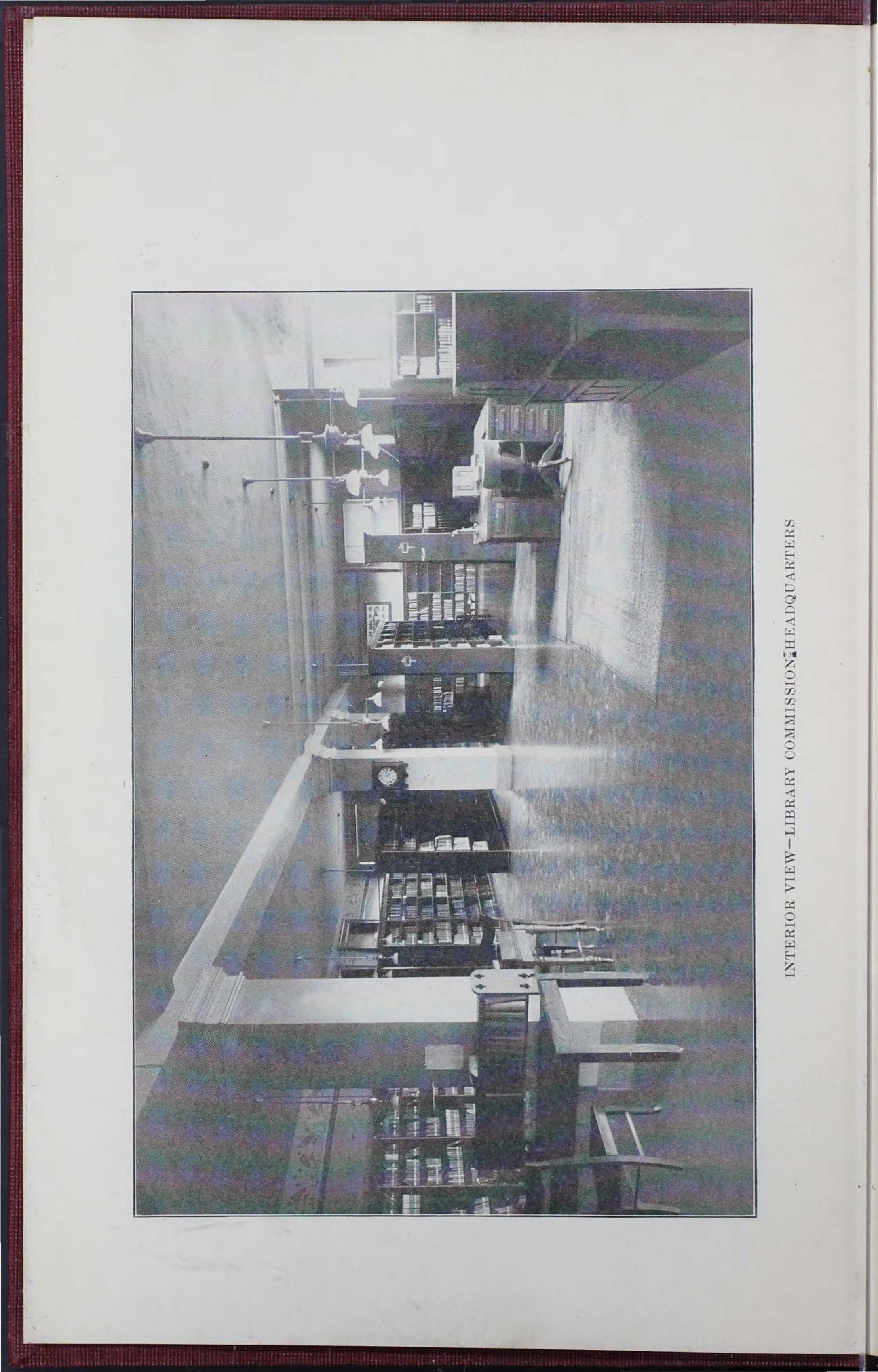


1910-1912









OF THE

Iowa Library Commission

MADE TO THE

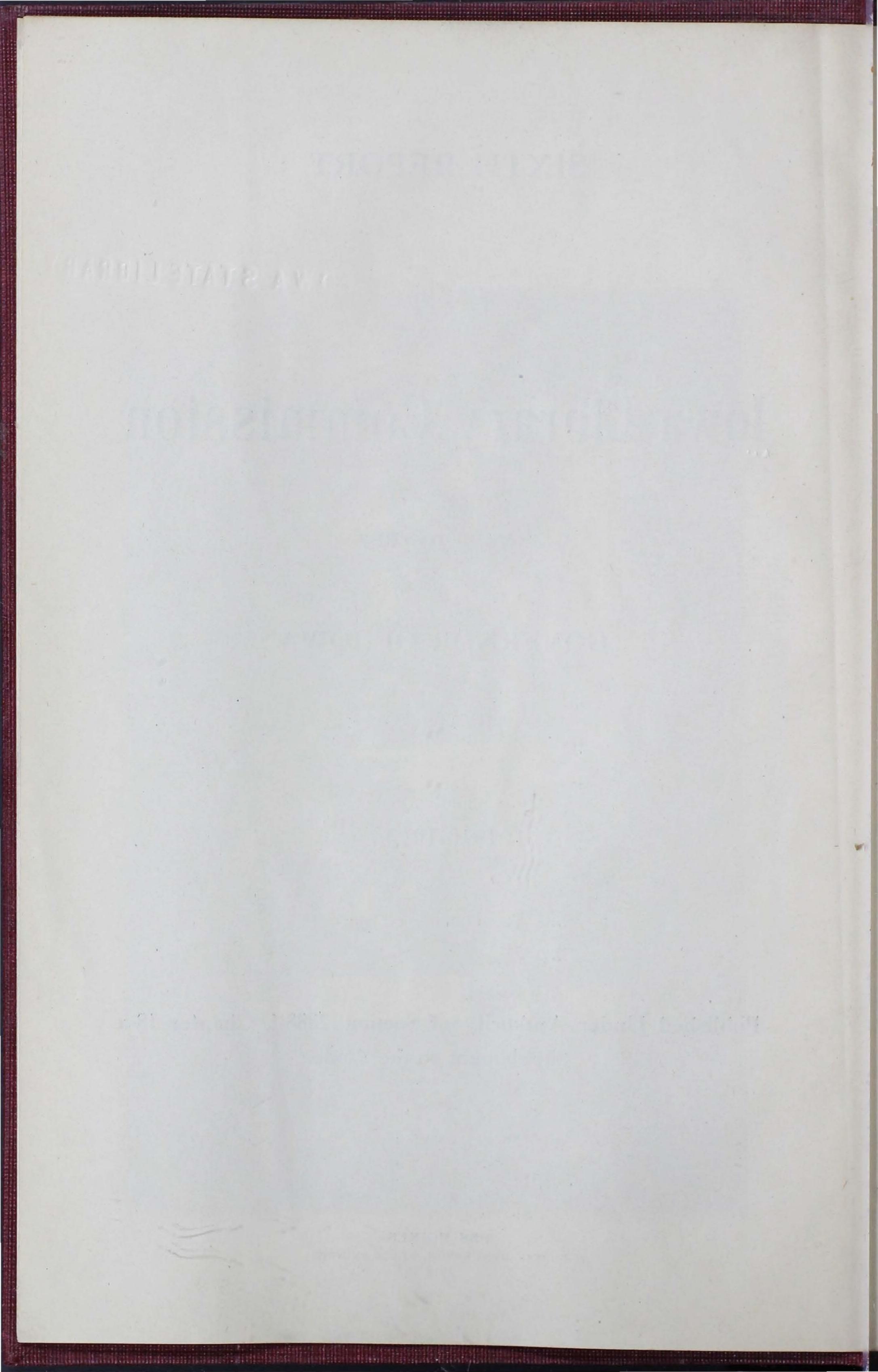
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

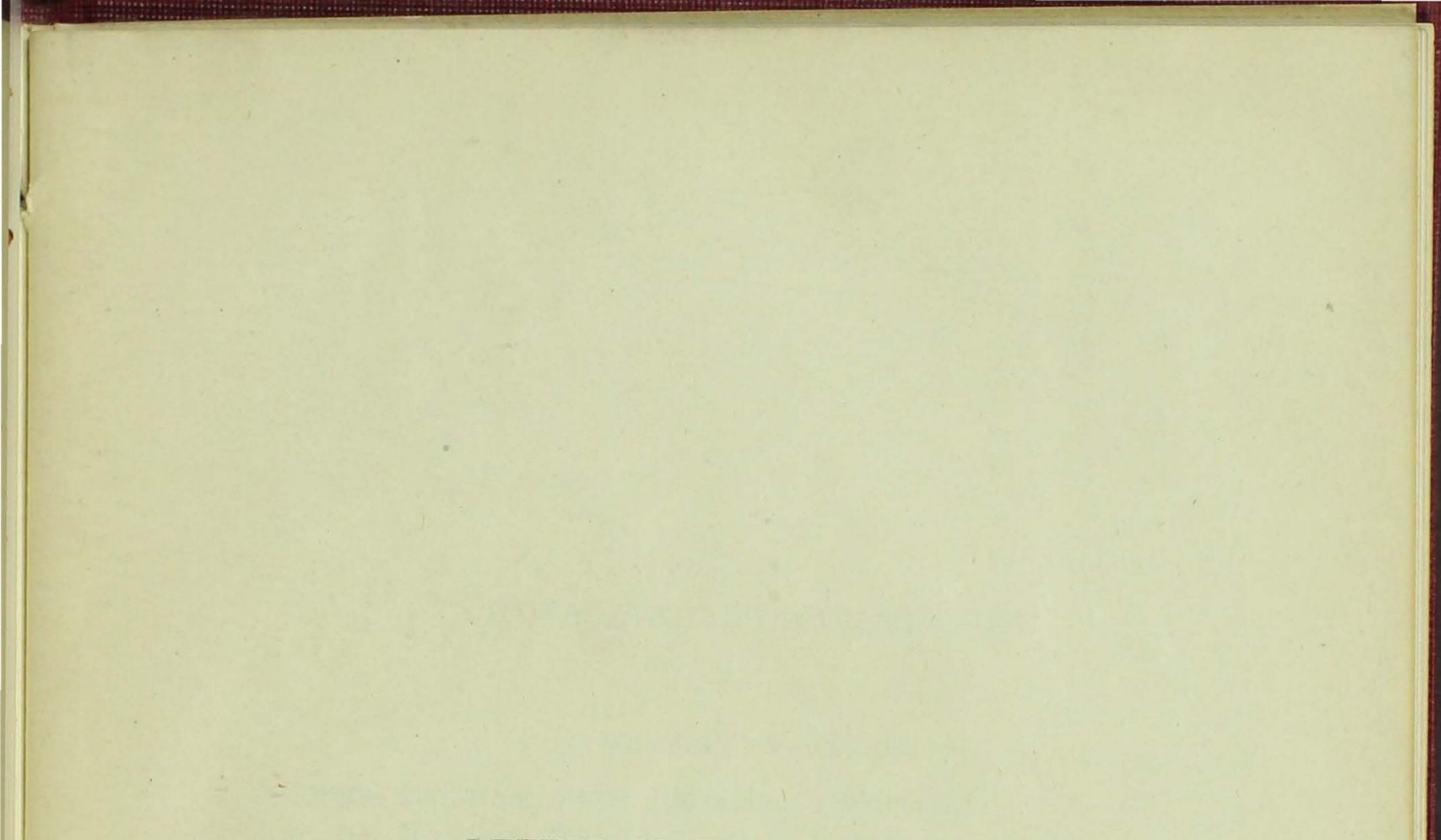
1910-1912

Published Under Authority of Section 2888-f, Chapter 18-a

Supplement to the Code

DES MOINES ROBERT HENDERSON, STATE PRINTER 1913



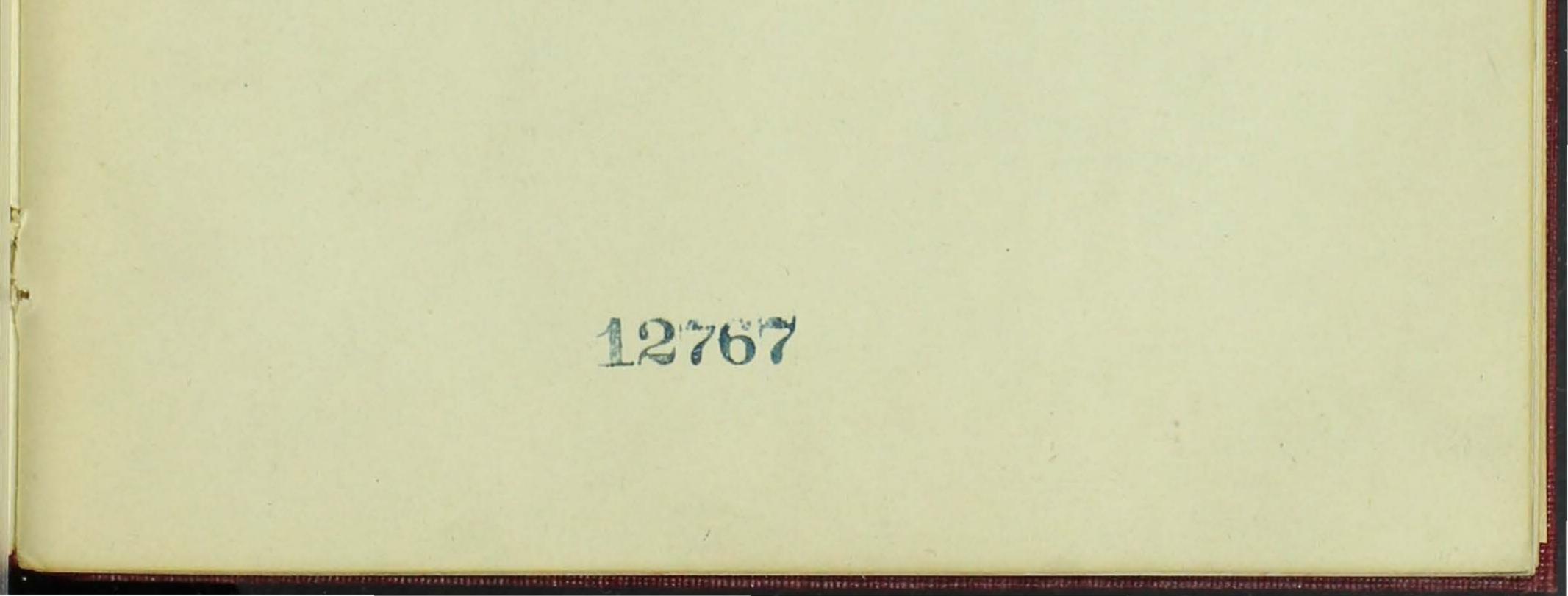


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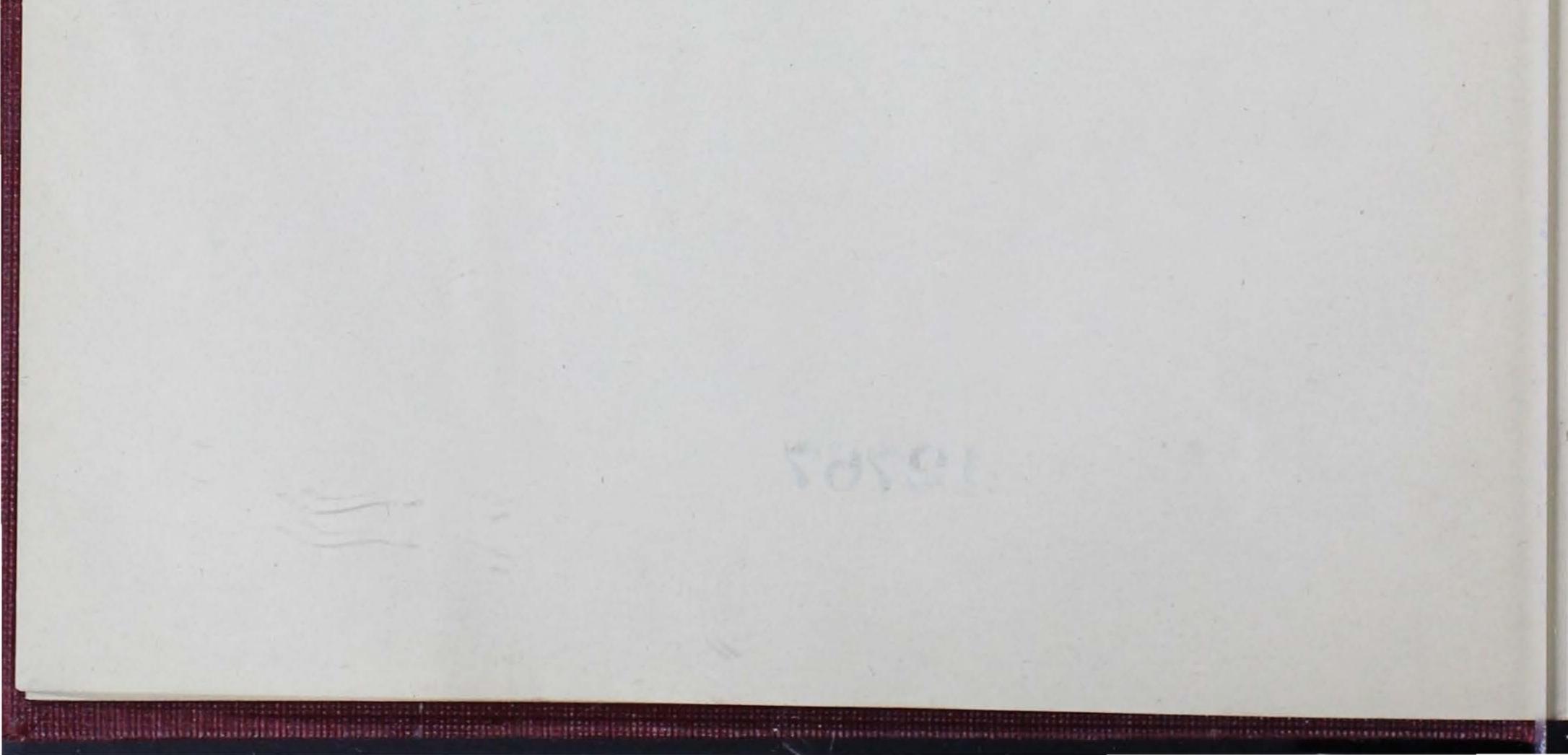
TO HONORABLE B. F. CARROLL, Governor of Iowa:

