

State of Iowa
1926

REPORT OF THE
STATE LIBRARIAN
FOR THE
BIENNIAL PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 1926

JOHNSON BRIGHAM
STATE LIBRARIAN

Published by
THE STATE OF IOWA
Des Moines

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

HONORABLE JOHN HAMMILL, Governor, and President of the Board
of Trustees of the Iowa State Library.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the forty-first biennial report for the biennial period beginning on the first day of July, 1924, and ending on the thirtieth day of June, 1926.

JOHNSON BRIGHAM,
State Librarian.

Des Moines, Iowa, October 1, 1926.

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STATE LIBRARIAN'S STAFF

Johnson Brigham.....State Librarian

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Elizabeth Berner.....	Assistant Librarian
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LAW AND LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

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Bertha L. Hess.....	Assistant Librarian
R. F. Forrest.....	Assistant Librarian
Minnie E. Ames.....	Assistant Librarian

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

Frances B. van Zandt.....	Medical Librarian
Gladys Faidley.....	Assistant Librarian
Callie Brewer.....	Assistant Librarian

ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Mary M. Rosemond.....	Economics and Sociology Librarian
Pauline Lindblom.....	Assistant Librarian

REPORT OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN

I

The discontinuance of the publication in my biennial reports of lists of books added to the library from one biennial period to another, as recommended by the document editor, has not been felt to be a serious disadvantage to the librarians of the state, since local librarians no longer depend upon the state librarian's classifications as an aid to them in the classification of their own book-purchases. This condition is easily explained. Years ago, most local librarians were innocent of all knowledge of library science as taught in library schools. Happily, at the present time most of the public libraries of Iowa are "manned" by graduates of either the library schools or the short-term summer library school at our State University, and are abundantly capable of scientifically classifying all books that come to their grist. To say nothing of the number of Iowa librarians who are full-time graduates of the regular library schools, the change from unscientific librarianship to scientific is illustrated by the fact of record that at the July, 1926, quarter-century anniversary of the founding of the summer library school at Iowa City, the secretary reported more than six hundred graduates of that school. And, it may with truth be said that not a few of that number are among the most successful librarians in Iowa and other states.

II

A few general remarks on conditions in the several departments of the library.

1

The General Library continues to be the favorite resort of students and educators from the state's high schools and colleges, as well as of the many men and women who engage in research work in preparation for addresses, club papers, newspaper and magazine articles and books.

Among the more valuable works added to the General Library during the last biennial period, I recall the following:

First, I would mention the long list of bound periodicals covering a wide range of subjects including art, architecture, interior decoration, psychology, missionary progress, monism, philology,

poetry, fiction, travel, description, applied science, criticism, forestry, agronomy, schools and society, chemistry, church activities, theology, metaphysics, education, music, geographical exploration, photoplay, archaeology, libraries, etc.

Among the subjects of books purchased are the following: travel and description; anthologies—poetry and prose; letters—literary, political and personal; art and artists; mechanics; poems—classic and modern; standard fiction; ethics; biography; reports of learned societies; drama and dramatic readings; folk-lore; philology; psychology; biology; biblical literature; religion; nature studies; humor; science and invention; archaeology; chemistry; geology; journalism; arts and decoration; historic costumes; literary composition; mythology; library science; theoretical and applied physics; ceramics; pottery; photography; the motion picture; engineering; town-planning; the telephone; the radio; horticulture; agriculture; rural life; social life in town and country; pedagogy; gardening; forestry; wild-life; music; the opera; the theatre; child-life; bibliography; criticism—art, literature, music, etc.; labor; legislation; debater's material; war; world-peace, etc.