In compliance with Section 2888-f, Chapter 18-A, Supplement to The Code of Iowa, I herewith transmit the sixth report of the Iowa Library Commission for the biennial period, July 1, 1910, to June 30, 1912.

> ALICE S. TYLER, Secretary, Iowa Library Commission.







MEMBERS EX-OFFICIIS.

JOHNSON BRIGHAM, State Librarian, Chairman.

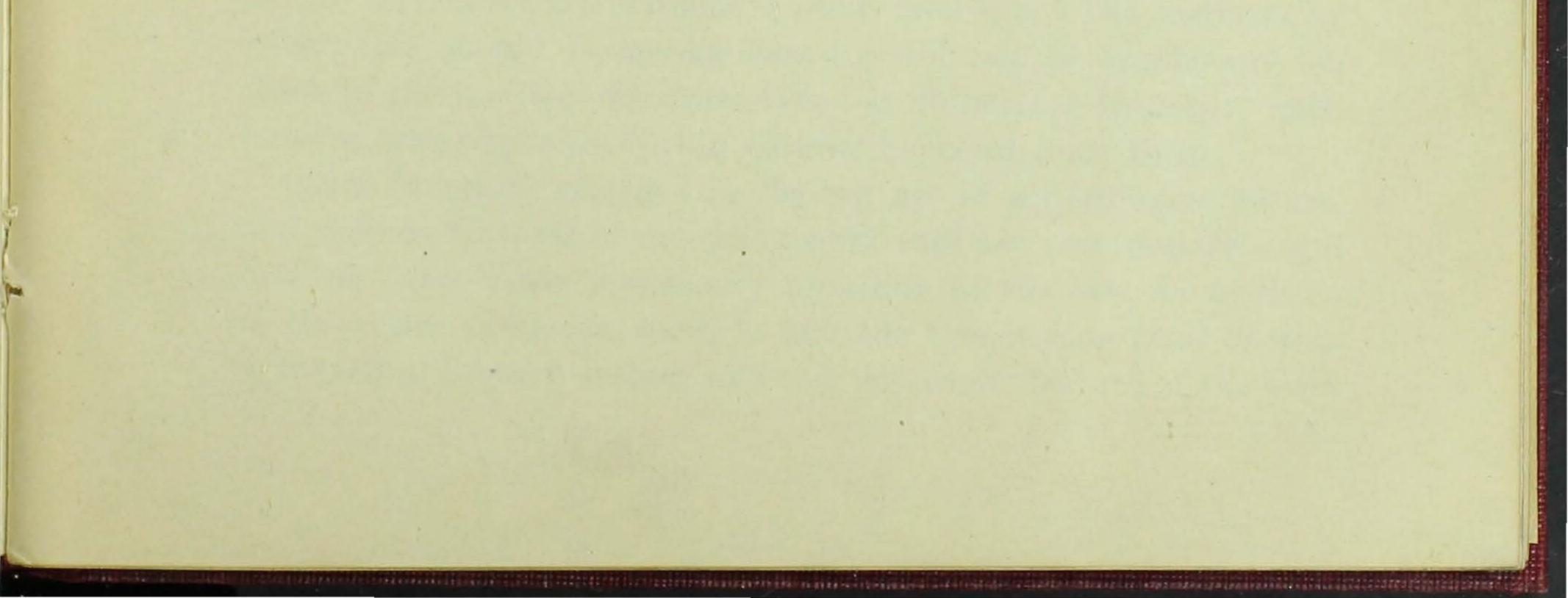
JOHN G. BOWMAN, President State University. A. M. DEYOE, State Superintendent Public Instruction.

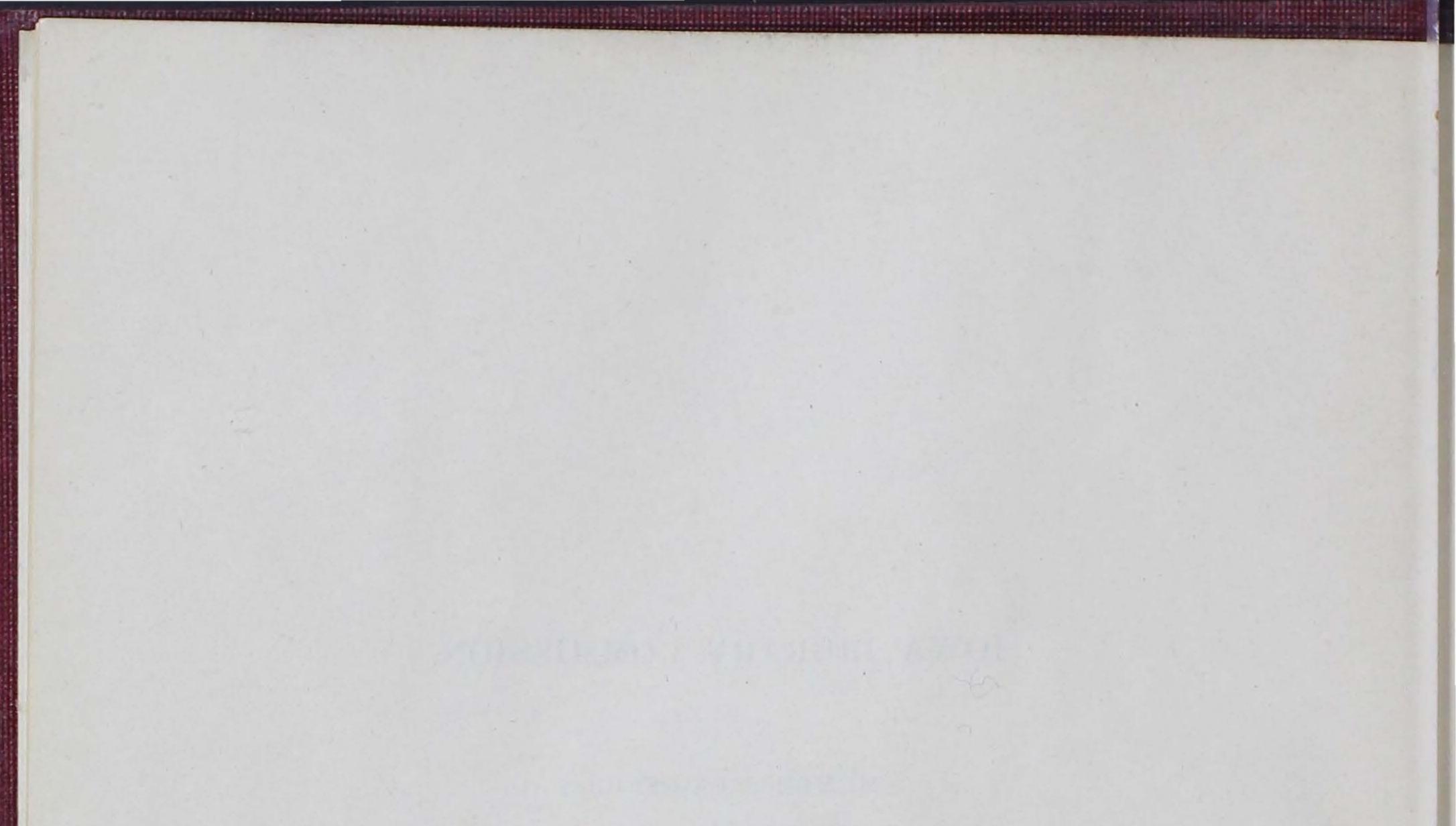
MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

MRS. HORACE M. TOWNER, Corning. MRS. DAVID W. NORRIS, Grinnell. MRS. HENRY J. HOWE, Marshalltown. *CAPT. W. H. JOHNSTON, Ft. Dodge. **MRS. A. J. BARKLEY, Boone.

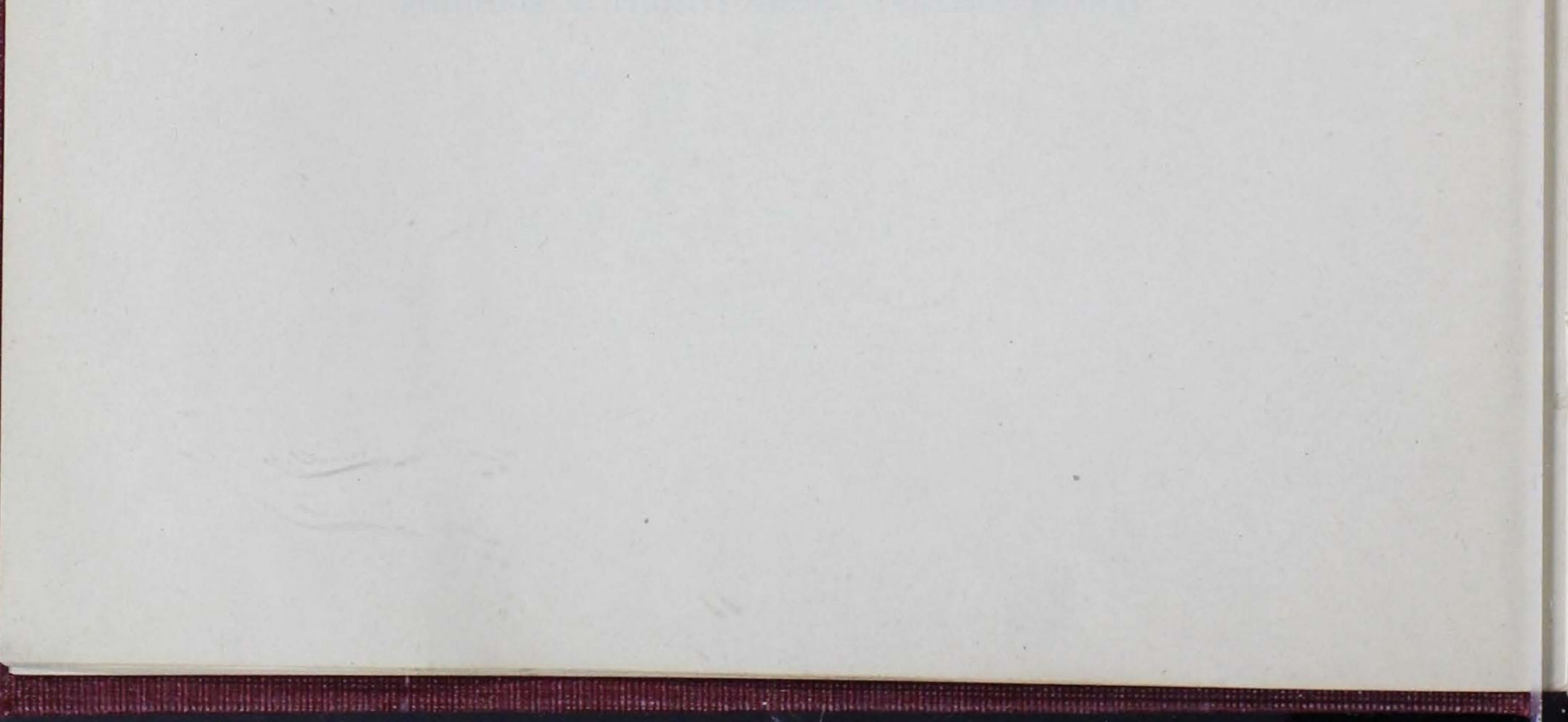
*Deceased June 6, 1911. **Appointed to succeed Capt. Johnston.

MISS ALICE S. TYLER, Secretary and Director of Library Extension. MISS MARGARET W. BROWN, Librarian. HEADQUARTERS: State Historical Building.





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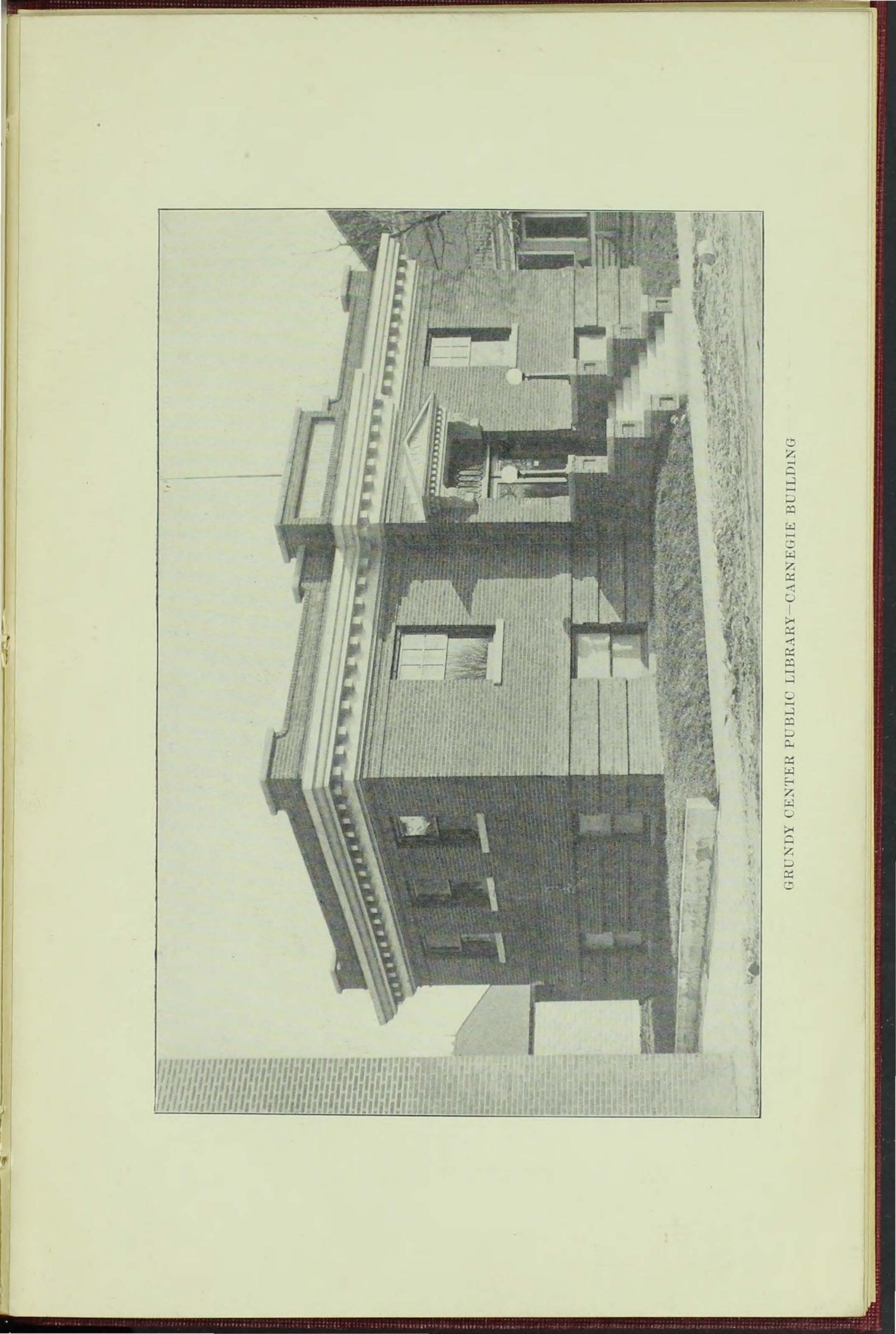
LIBRARY COMMISSION STATE OF IOWA

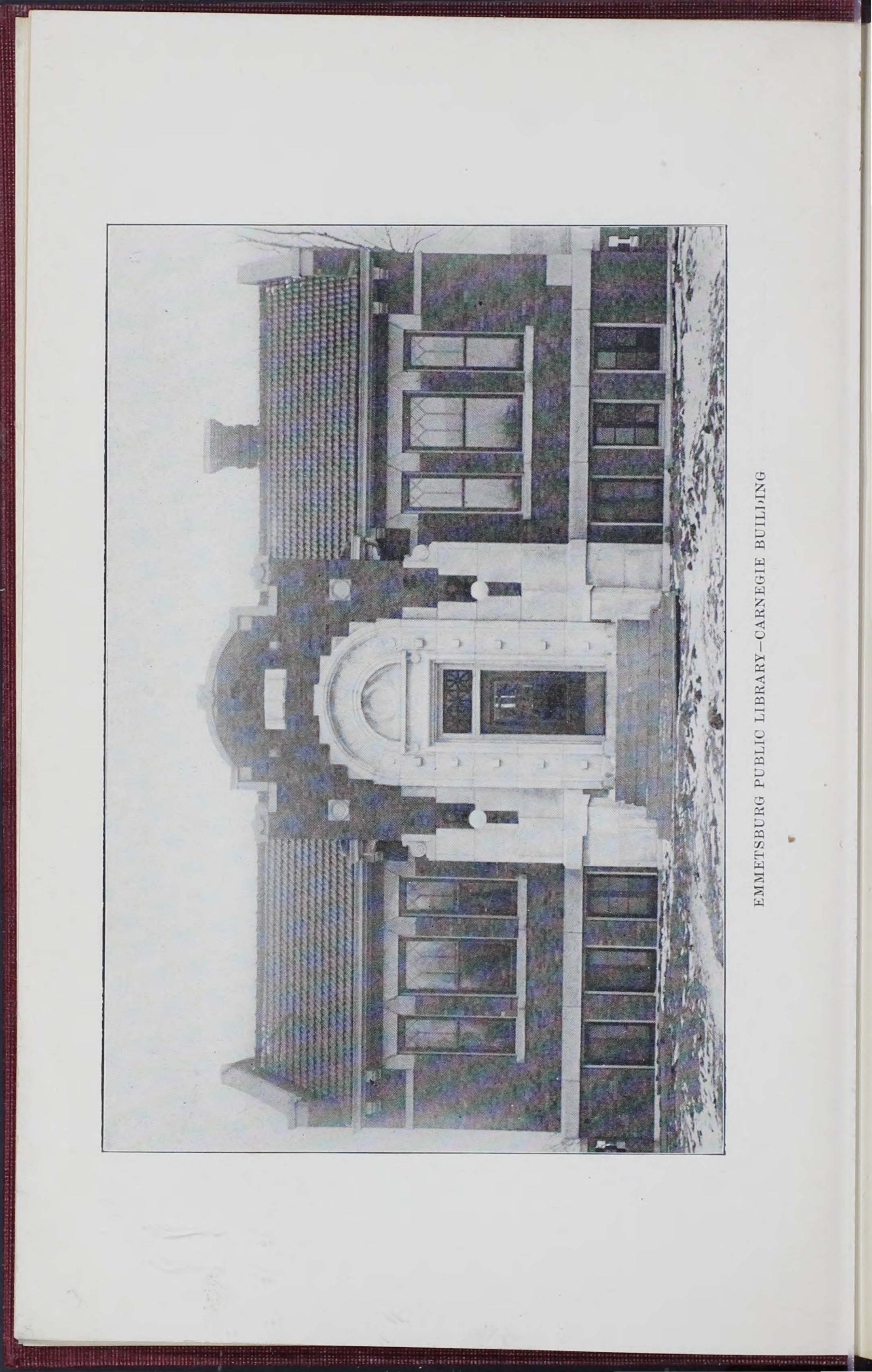
The Iowa Library Commission was created by a Legislative enactment for the explicit purpose of developing and extending the library interests of the State of Iowa. While some of the functions assigned to this Commission are permissive there are certain others which are mandatory. The law states definitely that "The Commission shall give advice and counsel to all free and other public libraries, and to all communities which may propose to establish them, as to the best means of establishing and maintaining such libraries, the selection of books, cataloging, and other details of library management." When this duty is carefully considered it is seen that it presents a far-reaching field of service, which the law requires the Commission to render, and the character of this service is one that calls for skilled and experienced workers. Advice and counsel cannot be given by those without training and experience; and the selection of books, cataloging and other details of library management call for the services of those who by temperment and education are able to impart information regarding these matters. It will be seen, therefore, that the first duty definitely laid upon this Commission is to provide skilled service in founding and developing local public libraries; aiding those libraries which are already in existence to adopt higher standards of service, and also establishing libraries in the various thriving towns and cities of the commonwealth without library facilities. The methods by which this should be accomplished could not be specifically set forth in the law but the Commission is authorized to employ such help as was requisite, within certain financial limitations. Other functions specified in the law are of a permissive nature, and include features of extension work that are very desirable and helpful. One other mandatory provision of the law, in addition to the active extension work, is that the Commission shall operate a Traveling Library system, and this important feature of the work

has been developed in the most gratifying way, as is shown later in this report.

The Library Commission is well advanced in the second decade of its history, and as the work progresses different results have been secured from those of the first decade. The obvious things that clamor to be done and which bring about the creation of an organization or movement provide immediate and unusual activities during the first few years; and in addition to this, the enthusiasm and zest with which those charged with the new task enter upon it, all enter into the character of the early work. The Library Commission has realized these usual experiences in the first ten years of its library propaganda in Iowa, its slogan being "More and better libraries for our state." Now, however, as the work of library extension advances throughout the state, and we have reached the period of steady growth our report must deal, not so much with an enumeration of new fields that have been entered and new libraries established, but more with the strengthening and deepening of the influence of public libraries in the various communities where they have existed for a sufficient number of years to have made a place for themselves in community life and to be recognized as educational agencies.

The number of free public libraries in the state on the municipal tax basis, has now reached 112, with the additional one at Webster City, which is maintained by the endowment of Mr. Kendall Young. During the past year two county seat towns have voted favorably on the establishment and maintenance of a public library by taxation, viz: Bloomfield, the county seat of Davis County, and Sigourney, the county seat of Keokuk county. The decision of these two, to provide public collections of books, reduces the county seat towns in the state without free public libraries to fourteen. In four of these county seat towns there are library associations, but there are no free public libraries supported by public taxation in the following fourteen counties: Adair, Allamakee, Butler, Clayton, Fremont, Louisa, Ringgold, Shelby, Taylor, Union, Van Buren, Wayne, Winnesheik, Worth. While it would be pleasing to state that we have no counties without libraries, we must recall the fact that the library movement is still young, that there are 99 counties in the state of Iowa, and that twelve years ago here were but forty-one free public libraries in the entire state. There has been





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rapid advance from year to year, and each year has seen several county seat towns enlisted in this popular educational work.

During the biennial period library buildings have been erected, or are now in process of erection and nearing completion, through the generosity of Mr. Carnegie, in the following towns: Audubon, \$9,000; Bloomfield, \$10,000; Colfax, \$6,500; Dunlap, \$10,000; Eldon, \$5,000; Emmetsburg, \$10,000; Grundy Center, \$10,000; Knoxville, \$10,000; Missouri Valley, \$10,000; Sac City, \$8,000; Sanborn, \$4,000; Sioux City, \$75,000, and Spirit Lake, \$10,000. Of these buildings the one at Sanborn and the one at Missouri Valley have been completed and are now occupied.

Many of the smaller towns of the state are seeking to provide library facilities for their citizens and a beginning has been made by organizing Library Associations or uniting in the support of subscription libraries. These libraries, of which there are about 40, are more or less unstable, because there is no permanent income for support and it is the hope in most of these towns to eventually vote a municipal tax under the provisions of the state law and provide free public libraries.

The pioneer task of arousing a sentiment in favor of voting the local tax, securing a reasonable collection of books and erecting a library building, calls for much courage, persistence and hopefulness on the part of those in the community, who are associated in the work of establishing the library, and the Secretary of the Library Commission actively cooperates in this work, in her capacity of Director of library extension. The majority of the Iowa libraries have now, however, reached a position of permanence and strength where more attention and more funds can and must be brought to bear upon the far-reaching problems of active book distribution. According to the statistics sent to the Library Commission office at the end of the year 1911, the total number of volumes in the free public libraries of the state was almost 800,000, or to be exact, 789,038 volumes, and the reports of circulation of these books during the year 1911 was 2,487,595. These figures do not include the Association libraries, the college and university libraries, or the libraries in the various state institutions, under the Board of Control, and the state libraries, but only free public libraries. This use of books exceeds the total population of our state by several thousand, and we can at least say that our free public libraries made possible the use of books

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during the year that averaged the reading of at least one book by every inhabitant of the state.

The librarian is becoming recognized in many of our towns and cities as an important and necessary factor in any movement for civic or social betterment. One of the statements made at the recent meeting of the American Library Association, which aroused much interest, was that the librarian should spend at least 50 per cent of her time outside the library building knowing her community and its interests and needs. Some of the Iowa librarians are active in local movements for community betterment and are recognized as thoughtful students of civic questions. The "social center idea" as applied to the libraries in the smaller cities and towns, is bringing into use the lecture rooms and club rooms in library buildings in a way to attract new readers to the books and to inspire the community with renewed interest in the library through the talks, lectures, pictures and music that is there provided. Public libraries with reasonably large collections of books, should be the logical centers to which people may turn for guidance in reading and study, after the class room has been left behind. The random reader with little purpose and small acquaintance with books, should find sympathetic suggestion and guidance, so that his interest is aroused in new subjects and new fields of thought are suggested. The eager seeker who is not a scholar, welcomes a guide through the labyrinth of literature, so that he may find the best that is available on the subject in which he is interested. Hence, the skilled librarian is a vitally important factor in developing new methods of service, and the quality of this service is largely the test of the library's efficiency. This Commission is solicitous that the librarians of the state shall evolve plans that will best serve the needs of the people of each community and there is a growing recognition of the function of the librarian as a director of reading which is making for a higher grade of library service. The preparation and printing of outlines and courses of reading that will aid the librarian in this work is a logical part of this development. The fact that thousands are enrolled each year in the various correspondence schools and other commercialized methods of teaching, is evidence of the desire on the part of many, for direction in study and reading. The spoken word will always be potent and should be utilized by the libraries in attracting attention to the

silent printed page, as the books other than fiction are often unheard of by many people. The lecture rooms and club rooms in our library buildings afford facilities for book talks, travel talks, with pictures and various methods of interesting indifferent people in the resources of the library. Where but to the local public library, supported by taxation as an educational center, should the people turn for aid in self education? "The true university for the people is a collection of books."

The question of rural extension of library privileges is here to stay. It is neither a fad nor an experiment. We have, however, learned much by that school which is so rigid and unyielding experience—and know that the Iowa township library extension law is greatly in need of amendment to meet the actual conditions

which have developed as the law has been tested. To the three towns of Clarinda, Tipton and Onawa we are especially indebted for testing the law, where such gratifying results have been shown even with the weaknesses of the law which have been revealed. We are under especial obligation to the Onawa public library, both for the strong support financially and otherwise, that Judge Addison Oliver gave to the work of township extension, and to Miss Ellen I. True, the Onawa librarian, for her persistent, enthusiastic labors in bringing about the admirable extension work in Monona county. The conditions of present day life are such that whether we wish it or not, libraries are compelled to adopt some of the policies and methods of the commercial and business world, and the principle of extension is one that has been thoroughly accepted and is being developed in the activities of the business world. "The old order changeth." Under the pressure of present day life it is not expected that people shall go to material things at some central point in order to secure the benefits that are offered, but commodities are made as easily accessible to the people as possible for their convenience and comfort. Books as an educational commodity must,

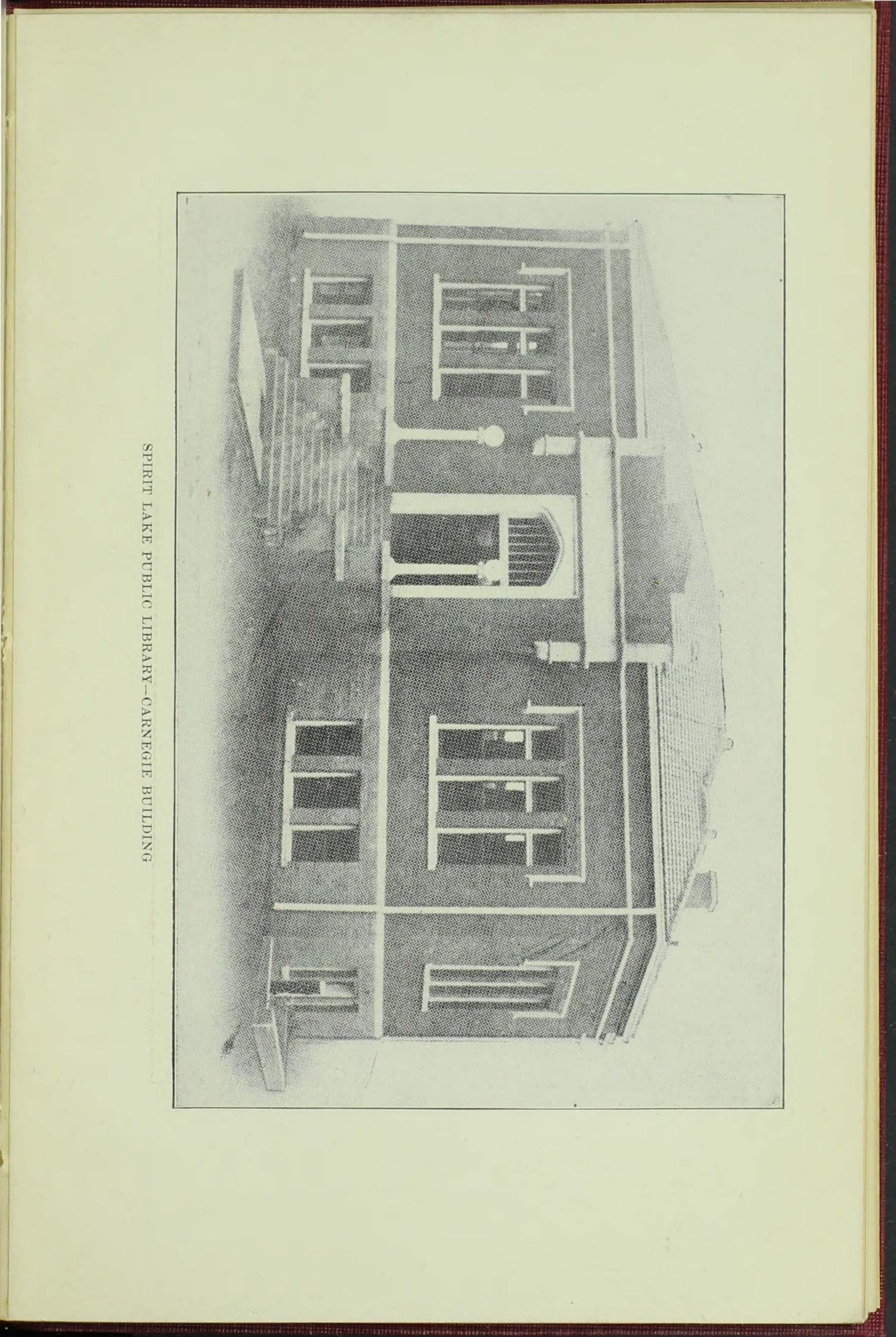
in the hands of librarians, be made accessible by similar methods.