Among the most valuable additions during the period are the voluminous biographies throwing floods of light upon the World War. A new edition of "Modern Eloquence," 12v; Rusk's "Literature of the Middle-Western Frontier," 2v; Lord John Russell's "Correspondence," 2v; two new volumes of the "Victoria History of the Counties of England" (a valuable work suspended in 1914); Count Keyserling's "Travel Diary of a Philosopher," 2v; "The Pageant of America," 15v (5v thus far issued); Frothingham's "Edward Everett"; Sandburg's, also Barton's, "Abraham Lincoln"; Mellor's "Inorganic and Theoretical Chemistry"; Brandes' "Goethe"; "Contemporary British Artists," 14v; Kaempffert's "Popular History of American Invention," 2v; Earl Grey's "Twenty-five Years," 2v; Matthew Arnold's complete works, 12v; Werner's "Mythology of all Races"; "These Eventful Years," 2v; (published by the Britannica); Reymont's "The Peasants" (the latest Nobel Prize novel) 4v; Amy Lowell's "John Keats"; numerous accessions to Loeb's Classical Library (newly translated); "Correspondence of William I and Bismarck," 2v; "Letters of the Earl of Shaftesbury"; Joseph Jacobs' series of Fairy Tales—Indian, Celtic and English, 5v; Smith's "Life and Letters of Garfield," 2v; Cauldfield's "Court of Queen Elizabeth," and several volumes of the correspondence of Roosevelt.

2

The Law and Legislative Reference Department of the State Library has for the past biennial been growing steadily. In the law special attention has been given to the building up of sixteenth and seventeenth century literature relating to law and legal history. This, besides keeping down to date the current statute law, text-books and reports; also enlarging the general scope of the library by gradually acquiring the statute laws and reports of other countries. One of the most notable of such additions is a complete set of the Spanish Statute Law, in forty-four volumes. We have added a considerable number of volumes of biography of the world's great jurists. Among other works added are editions of various old and rare volumes valuable in original research.

During the biennial there have been 2,116 volumes of exclusively law books added to the library—these and about the same number of documents. I may safely say that our State Library possesses one of the most nearly complete files of state and national documents to be found in the country. We have for years been trying to fill in breaks and keep sets down to date.

The legislative reference section which is co-extensive with the entire library, was never in better shape or better prepared to supply the demands made upon it. We are constantly working out subjects and making bibliographical tabulations from source materials, anticipating the needs of the legislature, and of the general public as well.

One other feature which is far reaching, and upon which the law librarian and his assistants have given their spare time, is a subject-index for the various session laws of Iowa, from the first territorial session in 1838 down to the present time. This, when completed, will be of inestimable value in running down original acts which can otherwise be found only by long and laborious research.

The greatest need of the Law Library is more room. The library is so crowded that the librarian is compelled to pile volumes upon the upper floors, in the State House attic, and in other out-of-the-way places. This condition calls loudly for the erection of the proposed Temple of Justice—a building, which as planned, will house all the judicial departments as well as the state library, and will be large enough to accommodate other departments allied directly or indirectly with the legal departments of the state.

The last session appropriated the sum of \$600 for the purpose of

repairing and refinishing the furniture in the law library, also the re-covering of the reading tables. This has been done, adding materially to the attractiveness of the library.

3

Among the books added to the library of the relatively new section of Economics and Sociology since June 30, 1925, I note the following:

- The U. S. Children's Bureau publications.
- The Commerce Reports of the U. S. Department of Commerce.
- The Monthly Labor Review of the U. S. Labor Statistics Bureau.
- The Annual reports of the U. S. Tariff Commission, 1917-24.
- The Bulletins of the U. S. Women's Bureau, 24-39. Also the recent annual reports of the Bureau.
- The quarterly indexes of the New York Times.
- The International Year Book of Child Care and Protection.
- Ray Stannard Baker—The Public Papers of Woodrow Wilson, authorized edition—two published volumes.
- Dewey—Financial History of the United States.
- Babson—Recent Labor Progress.
- Clark—The Economics of Overhead Costs.
- Hadley—The Conflict between Liberty and Equality.
- Parsons on Modern Social Problems.
- Papers and discussions of the National Industrial Conference Board on the cost of living, tax-burdens, etc.
- Several new works on Criminology.
- Recent documents issued from the several states covering present conditions and issues.
- The Proceedings (including the papers read) of various national and international associations.
- Government and Congressional reports on a wide range of subjects.
- Anti-Saloon League yearbooks.
- The United States Daily.

Also recent contributions to various social and economic problems, including: labor and capital, insurance, finance, public utilities, immigration, banking, income, criminology, marriage and divorce, agriculture's needs, prohibition enforcement, employment, marketing, the family and the state, theories of value, stocks and bonds, railroads, transportation, municipal government, foreign relations, political parties, Americanization, federal trade commis-

sion, etc., etc.—altogether including a wealth of information and suggestion to the student of affairs.