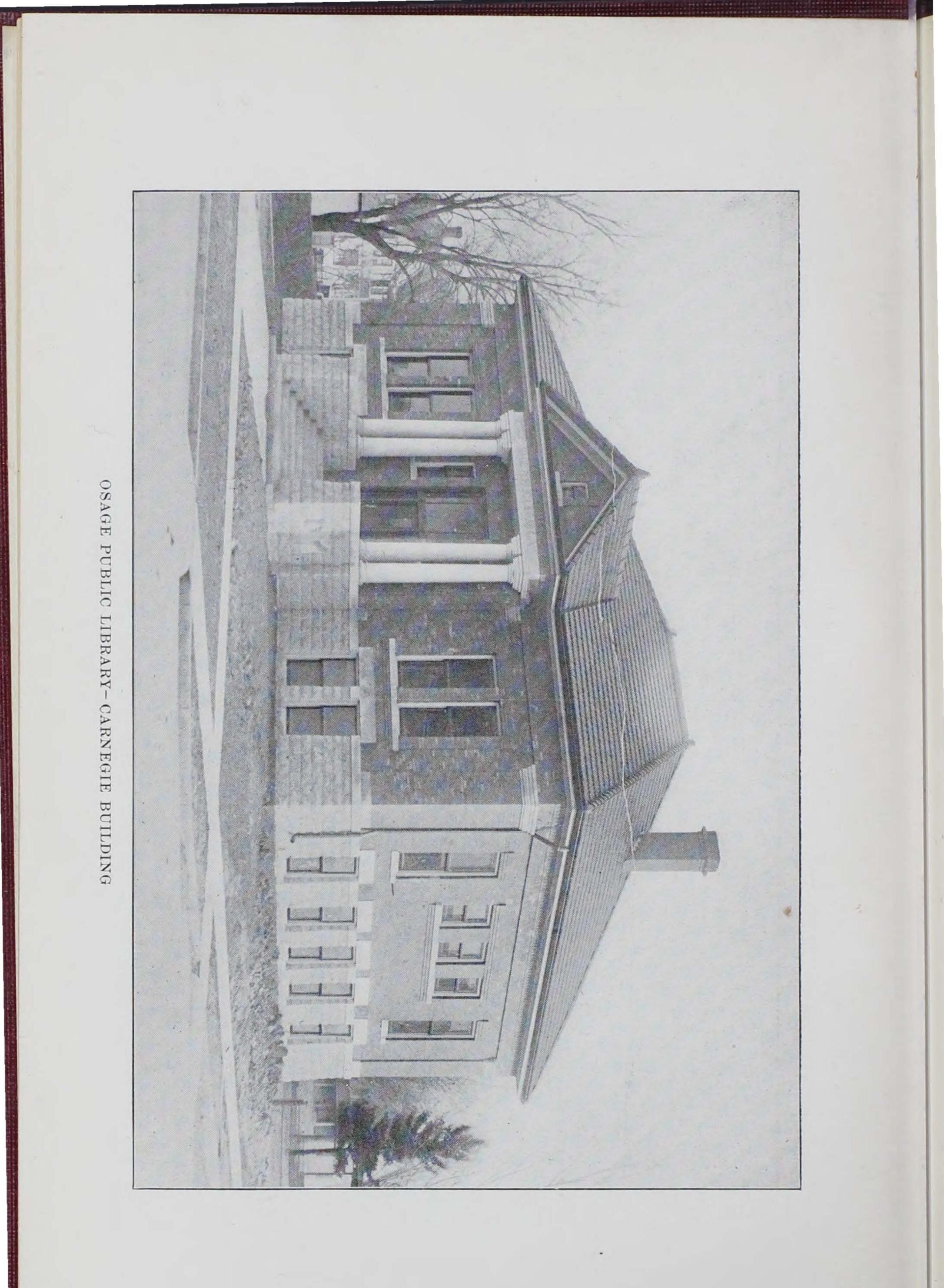
"Library Publicity" is an outgrowth of this principle of adaptation of present day methods to educational work which have been tested in the business world and found applicable to the work of public libraries, and we are now realizing that the people must be told about their own libraries in order that they may realize that the *real* books are there and that recent fiction is quite incidental.

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It is a matter for congratulation that the State Board of Control of the State institutions has restored the position of Supervising Librarian of State Institutions, and that Miss Julia A. Robinson has been elected to that position. She has been associated with the work of the Kentucky Library Commission, but is an Iowan and a graduate of the Wisconsin Library School. Considerable national recognition has come to Iowa in a library way because Iowa was the first state to undertake in 1906 systematic supervision and development of the libraries in the fourteen state hospitals, reform schools and penitentiaries, and Miss Miriam E. Carey, was the first Supervising librarian of these state institutions. Her removal to a neighboring state at a larger salary for similar work, created a vacancy for a time, and Miss Robinson's appointment has again placed this important work on a permanent basis. Commissioners. During the biennial period covered by this report, the membership of this Commission has been materially changed by the loss of three members. Two of these were ex-officio members, viz: John F. Riggs, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and President George E. MacLean of the State University. Supt. Riggs' term as State Superintendent having expired January 1, 1911, his position as member of this Commission, exofficio, ceased. The resignation of President MacLean as head of our State University, and his consequent removal from the state, August 1, 1911, made vacant his position, which he had filled so acceptably, since the creation of the Library Commission in 1900. Although taxed with the heavy duties and responsibilities as head of the State University, President MacLean was never too busy to give thought to the work of library extension in the state of Iowa, and was unfailing in his sympathetic interest in all of the activities of the Library Commission. He attended the meetings of the Commission with great regularity, and his judgment and counsel were invaluable. As member of the Commission he was interested in the establishment of the Summer Library School at the State University in 1901, under the joint auspices of that institution and of the Library Commission. His retirement from the Commission was the occasion for the passage of the following resolution presented by Mr. Johnson Brigham, Chairman of the Commission:

"Keenly deploring the circumstance which compels the severance of our relationship with George E. MacLean, as a member of





this Commission, and feeling a deep sense of loss in consequence, not only personal loss but also loss of counsel and advice, which, in the years we have sat together, has ever been found extremely helpful; and yet sure, that in other fields and under other circumstances, new and larger opportunities for usefulness await him; we, his associate members on the Iowa Library Commission, unite in extending to our associate and friend our heartiest and best wishes for his future. We would spread upon the minutes of our Commission our tribute to President MacLean's unswerving fidelity to public duty, his strong, firm grasp of the problems and work of the Commission, and the inspiring enthusiasm he was wont to bring to our conferences, making the most confusing way clear and suggesting practical solutions to the most complicated problems.

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However far he and our dear friend, Mrs. MacLean, may in future be removed from us in space or time, our interest in their welfare will continue through the years unaffected by circumstance."

The death of Captain Witter H. Johnston, of Ft. Dodge, created the third vacancy on the Commission during the biennial period. Captain Johnston's name has been associated with library development in Iowa for more than 25 years, and he was thoroughly imbued with the conviction that good books are one of the best means of developing better citizenship. He was appointed by Governor L. M. Shaw as a member of the Commission when it was created in the year 1900, and had been reappointed twice to succeed himself as one of the Commissioners. He was regular in his attendance at the meetings of the Commission, and was beloved by his associates on the Commission and by library workers throughout the State.

Elsewhere in this report are printed the resolutions passed by the Library Commission at the time of his death, and also the appreciation of him which appeared in the "Iowa Library Quarterly." These three vacancies on the Commission have been filled by

State Superintendent A. M. Deyoe, and President John G. Bowman, the two ex-officio members; and to fill the unexpired term of Captain Johnston, Governor Carroll appointed Mrs. A. J. Barkley of Boone, who has been identified with library progress in the state for many years, and is President of the Board of Library Trustees of the Ericson Public Library at Boone.
Meetings of the Commission have been held quarterly, in Des Moines at the headquarters of the Commission in the State His-

torical building, with the exception of the meetings at Davenport, October, 1910, and Mason City, October, 1911, in connection with the meetings of the State Library Association, and at Iowa City, July, 1911.

Staff. During the Thirty-fourth General Assembly, the Library Commission in conformity with what the members understood to be one of its duties, presented to the Committee on Retrenchment and Reform of the Thirty-fourth General Assembly, a carefully considered statement regarding the salaries and positions, as the law authorizes that Committee to fix salaries. Slight increases in salaries were recommended and the need of more help to care for the greatly increased work of the Department was shown, but not asking for an increased appropriation. A reasonable readjustment was asked, within the limit of the total annual appropriation of \$11,000.00 and the specified salary limit of \$6,000.00. It was assumed that such a recommendation from the Commission as to the needs of the work under its special charge would receive consideration from that Committee, which doubtless must obtain definite information from those familiar with the needs and possibilities of the work in hand in order to reach conclusions. The Committee on Retrenchment and Reform declined to act on the suggestions made by the Commission, hence it was not possible to secure the much needed help for field work, and the salaries have remained as heretofore. Only the loyal and unselfish devotion of the staff of workers to the ideals of altruistic service rendered to the State by good books, would have made it possible to continue the work along the lines which have been developed.

The staff of the Commission has undergone several changes within the past two years. Readjustments are necessary from time to time, and the Commission is constantly confronted by the fact that professional standards must be maintained and that the character of the work calls for trained library service, but that the salaries paid are so small as to make it difficult to secure and retain such assistants for a long period. The position of Reference Assistant in the Traveling Library work which was held by Miss Eliza E. Townsend was made vacant by her resignation in November, 1910, to accept a position at a larger salary in the Spokane, Washington, Library, and Miss Ida L. Lange, the Organizer was transferred to this position. The work of the Traveling Library has developed rapidly along the lines of serious study; and definite requests for

aid in securing material for systematic reading and study, debates, etc., have made the reference work one of the most important features of the Traveling Library. Miss Lange cooperated with Miss Brown in a most capable and thorough manner in making the reference work of the Traveling Library more efficient, and her resignation which took effect May 1, 1912, was a distinct loss to the Department. Mrs. Priscilla P. Burd served as Organizer from February, 1911, until May, 1912, when it became nectssary to transfer her to the Traveling Library work. Miss Grace Riffle who had been associated with the work as General Assistant for almost four years and who had charge of the loan records of the Traveling Library resigned from the staff in April, 1912, and Miss Pearl Phillips was appointed to succeed her in that work.

The large volume of work both general and for the Traveling Library, entails heavy and increasing correspondence; and this, together with the bookkeeping and the responsibility for bills, vouchers, etc., has been ably cared for by Miss Ada L. Septer for the past three years. It will, however, be necessary to make provision for additional help for the correspondence soon, as prompt response to requests, all of which are by mail, is one of the essential features of our work.

The work of Miss Edna Lyman, for the brief time each year that the Commission has been able to secure her services as Advisory Children's Librarian, has brought most gratifying results. Every library visited by her reports practical help in selection of children's books and in work with the children, and also inspiration and a broader outlook gained from her public addresses to parents, club women and teachers.

The Organizing work has been especially appreciated where new libraries are starting. The capable, painstaking work of in-

stalling modern records and methods and instructing the inexperienced librarians in their new work is recognized as one of the most valuable services the Library Commission can render. The following libraries have been aided either in organizing or in developing their records during the biennial period: Centerville (card catalog), Dunlap, Garner, Humboldt, Missouri Valley, Mt. Pleasant (card catalog), New Hampton, Oelwein, Osceola, Traer, Waverly, Woodbine.

General Library Laws. In the last printed report of this Commission a full statement was made of the changes that are needed in the laws of the state relating to free public libraries. Inasmuch as some of the measures recommended by the State Library Association did not become laws during the last General Assembly, the legislative Committee will seek to secure action by the next General Assembly.

This Commission is actively interested in the upbuilding of the free public libraries of the state. This is one of the chief duties assigned it by law. It is therefore of great concern that the state laws regarding the establishment and maintenance of free public libraries shall be strengthened and amended from time to time as the growth of the work and changed conditions require. In consultation with librarians and library trustees the following desirable changes in the law have been brought to the attention of the Commission.

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Section 728 regarding trustees of public libraries should be amended without disturbing the working of the law, by reducing the number of trustees from nine to seven or five.

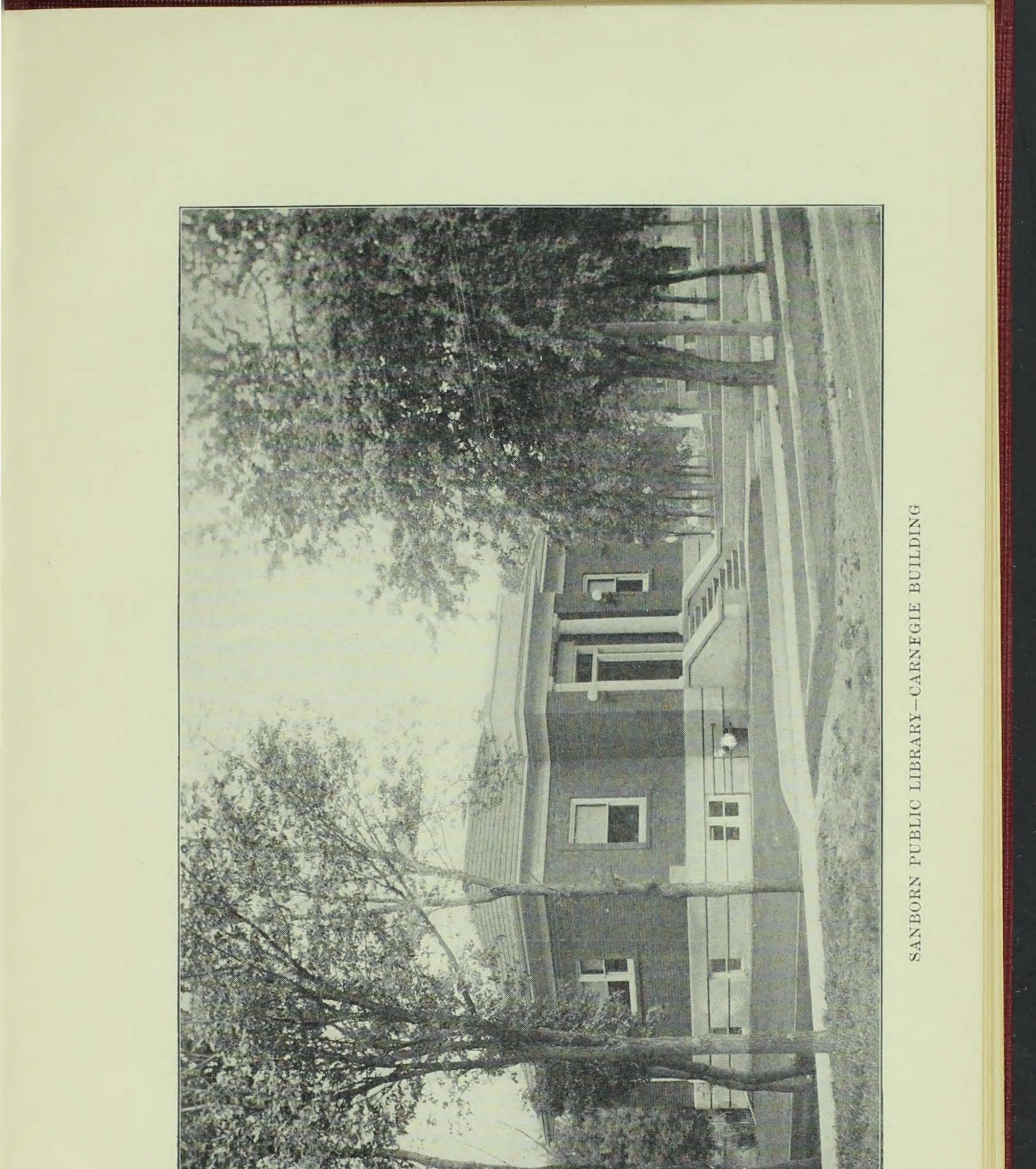
Section 732 regarding the tax levy is fundamental. The limit placed therein as to the maximum amount of levy allowed by law should be raised to at least five mills; this being permissive and not mandatory within that amount, it would enable Library Boards to develop the work along special lines when unusual conditions arose, provide for the related interests of the library, and build up the collection of standard books.

Libraries in commission governed cities are confronted with an embarrassing situation as there is much uncertainty as to the intent of the law in relation to library boards in those cities. It is of the utmost importance that there should be legislation,

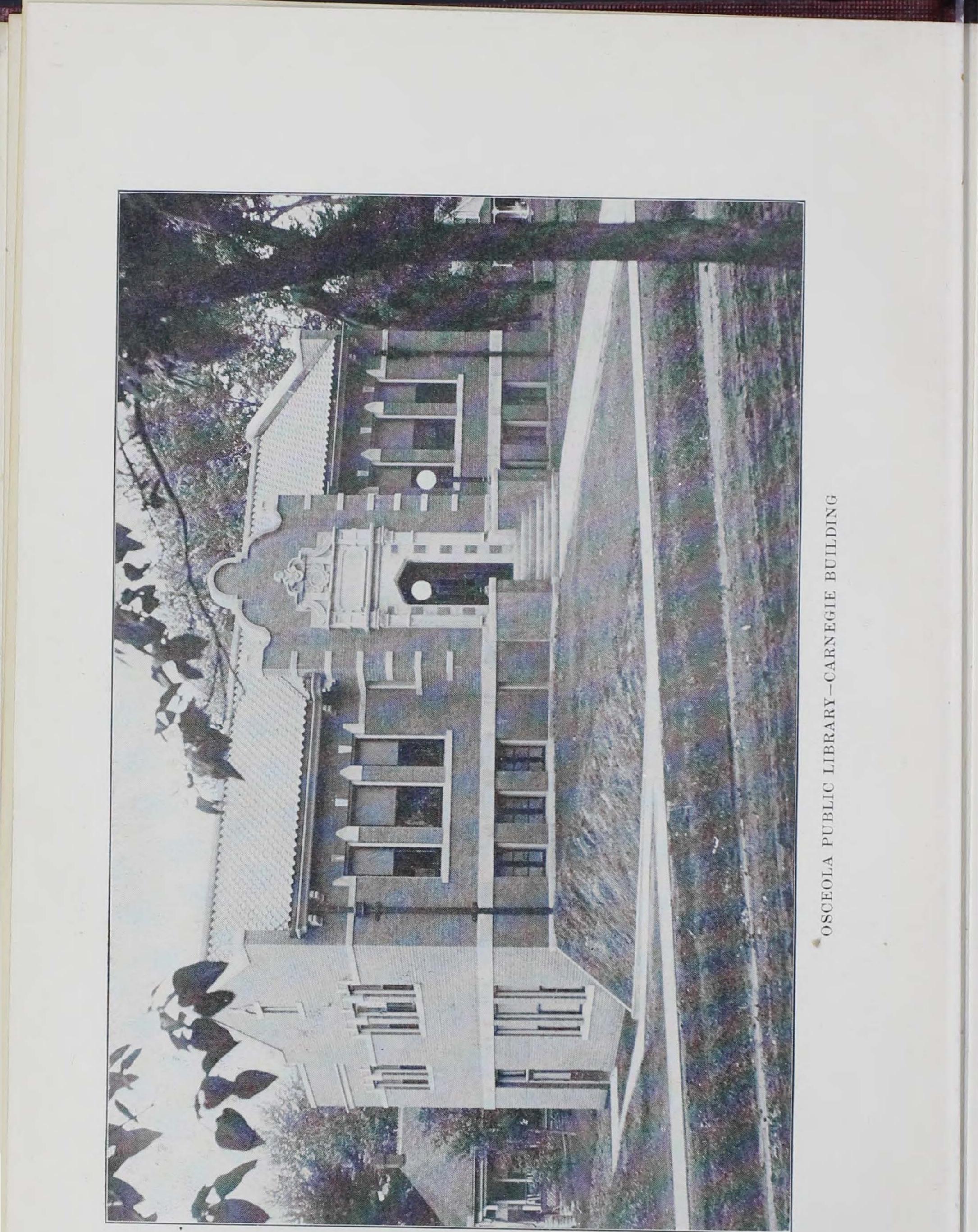
making clear the doubtful point regarding the number of library trustees under this plan and whether the powers of trustees as set forth in the general law apply to these cities.

The township extension feature of the library law has been touched upon elsewhere in this report. Section 592 should be amended by inserting a clause providing that unless a request is made by the residents of the township (by petition or otherwise) to discontinue the levy, the trustees must renew it from year to year, and that township trustees must levy the tax upon petition of a majority of the residents.

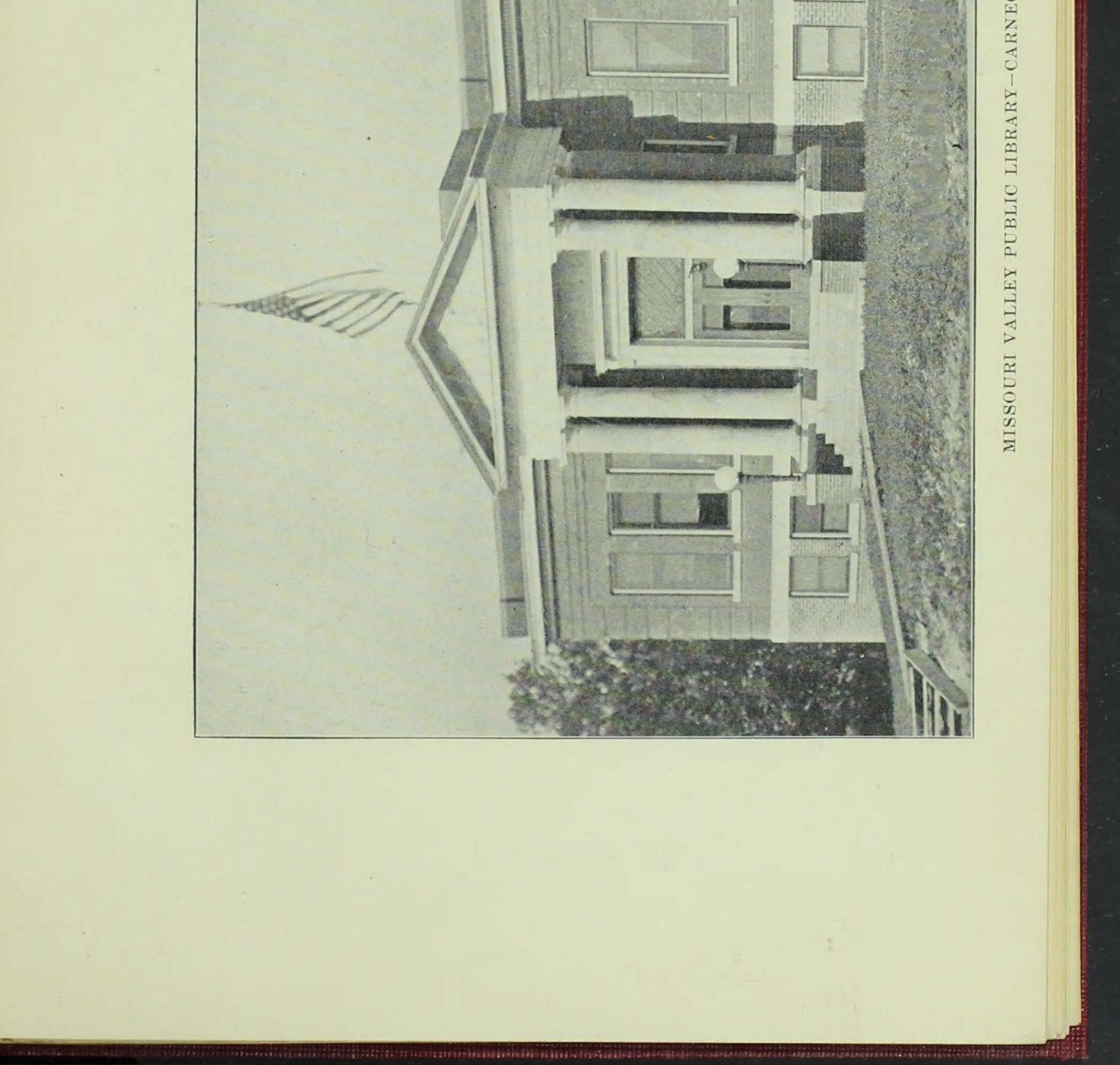
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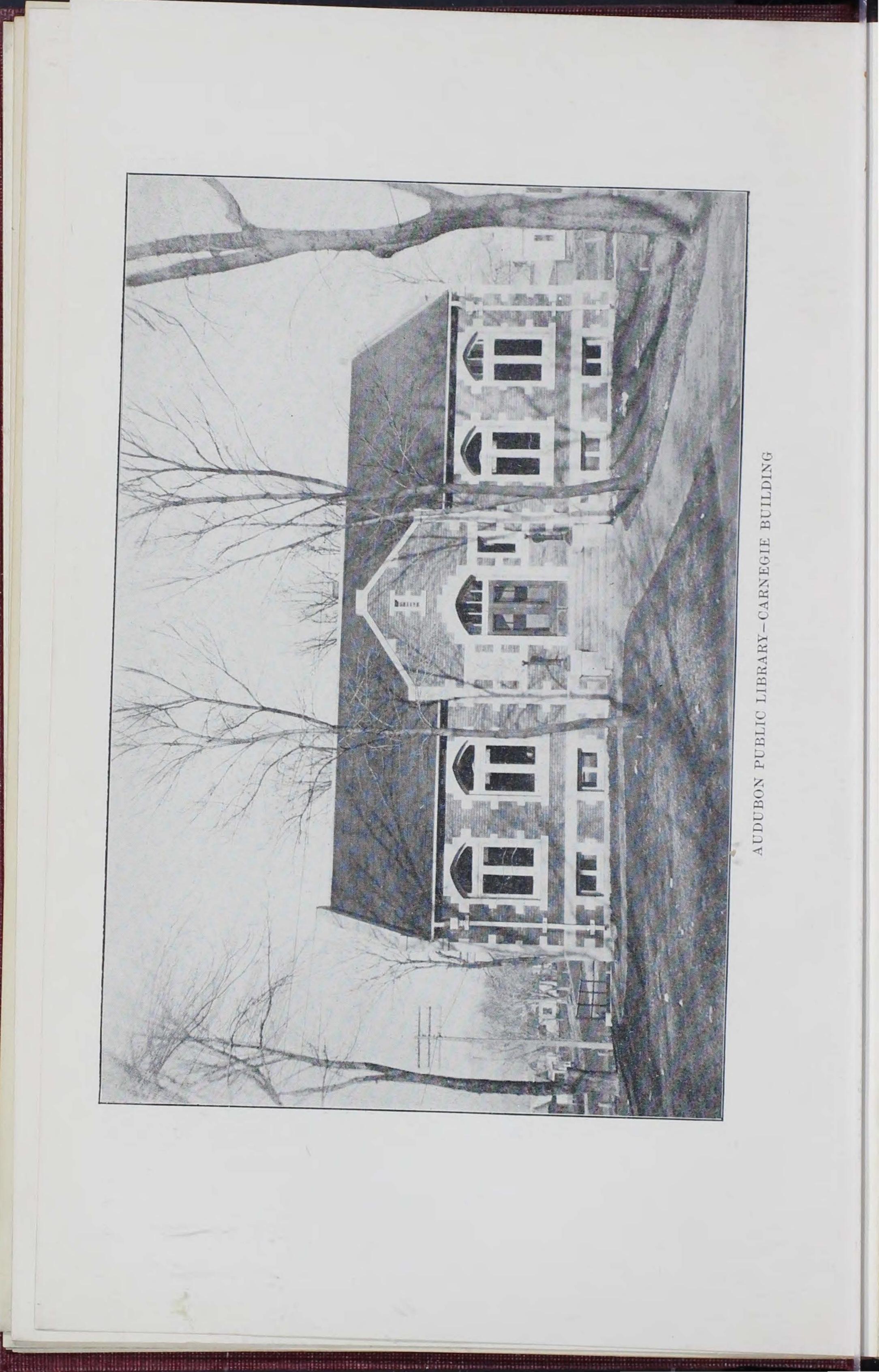






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Detailed Statements. The total annual appropriation for the work of the Library Commission is \$11,000.00. This covers all the activities of the Commission, traveling library, extension, salaries, traveling expenses, etc. Inasmuch as the law provides that all accounts and expenditures must be audited and allowed by the State Executive Council, the detailed statement of expenditures is given in the printed Reports of the Council.

Statistics regarding the public libraries of Iowa are given in each issue of the Iowa Official Register and those regarding school libraries will be found in the Reports of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

The law under which the Library Commission is authorized will be found in Code Supplement, 1907, p. 687, and amended by Chapter 190, Laws of Thirty-third General Assembly.

TRAVELING LIBRARY

In summarizing the work of a biennial period it is sometimes interesting to turn back the pages of yearly records and look again at the beginnings, in order to measure the growth. That the Traveling Library has steadily progressed is attested by the fact that in 1901 there was issued a total of 174 fixed groups (of 50 vols.) as compared with 1,374 loans in 1911. The year 1901 marked the beginning of the development of the open shelf collection to supply material on special subjects for those who had definite interests and needs, and five requests were filled from clubs and individuals. In 1911, 1,013 requests were filled from the open shelf collection, the size of the collections varying in number.

Each year there has been a steadily increasing number of requests for material on specific subjects, and appeals for direction and help along certain lines of investigation, which have taxed to the utmost the small staff of workers. Such requests require knowlegde somewhat out of the usual, a sort of intuitive ability to read between the lines of very meagre letters; unlike the reference work in the public library where individuals can verbally make known their wants by conversation and exchange of views.

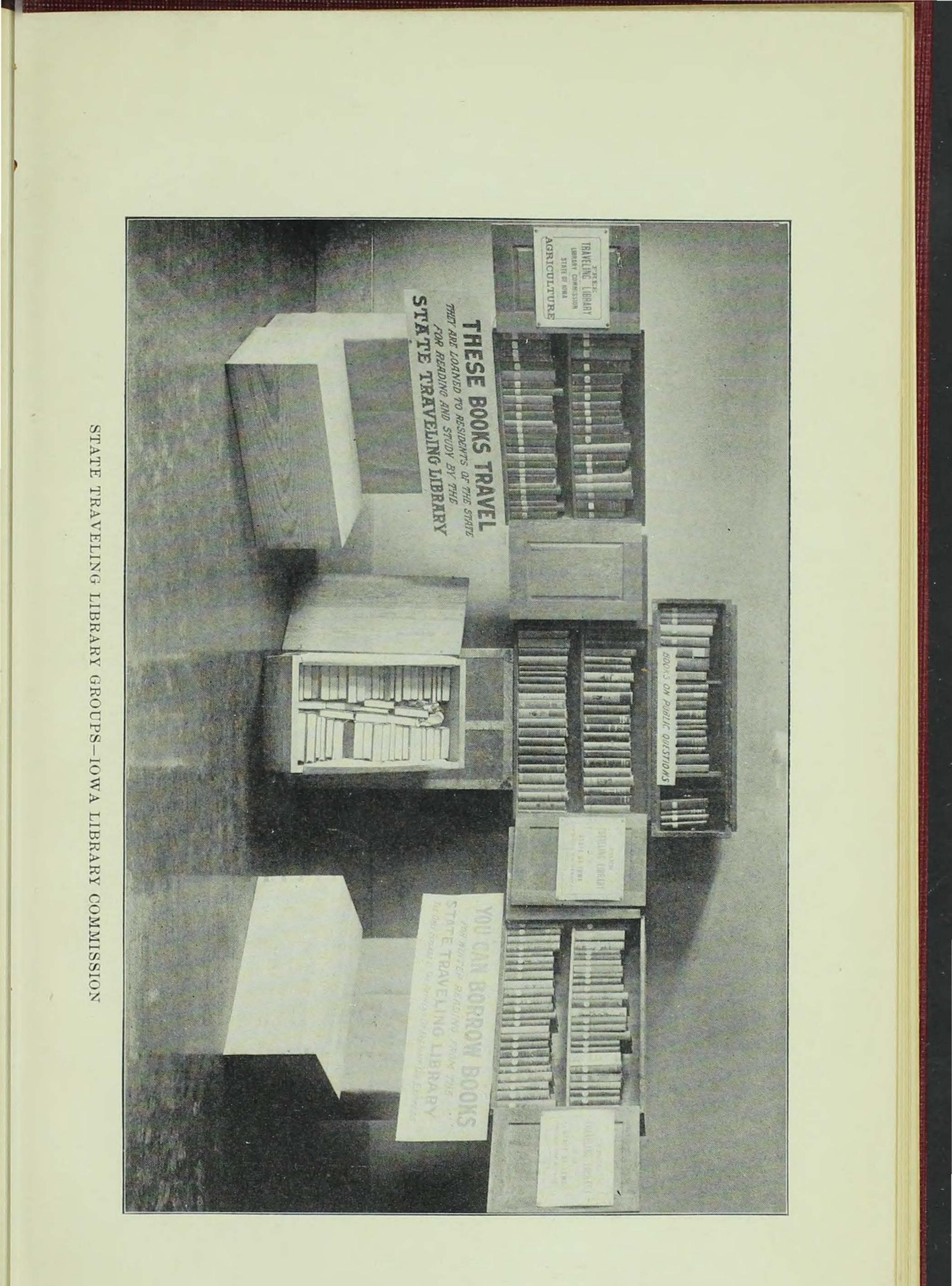
The borrowers at a distance are many times individuals who are unfamiliar with the scope of subjects, and not accustomed to expressing themselves in letters. Hence, more information is needed and much correspondence is often entailed. Subjects are often selected upon which material is not easily available, or in some cases a large collection must be sent, as wide reading of many books is necessary. The problem of supplying the needs with as few books as adequately cover the subject, also has to be considered, in order to keep the transportation charges by express or mail as low as possible.

Many agencies in the state stimulate an interest in and use of books, and it has been the policy of the Traveling Library to cooperate in every way possible with such agencies in providing books on various subjects. The Agricultural Extension Department of the State College at Ames has continued to make extended use of the books on Agriculture and related subjects, and books from the Traveling Library have been carried on exhibit cars and used at the short courses and in connection with the organization of farmers' clubs. The granges are also making use of both the agricultural books and those for general reading. Exhibits have also been made at county fairs, where an effort is being made locally to arouse an interest on the part of the farmers in the use of books from the local library.

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There continues to be a wide use of the Traveling Library debate collections, both for the subject decided upon each year by the High School Debating League, and also for the many debates on other subjects in the various high schools in the small towns throughout the state. Only through the use of the Traveling Library would these debates be possible in towns where there is no local public library. The reference lists and bibliographies for the Debating League subject have been prepared by the librarian of the Traveling Library each year, for printing in the League Handbook.

As set forth in previous reports, the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs continues to be one of the strongest allies of the work of the Library Commission, and there is very close cooperation between the many clubs in the Federation and the Traveling Library, both in the preparation of club programs and in the supplying of books for club study. The Librarian of the Traveling Library, has been a member of the Literature and Library Extension Committee of





the I. F. W. C., for several years, and was made Chairman of that Committee two years ago; this has correlated the work of the clubs and the Traveling Library even more closely. There has also been close cooperation with the Iowa Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teachers Association in the preparation of a study outline on Child Study, and in the use made of the Traveling Library books. The librarian of the Traveling Library is also Chairman of a committee of the League of Library Commissions (the national organization of the various State Library Commissions) for the preparation of outlines for study and systematic reading, for use in connection with the Traveling Library systems.

Various church organizations throughout the state, especially missionary societies, have been making use of the Traveling Library for books on the special country which is being studied, and the books for general reading are loaned to rural churches and Sunday Schools to a greater extent than ever before, on account of the active interest in establishing social centers in country neighborhoods. The rural schools are making increasing use of the books and serve as distributing centers for the lending of Traveling Library books in the neighborhood.

The Library Commission has cooperated with the State Department of Public Instruction in the preparation of a Catalogue of Books for School Districts of Iowa. The interest of the Traveling Library in this Catalogue was a very practical one, because the graded books as given in this list comprise a special collection in the Traveling Library for loaning to rural schools. The new edition of the list was compiled, graded and annotated by Miss Edna Lyman, whose thorough knowledge of children's books and whose skill as a story teller have placed her in a position of authority in the field of children's literature, and who has been associated with this Commission as Advisory Children's Librarian.

It has always been the aim of the Traveling Library to provide aids for the smaller libraries whenever possible, as well as furnish books for general reading. Hence, a collection called a Story Telling Library was sent out last year to supply the requests that were frequently made for help in developing the story hour for children in the small public library. The books were carefully selected by Miss Lyman, and the suggestions as to the use of the books, with specific references to stories has made the collection of great value wherever it has been used. A few juvenile collec-

tions of fixed groups for general reading continue to be added each year for supplementing the meagre collection of books for young people in many of the small public libraries, and new fixed groups for adults, have as usual been added. Supplementary books on various subjects are often sent in addition to the fixed groups for general reading, and the experiment has been made of using the printed catalog of the first 500 volumes in Everyman's Library for mailing to the Traveling Library stations where selections can be made, these catalogs being furnished by the publishers, E. P. Dutton & Co.

One of the interesting loans made each year is the collection of books for general reading sent to the Lakeside Biological Laboratory at Lake Okoboji, under the direction of Professor McBride, who expresses great appreciation for the provision which the Traveling Library makes of the books for the students at the laboratory.

The Traveling Picture collections continue to be much in demand, and during the biennial period two collections have been added, viz: Events in British History, being twelve reproductions in color of epoch making events; these pictures being reproduced from paintings by H. J. Ford. The second collection is by far the handsomest and most pleasing of any of the traveling collections for exhibit purposes sent out by the Commission. It consists of thirty-eight Imperial Gravures in color, including some of the greatest works of the leading masters in the world of painting. These are hand-colored mezzo-gravures, and the collection is framed in a handsome and substantial manner, and makes an exhibit of great cultural and educational value.

A collection of twenty-three original pictures for illustrating books issued by the publishing firm of Charles Scribners' Sons,

N. Y., was loaned to the Commission in the spring of 1911 for an indefinite period, and has proved an attractive addition to our walls. These were loaned to the Commission with the privilege of their being sent for short periods to libraries in the state, hence they are in a sense a traveling collection, though the transportation is expensive and the packing somewhat difficult because they are framed with glass. The pictures are as follows: Four by V. C. Anderson, illustrating Page's "Tommy Trot's visit to Santa Claus;" four by W. Glackens, illustrating Page's "Santa Claus's partner;" three by M. Jean McLane, illustrating the Eugene Field

Reader; three by M. Jean McLane, illustrating the Robert Louis Stevenson Reader;" eight by Frederick Richardson, illustrating Stockton's "The Queen's museum;" one by Jessie Willcox Smith, cover design for Stevenson's "Child's Garden of Verses."

Books for the blind continue to be used by readers throughout the state, and a few titles in New York Point have been added during the biennial period, consisting of the following:

Abbott—Molly Make-Believe. Andrews—Perfect Tribute. Grenfell—A Man's Faith. Humphrey—Over Against Green Peak. Montgomery—Anne of Green Gables, 3 vols. Morris—Napoleon, 2 vols. Palmer—Self Cultivation in English. Palmer—Alice Freeman Palmer, 2 vols. Stories of Industry. Ten Short Stories, 2 vols. Three Years Behind the Guns. Twain—Adventures of Tom Sawyer, 2 vols. Wiggin—Penelope's Progress. Wiggin—New Chronicles of Rebecca, 2 vols.

The State Fair exhibit is one of the annual features of the Traveling Library work, affording the opportunity for bringing to the attention of those in attendance at the State Fair the books and pictures that are available through the State Traveling Library. The booth in the Exposition building, while not well adapted to such an exhibit, has, nevertheless, been greatly appreciated, and its use has been permitted by courtesy of the State Fair management.

The ever present and intricate problem of the best use of the older and out of date books in the Traveling Library collection, is one to which much thought has been given. This is a problem common to all Traveling Library systems. The early fixed groups, which have seen constant use for more than twelve years, have become incomplete because of the wearing out or loss of certain books belonging to the set of fifty volumes. Oftentimes it is impossible to replace the specific book because it is out of print and unobtainable, and another book must be substituted. The lists must be constantly revised, and in the meantime many books in the early collections have become out of date, being superseded by better books on the same subject. Some of them have proved to be unadapted to the needs of the average community. The de-

mand is more and more for the newer collections of recent books, but in the meantime the early fixed groups, are being circulated to meet the demands as far as possible. Experiments have been tried in other states as to the disposition of these incomplete early fixed groups. There is also the problem of book purchase for subjects for which there is insistent demand for material during a short period, with the probability of a surplus of books when the interest ceases. With the utmost care in examining and evaluating the possible use that is to be made of books by Traveling Library systems, we find that each year certain subjects that have been much in demand cease to interest readers and students, and surplus books are then left on the shelves. All of these problems of book

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resources, and what might be termed book economics, should sooner or later be adjusted on some basis that will make the handling of fixed groups more flexible, and provide some way of disposing of surplus open shelf books.

SUMMARY.

The books in the entire Traveling Library collection July 1, 1912, numbered 22,823 and are divided as follows:

225 libraries for general reading in fixed collections

278 new stations have been registered during the biennial period. Of these 134 are from schools, both rural and small towns, and 80 are from clubs.

SUMMER LIBRARY SCHOOL

The Summer School for Library Training which has been maintained under the joint auspices of the Library Commission and the State University of Iowa, held its eleventh annual session in the summer of 1911, in connection with the summer session at the State University. Six weeks instruction was given in the fundamentals of library methods, with the needs of the inexperienced librarians of the small libraries especially in view. A special course of two weeks in library work with children, which has been a feature of the school since its organization, was given by Miss Lyman and lectures were given throughout the course by visiting librarians. The instructors were: Mr. Malcolm G. Wyer, Reference work; Miss Ione Armstrong, Instructor in Cataloging and related subjects; Miss Ida L. Lange, Instructor in Classification and related subjects, and Miss Edna Lyman, Library work with children. Lectures were given by President MacLean of the University, Miss Drake of the Sioux City Public Library, Miss Rose of the Davenport Public Library, Prof. Shambaugh of the State Historical Society, Miss Tyler and Miss Brown of the Library Commission, and visiting librarians. The following students were in attendance: Aiken, Gertrude E..... Public Library..... Evanston, Ill. Allen, Mrs. Henrietta H.... Fellowship House...... Chicago. Appleton, Hannah...... Public Library..... Sioux City. Beckman, Emma......Public Library.....Glenwood. Bernard, Edna W......Public Library.....Sioux City. Colby, Mabel R..... Public Library..... Onawa. Dennis, Ruth A..... Public Library..... Dubuque. Hoffman, Mildred E..... Public Library..... Dubuque. McCullough, M. Elizabeth... Public Library..... Davenport. Markham, Minnie..... Public Library..... Independence. *Mitchell, Anne F......Public Library......Fort Dodge. O'Connor, Rose A..... Public Library..... Sioux City. *Shearer, Mabel B...... Public Library..... Marshalltown. Stetler, Hortense W...... Public Library...... Mason City. Summers, Myrtle M...... High School Library...... Rock Island, Ill. *For Children's Course only.

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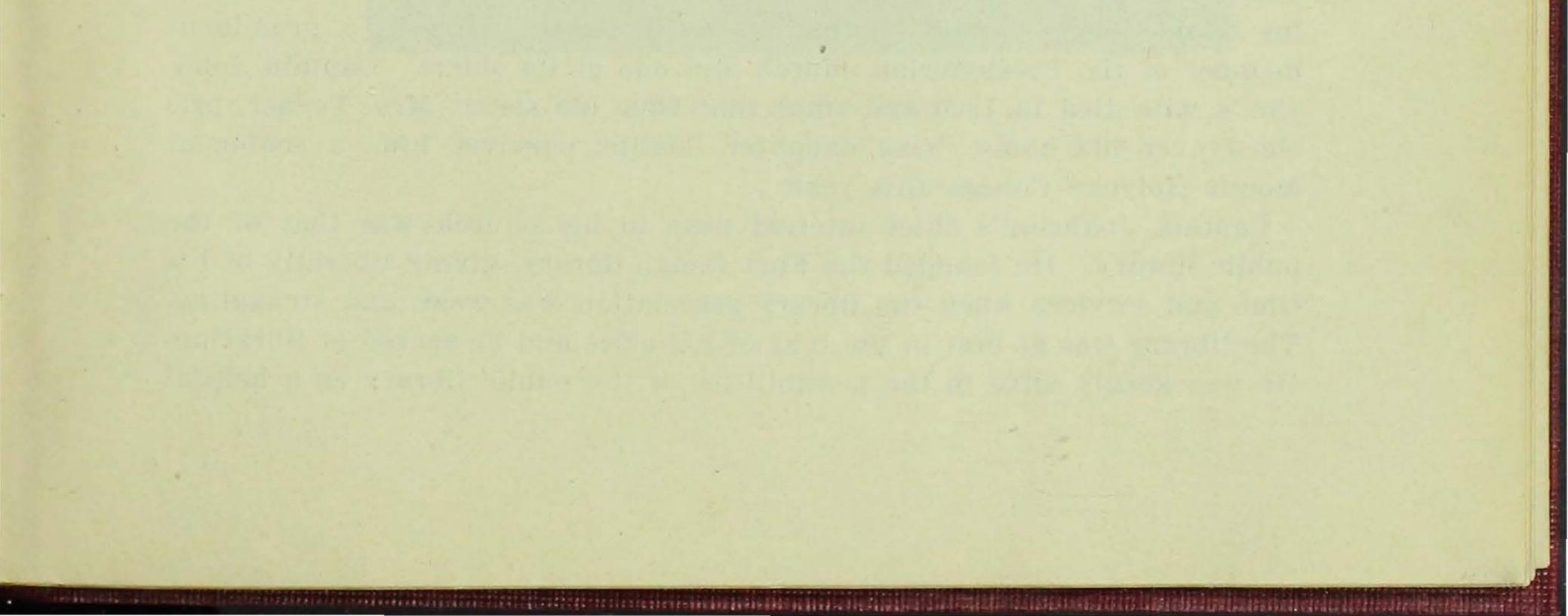
There was no session of the Summer Library School for the summer of 1912. The conditions under which the cooperative arrangement was made eleven years ago for conducting the School jointly by the Library Commission and the State University have changed. A readjustment seemed absolutely necessary and the Director after a conference with the committee of the Educational Board recommended to the Library Commission the careful consideration of the temporary discontinuance of the School until a readjustment could be made. The Secretary of the Commission had served as Director of the school since its organization without additional compensation, and the services of the Librarian of the Traveling Library have also been contributed by the Library Commission, the latter having been an important factor in the School, serving as Vice-Director and Revisor. In the early years when the need was so urgent for a brief course of training for those in charge of the small libraries of the State, the opportunity offered at the University afforded the means by which this could be accomplished, as the pressure of other work on the Commission was great and the Commission staff was not large enough for personal visitation to the libraries for instruction. Many trained librarians have since come into the state in charge of the larger public libraries, and a large number of those who have taken the summer course are actively engaged in Iowa libraries; furthermore the organizing work in the field and the Traveling Library work have taken on large proportions, without a corresponding increase in the staff of Commission workers; hence for the past few years the Summer School work has been carried on by the Secretary and Librarian at the sacrifice of the regular work, and the curtailing of much-needed vacations. In addition to the services of two of the Commission staff (and sometimes three) being contributed by the Library Commission as its part in the cooperative plan, a large collection of books, comprising a number of copies of each title selected for practice work for the students, have been provided, being a collection of several hundred volumes. Inasmuch as the State University found that a financial readjustment for the summer of 1912 was impossible it was decided by mutual agreement that the School should be temporarily suspended.

The part this School has had in the onward progress of library affairs in Iowa during the eleven years cannot be overlooked, when we consider what a large share the librarians who have attended

this school have had in establishing high standards of library, service in their respective communities. The School has been recognized throughout library circles in the United States as one of the best of the summer sessions and applications for admission have come from many states. The purpose of the School, however, was primarily to aid the Iowa libraries, and the nature of the technical instruction which must be accompanied by practice work, made it necessary to limit the number of students. When this limit was not reached each year by Iowa applicants a few were admitted from other states.

The total number in attendance, 1901-1911, was 283.

At present there are 91 employed in the libraries of Iowa, but a considerable number are in Library work in other states, or have gone for advanced training to some of the regular library schools. During the eleven years there were 61 students admitted from other states, viz: Illinois, Kentucky, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Missouri, Utah, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas.



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Captain Mitter H. Iohnston

THE FRIEND OF IOWA LIBRARIES.

The state of Iowa and the city of Fort Dodge lost a citizen of unusual personality in the passing away of Capt. W. H. Johnston, whose influence was always helpful and uplifting; the Library Commission has lost a valued and earnest member, whose thoughtful counsel and wise judgment will be sadly missed; and the library cause one of its staunchest and ablest supporters.

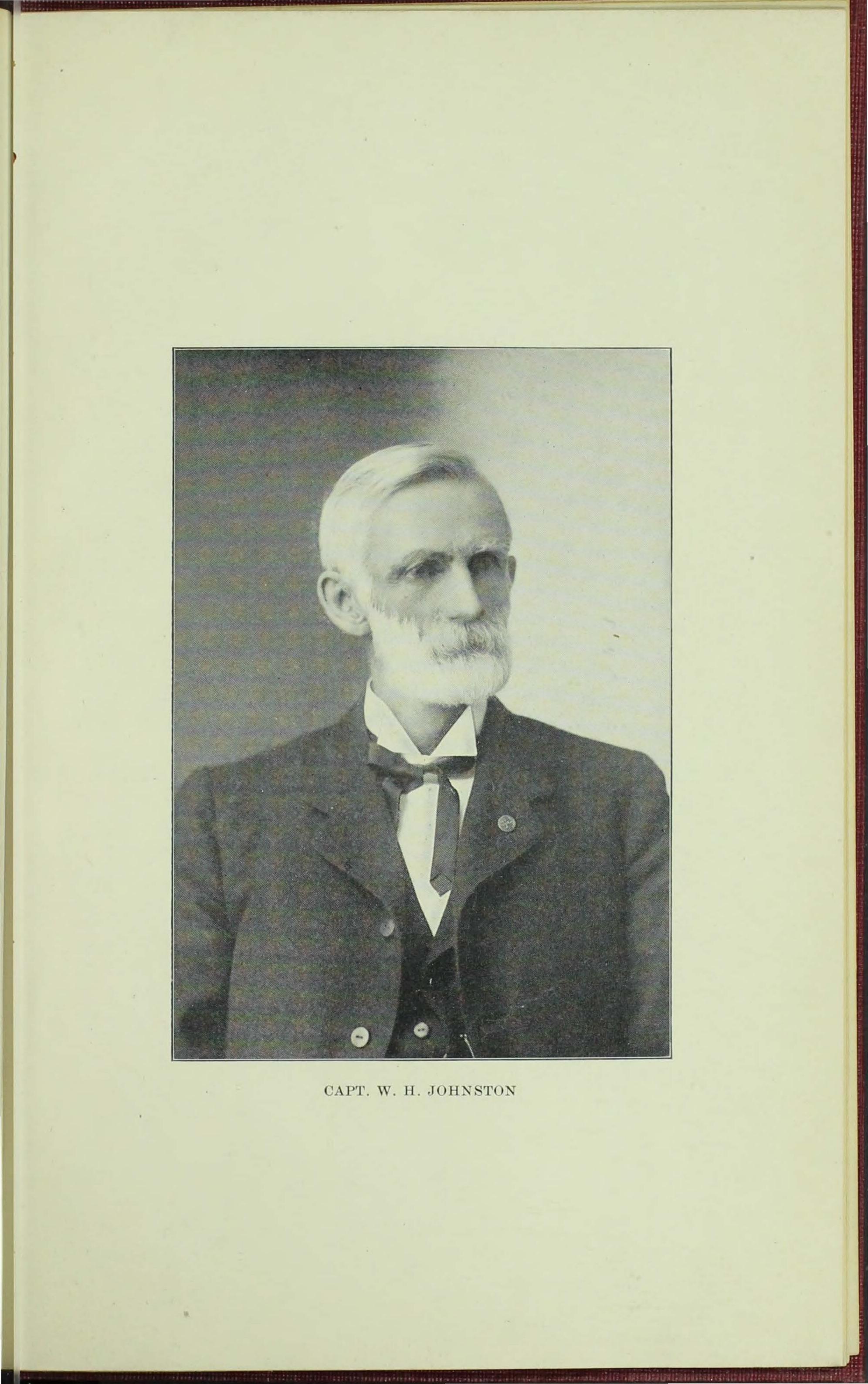
Captain Johnston's heritage was that of high standards, noble living

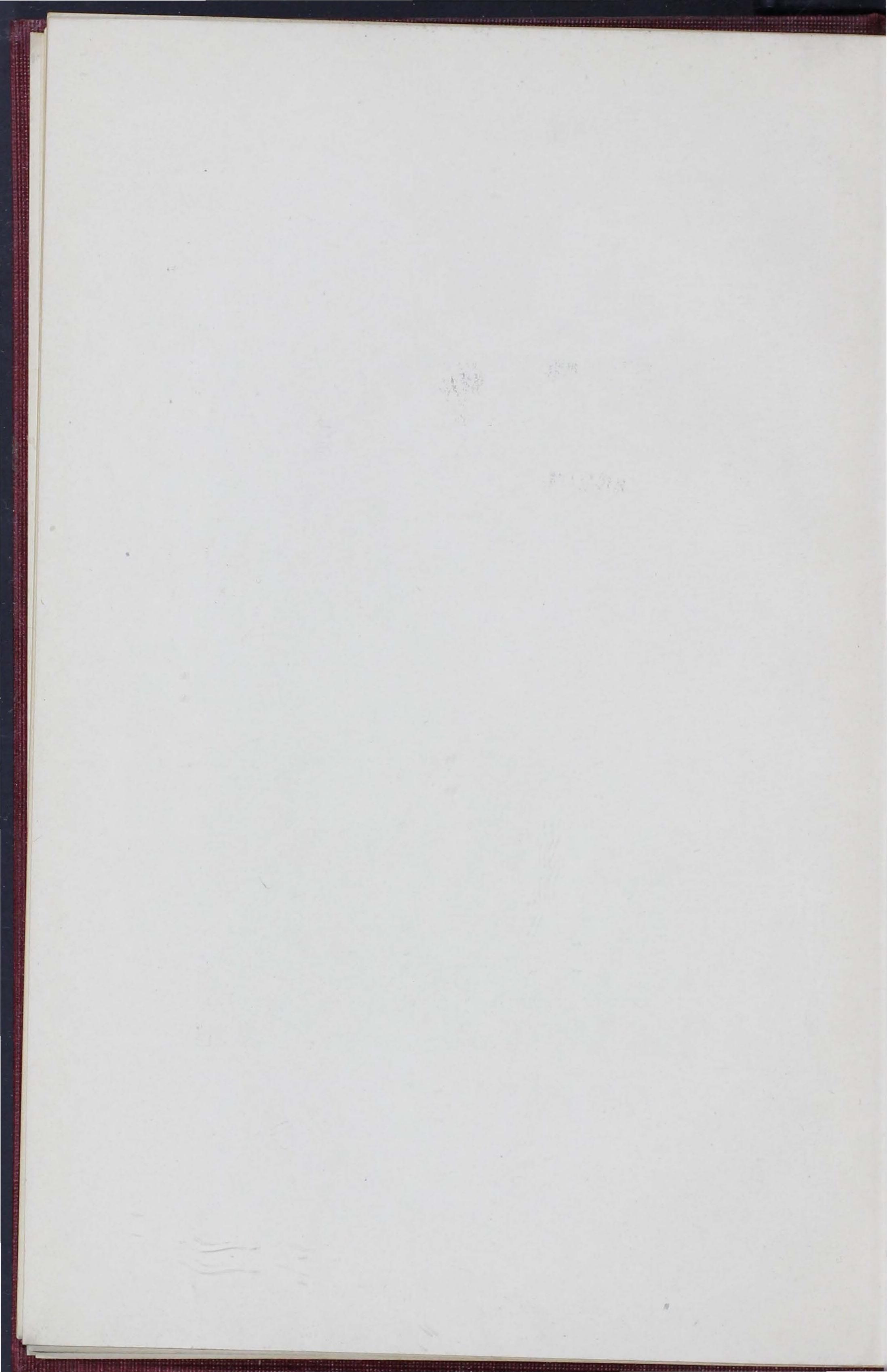
and right instincts. He was born in Sidney, N. Y., July 24, 1837, and hence at the time of his death was within a few weeks of having reached his 74th birthday. His parents were of Scotch-Irish extraction. His grandfather was a sixth physician in direct line of descent from Dr. Richard Hull of New Haven. Ministers were also among his forefathers, and from both his mother and father he inherited the spiritual temperament. His father's home was one of the rallying centers for missionaries. Captain Johnston was also influenced in his youth by Professor Kerr at Franklin Academy, New York, and other educators, and by the friendships formed there and at Wabash College Academy.

Captain Johnston enlisted as a soldier in the Civil War while at Franklin Academy, in 1862, having previously taught school during vacations. He enlisted in the One Hundred Forty-fourth New York Infantry and served until 1865, when he was wounded in the battle of James Island, S. C. This meant the loss of a leg, but of this he was never known to complain, though in recent years the wound caused him considerable pain. He returned to his home and took the law course at Binghamton, N. Y., and in 1869 came to Fort Dodge to practice his profession. He served as deputy clerk of the United States court for about twenty years, this being his position at the time of his death.

The affliction that came to him in the death of his only son and a severe illness about two years ago had lead his friends to feel anxiety about him, but he was courageous and cheerful and continued to attend to his daily duties. His death came suddenly and without pain, as he was striken in his office, June 6, while reading his daily paper. He was a prominent member of the Presbyterian church and one of its elders. Captain Johnston's wife died in 1900 and since that time his sister, Mrs. Turner, presided over his home. One daughter, Mallie, survives him, a senior at Mount Holyoke College this year.

Captain Johnston's chief interest next to his church was that of the public library. He founded the Fort Dodge library, giving liberally of his time and services when the library association was weak and struggling. The library was at first in the rear of his office and he served at librarian. He was keenly alive to the possibilities of the public library as a helpful





influence in the lives of young people, and was therefore active in library extension work. He was one of the founders of the State Library Association, and served as its president several times and had been honorary president of the association since 1903.

When the movement for a Library Commission was undertaken he aided in securing legislation and was appointed by Governor Shaw as one of the commissioners, when the commission was established in 1900 and was reappointed by Governor Cummins and held the position continuously until the time of his death.

His funeral was held in the First Presbyterian Church, June 9th, and was largely attended; his connection with church, G. A. R., the Bar Association, the Federal Court, the Public Library and his kindly interest in everyone whom he met had given him a host of personal friends. Dr. E. E. Hastings, his pastor, paid an eloquent and heartfelt tribute to Captain Johnston. On Sunday evening, July 30th, a memorial service was held in the church in which the pastors of the various churches took

part. Addresses were made by Dr. E. E. Hastings on his "Religious Life;" by Mr. Frank Farrell, "As a Citizen;" by Miss Alice S. Tyler, representing the State Library Commission, on his "Relation to the Libraries of the State," and by Mr. M. F. Healy, who paid a glowing and eloquent tribute to him as patriot, citizen and friend.

> "His life was gentle, and the elements So mixed in him, that Nature might stand up And say to all the world, 'This was a man!'"

> > (A. S. T.)

A PERSONAL TRIBUTE.

I was deeply impressed with the remark of Jefferson S. Polk at the funeral of the pioneer preacher and educator of Des Moines-the Rev. J. A. Nash. The remark was in substance that Dr. Nash was one of the greatest men he had ever known, because imbued with a passion for service and possessed of the requisite ability to render effective service in any emergency. Phillips Brooks, in one of his sermons, says that greatness "appears to be not so much a certain size as a certain quality in human lives. It may be present in lives whose range is very small." Channing finds the greatest man to be "he who chooses the right with invincible resolution, . . . who bears the heaviest burdens cheerfully, . . . whose reliance on truth, on virtue, on God, is most unfaltering." I quote these almost identical conceptions of true greatness from three men widely apart in many respects, because the three views, taken at different angles of vision, so well sustain the conclusion reached by me as I looked for the last time upon the face of my dear friend, Captain Johnston-the conclusion that this "kindly, earnest, brave, far-seeing man," who as a boy and man, as student, soldier, citizen, as son, husband, father, as a life-long Christian worker, and as a promoter of public libraries and of the library spirit for at least a half century, was in the truest sense of the term great-beside whom many of the so-called great are mere pigmies.

Three and the state of the stat

I first met Captain Johnston in a library convention in Des Moines in 1894. For seventeen years since then we have together attended library conferences, and for more than ten years we have sat together round the table in the meetings of the Iowa Library Commission; and I have never seen a man more devoted to public service, more enthusiastic in the performance of service, more firmly grounded upon love of humanity and desire to assist in raising community life to a higher plane. His last words with his fellow-commissioners, at the spring meeting, like the first words I heard from his lips as presiding officer of the Iowa Library Association in '94, were of books—the best books—and of libraries well administered as factor in the complex problem of educating men and women to greater efficiency as citizens.

As an associate in library work throughout the state, Captain Johnston will be greatly missed. As a loyal, generous friend, he had endeared

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himself to every associate member of the commission. His place at the table can never be filled—for his kindly nature and his rare combination of childlike simplicity and worldly wisdom had made that place all his own.

The outline of this man's career are elsewhere given; but between the lines which tell of loving service, the friends of this good man will read many a story of devotion-to family, community, church, to his country, to the cause of education and to the free public library as supplemental to the unfinished work of the schools. JOHNSON BRIGHAM. .

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were adopted at the July meeting of the Iowa Library Commission:

Since the last meeting of the Iowa Library Commission our beloved co-worker Capt. W. H. Johnston has been called to his last rest, his death occurring June 6, 1911.

Resolved, That in his going, the Library Commission has lost a cherished friend, a wise counselor, an earnest and efficient co-worker, identified with the Commission since its creation in 1900, and the pioneer worker for free public libraries in the state.

In all the years he labored, he never lowered his ideals, or lessened his enthusiasm; he lived to see the fulfillment of his dream, free public libraries multiplying on the prairies of Iowa.

He lived a life of service to others, a life that was an inspiration to all who knew him, and when his pure life ended he fell asleep, leaving a memory that is a benediction.

The deepest sympathy of the members of the Commission and of the Executive staff, each of whom feel a personal loss, is extended to the daughter and sister of Captain Johnston in their great bereavement. To his associates in the work of the Fort Dodge Public Library, both the Board of Trustees and the Library Staff, the Commission extends sympathy and appreciation of the loss sustained by that institution to which he was so earnestly devoted.

Resolved, That these minutes be spread upon the records of the Library Commission and that copies be sent to the family and to the Board of Trustees of the Ft. Dodge Public Library.

(From Iowa Library Quarterly, July-September, 1911.)

RESOLUTIONS OF THE FORT DODGE LIBRARY BOARD, OF WHICH CAPTAIN JOHNSTON HAD BEEN PRESIDENT FOR MANY YEARS.

Burdened with grief, and with hearts full of feeling of irreparable loss, the Trustees of the Library gathered for their first meeting after the home going of the dear friend and leader who for so many years of devoted service had been the moving spirit and inspiration of his fellow members at their monthly meetings.

Next to her Public Schools, Fort Dodge prizes her Public Library as a means of advancement to her people. For the possession of this institution today, our city is indebted to Captain Johnston more than to any other person. He was the prime mover in the organization of the original Fort Dodge Library Association which had its beginning in the early

history of our city and out of which was evolved the Fort Dodge Public Library of today. From its organization to the day of his death, he occupied the position of President of its Board of Trustees.

Those who have been associated with him as members of that Board know and appreciate as others cannot, the interest which he took in its growth and success. However busy at other work, or in the discharge of duties elsewhere, the call of the regular monthly business meeting of the Library Board was always uppermost in his mind, and we feel that we express the general sentiment of our people when we say that Fort Dodge owes Captain Johnston a debt of gratitude for the work he did for the Public Library which will long keep his name bright in the memory of all, and we realize that when death called him from his work, a man of rigid honesty, of firm convictions, of pure heart and of gentle nature passed to his reward.

To other pioneers the New West offered opportunity for gain; to Captain Johnston it offered opportunity for service. They labored to build up a prosperous commonwealth that they might share its prosperity; he struggled to spread the light of learning and cultivation without which material prosperity is but grossness and excess. The fortunes they left diminish with the generations; the library movement he fostered grows with each succeeding year. His best and noblest monument will be, not one of rare marble or enduring granite, but rather his influence in moulding the minds and hearts of the children who have grown to manhood and womanhood in the last quarter of a century, whose reading he has guided in a kindly and fatherly way, thus luring them to higher heights and nobler aspirations. As the years come and go they will lovingly tell their children of the life work of the gentle "Captain" who

> "Nightly pitched his moving tent A day's march nearer home."

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ASSOCIATION AND SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARIES.

Place	Name of Library	Librarian	Total Vols.	
- 63		1	1 ×	
	Library Association	Mrs. Ethel H. Straight	200	
Afton	Library Association	Mrs. Charles Bagg	529	
Alta	Library Association	Grace Clemmons	300	
Anita	Library Association	Mrs. Frank Carter, Jr	71	
Ankeny	Library Association	Lillian M. Thornton	1,200	
Anthon	Library Association	Mrs. A. F. Vogel	1,200	
Avoca	Library Association	Mrs. John Sievers	1,900	
Belle Plaine	Library Association	Lenore VanScoy	1,200	
Brooklyn	Y. P. Library Association	Olive Lyenberger	220	
Clear Lake	Library Association	Hannah Bowers	2,10	
Correctionville	Library Association	Mrs. F. W. Woodruff	2,400	
Corydon	Library Association	Mrs. C. F. Garrett	1,70	
Decorah	Library Association	Mrs. M. U. Reed	2,00	
Exira	Thursday Club	Mrs. Bertha Born	1,20	
Greene	Library Association	Grace Ellis	2,10	
Hornick	Improvement Club	Mrs. C. A. Bennett	40	
da Grove	Library Association	Mrs. Laura Lovett	1,30	
Keota	Town Improvement Club	Mrs. Kate B. Glover	60	
Kiron	B. Y. P. U.	Alice L. Sandberg	50	
Letts	Library Association		35	
Lynnville	Library Association	Adella Renaud	55	
Lyons	Y. M. C. A.	Jeannette F. Balch	6,70	
Macedonia	Library Association	Mrs. Laura Young	75	
Manson		Mrs. Henry Young		
Milford	Library Association	Mrs. F. W. Knight	27	
Mitchell	Library Association	Julia Faville	22	
Northwood	Library Association	Nellie Wright	80	
Parkersburg	Library Association	Bessie Reints	2,10	
Postville	Library Association	Geo. S. Tuttle	90	
Redfield	Library Association			
Salem	Library Association		60	
Seymour	Library Association	Mrs. C. E. Blakely	1,10	
	Culture Club Library			
Sutherland	Gen. Baker Library Ass'n	Mrs. Roma W. Woods	1,00	
	Library Association			
Frenton	Library Association	Mrs. Rose Roberts		
Freynor	Library Association	Mrs. Geo. Scebold		
Waukon	Civic Improvement League.	W. C. Wilkinson	30	
Wellman	Schofield Library Ass'n	Jennie Dodds	1,20	
	Thursday Club Library		50	

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COLLEGE AND ACADEMY LIBRARIES.

Place	Name of Library	Librarian	Volumes added 1911	Total number volumes
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Charles City Clinton College Springs Decorah	Charles City College Wartburg College Amity College Luther College	Bertha G. Schaub H. Kuhlmann Effie G. Reed Chas. A. Naeseth	30	1,350 16,906
Des Moines	Des Moines College	Eva M. Page	756	7,000
Des Moines	Drake University			
Des Moines	Grand View College			
Des Moines	Highland Park College	Elizabeth Henry	147	7,444
Dubuque	Wartburg Seminary	Prof. G. J. Fritschel	150	
Epworth	Epworth Seminary	Helen I. Hanan		600
Fairfield	Parsons' College	Mary E. Harper	780	7,313
Fayette	Upper Iowa University	Mayme L. Hurd	570	15,188
Forest City	Waldorf Lutheran College	A. B. Wigdahl	24	1,650
Grinnell	Grinnell College	L. L. Dickerson	2,038	48,021
Hopkinton	Lenox College	Elizabeth R. Hendee	115	7,615
Humboldt	Humboldt College	J. P. Peterson		5,000
Indianola	Simpson College	Theodosia Hamilton	3 193	8 476
Iowa Falls	Ellsworth College		1,800	8,000
Lamoni	Graceland College	C. E. Irwin	1,660	8,058
Mt. Pleasant	Iowa Wesleyan	M. Blanche Swan	259	5,614
Mt. Vernon	Ellsworth College Graceland College Iowa Wesleyan Cornell College	May L. Fairbanks	1,551	37,465

COLLEGE AND ACADEMY LIBRARIES-CONTINUED

Place Name of Library		Librarian	Volumes added 1911	Total number volumes
Pella	Rapelye Academy Cedar Valley Seminary Penn College Central University Whittier College	Thos. E. Welmers Rosa E. Lewis Elizabeth Graham	50 	3,550 5,800 7,500
Shenandoah Sioux City Storm Lake Tabor	Western Normal School Morningside College Buena Vista College Tabor College	Alice E. Wilcox	656 775 374	5,400 8,390 7,275 15,723

MISCELLANEOUS LIBRARIES.

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			d d
Place	Name of Library	Librarian	un al hul

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		V0 a(19	To
Cedar Rapids Davenport Davenport	Bohemian Reading Society_ Iowa MasonicFrank KurkaAcademy of SciencesNewton R. ParvinJames Grant LawI. H. PaarmannChurch of L. D. S.Wm. Theophilus	1,341	55,790

LIBRARIES IN STATE INSTITUTIONS.

Place	Name of Library	Librarian	Volumes added 1911	Total number volumes
Des Moines Des Moines Iowa City Iowa City	Iowa State College State Teachers' College State Library (Ref. & Gen.) Historical Department Law Library(inc. Leg. Ref.) State Traveling Library State Historical Society State University S. U. I.—Law Library	Mary Dunham Johnson Brigham E. R. Harlan A. J. Small Margaret W. Brown Eliza L. Johnson Malcolm G., Wyer	3,620 3,764 3,320 700 1,180 1,983 777 7,544 850	66,312 14,040 54,066 22,823 39,719 93,250

INSTITUTIONS UNDER BOARD OF CONTROL.

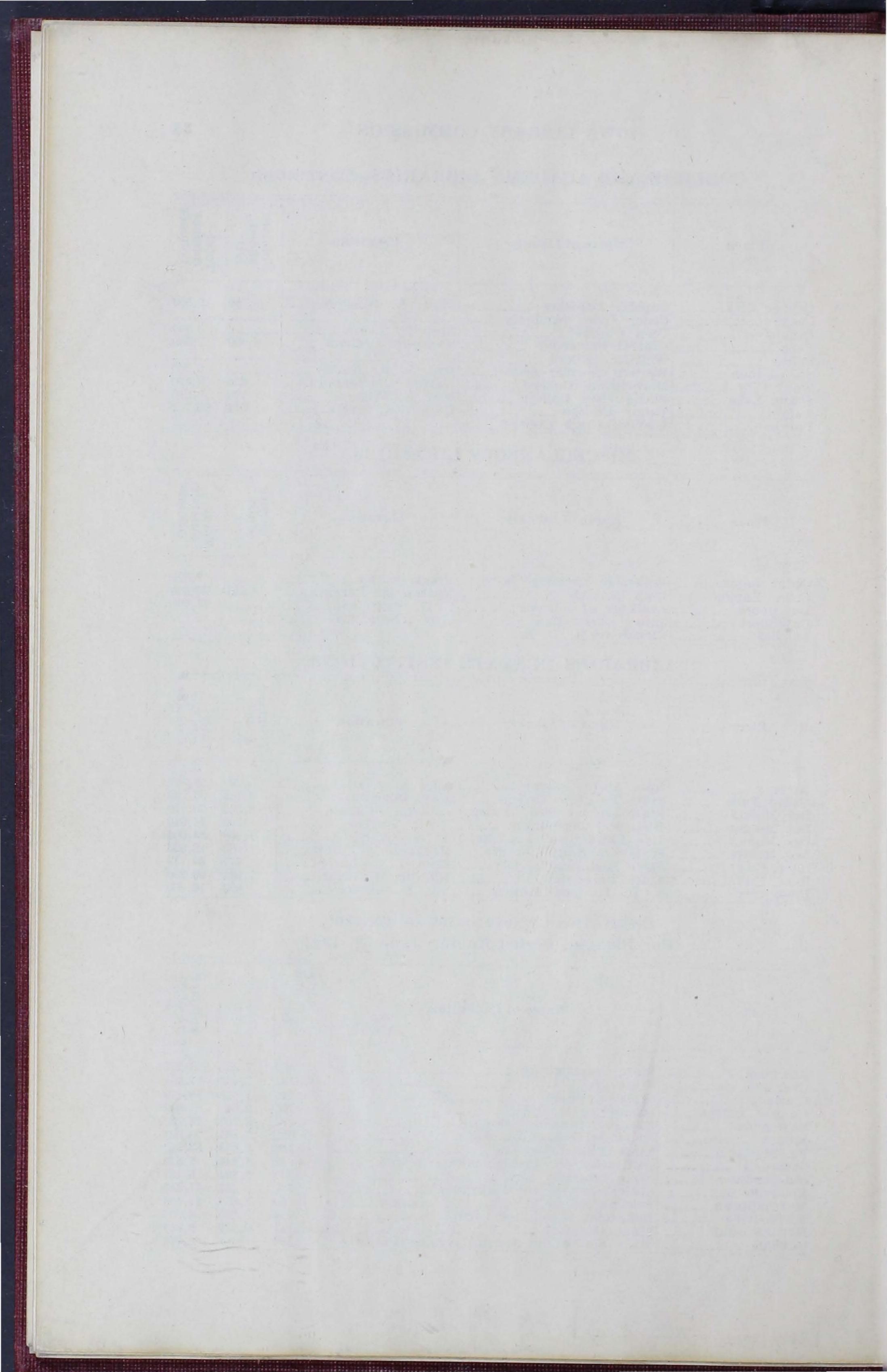
For Biennial Period Ending June 30, 1912.

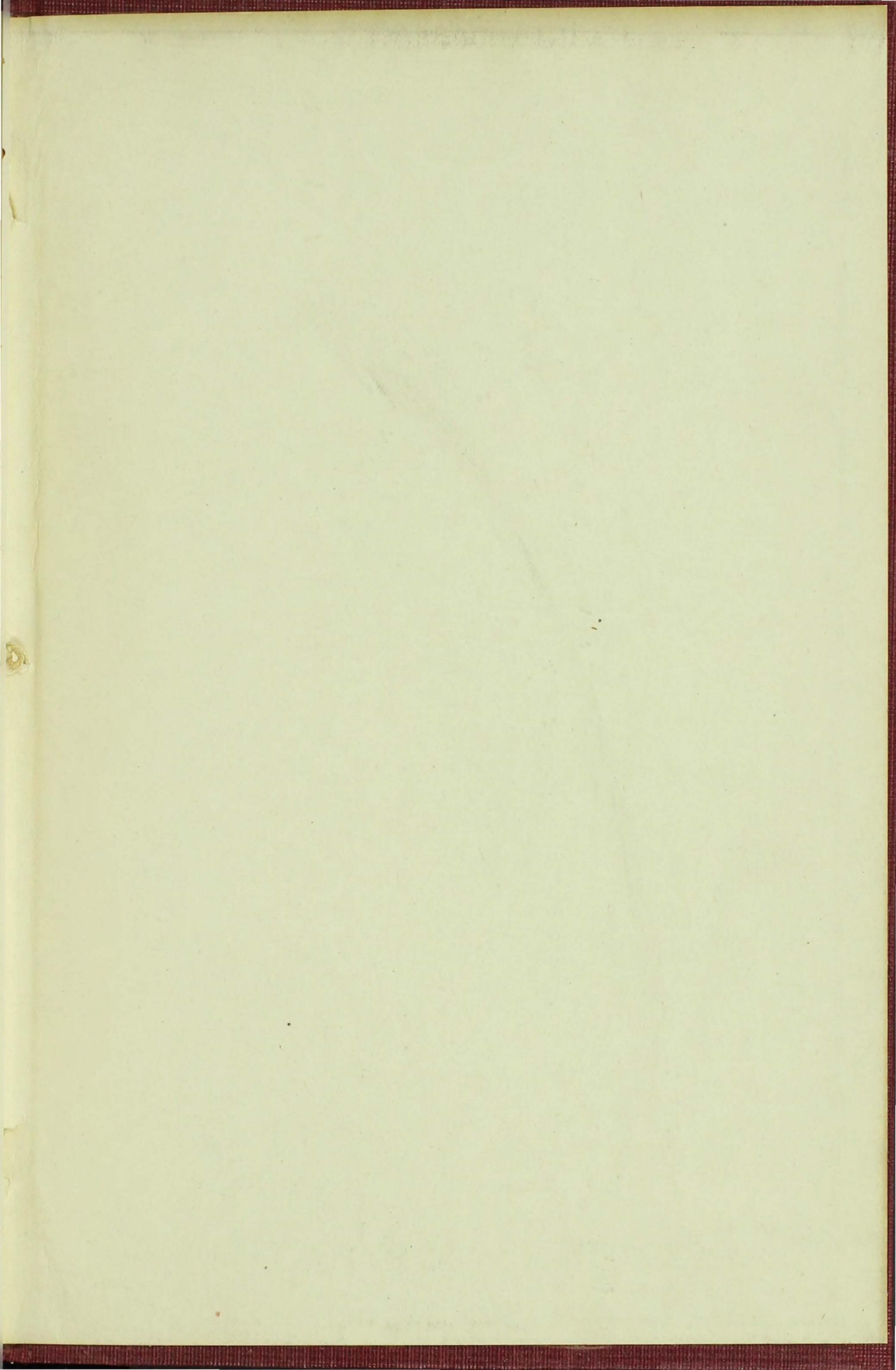
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Place		Name of Institution	Vol. added 1911 and 1912	Total no. vol.	Volumes loaned

			-	
	State Reformatory		7,937	and the second
Cherokee	State Hospital	464	2,432	19,451
Clarinda	State Hospital	240	1,612	18,470
Council Bluffs	School for the Deaf	705	5,843	Contract of the Address
	Soldiers' Orphans' Home		2,703	
Eldora	Industrial School for Boys	321	3,051	and the second s
	State Penitentiary		6,653	
Glenwood	Institution for Feeble-minded Children	2	1,240	
Independence	State Hospital		2,324	5,137
	State Hospital for Inebriates		454	11,436
Marshalltown	Soldiers' Home	60	2,554	14,435
Mitchellville	Industrial School for Girls	484	2,335	2,335
Mt. Pleasant	State Hospital		2,543	
Oakdale	State Sanitarium for Tubercular Patients	197	454	2,548

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