4

The success of the relatively new Medical Department of the State Library is a matter of general congratulation. So far as my knowledge extends, our Medical Library is the most successful in actually carrying to conclusions the slogan of the American Library Association: "The best books to the greatest number." The theory upon which this department was founded was that a medical library should be far more than a shelved collection of books and periodicals; that it should be a circulating library accessible to the remotest physician, surgeon and student of the state; and that the time-tried and eminently successful Traveling Library system of circulating books, operated by the Iowa Library Commission since 1902, might well be applied to the Medical Library. Its success in a few short years has surpassed the expectations of Drs. Hill, Fairchild, Fay, Pearson, and other members of the State Medical Society, who materially aided me in securing the legislation necessary to the carrying out of the plan.

To acquaint the medical profession of Iowa with the value of the library as an adjunct of their practice, all the important older works on our shelves and all the new accessions, also a list of periodicals, were listed, and 3,400 copies of the lists were mailed to the members of the State Medical Society, along with an announcement of the nature and extent of the service offered. This list was so gratefully appreciated, and so resultful in requests for loans, that every year since the first list was sent out, lists bringing library accessions down to date have been mailed to all registered members of the medical profession.

In 1925, the loans in response to this publicity scheme doubled those of the previous year.

Another effective publicity plan is the placing of an exhibit of medical works and periodicals on tables in a conspicuous place in the halls where state conferences are held, with circulars explaining the method of loans and giving other information. This method is followed up with exhibits at district and county society meetings, the state authorizing the payment of travel expenses of the medical librarian to these meetings.

Also, an exhibit has been made several years at our state fair, space having been accorded the librarian in the woman's building.

The medical librarian, as a member of the American Medical Library association, has established a valuable connection with a system of exchange operated by the association.

The medical librarian has availed herself of the loaning system of the John Crerar Library of Chicago and the Surgeon General's Library in Washington, thus enabling her to supply works not now on our shelves.

At the present time there are 189 physicians and surgeons who are in direct relations with the State's Medical Library. Let a few significant figures show the healthful growth of this department:

Beginning with no record of visitors during the first year of the medical department's existence, the number of visitors in 1922 mounted to 1,052. In 1923, the number increased to 1,118. In 1924, it increased to 1,362; and in 1925, the number had increased to 1,686. During the first six months of 1926, the number of visitors was 771.

But, most of the loans made were in response to letters, telegrams and long-distance calls.

The number of books and periodicals loaned from the Medical library in 1922 was 1,656. The number increased in 1923 to 3,176. It was still further increased in 1924 to 6,308; and in 1925, the loans totaled 7,041. During the first six months of 1926, the loans have aggregated 5,731.

III

The necessity of more room in all four departments of the State Library becomes more pressing with every installment of new books. In the Law and Legislative Reference Department, many permanently valuable books are of necessity, piled upon the upper floors. In the General Library every available space is filled. The growth of the Medical Library long since overflowed the shelf-room in the room assigned to the department, and medical works are crowding more and more the space on the second floor of the Historical Building, compelling the removal of books of the General Library from shelves to tables and the floor.

I am pleased to learn that Budget Director Hogue purposes to urge the incoming General Assembly to grant an adequate appropriation for the erection of the Temple of Justice for which plans were made several years ago; the first floor of which provides space for a reassembling of the several departments of the State Library in the same building, and upon a single floor. The pressing need

of the Historical Department for all the floor-space in the Historical Building emphasizes the desirability of vacating the space now occupied by the General Library and the Medical Library, thus further strengthening the claim of the Supreme Court, the Attorney General and the Library Board, for the early erection of the Temple of Justice to which the state is already committed and for which plans have already been made.

IV

Little remains for the librarian to report beyond the record of the number of books added to the several departments during the last biennial period, and the grand total of books in all four departments; also the library bookkeeper's record of moneys expended during the biennium now closed, and the ways in which the moneys have been expended.

The total number of books of record, as per inventory, in the several departments of the State Library June 30, 1924, was	185,680
The additions to this total during the last biennial period, ending June 30, 1926, were.....	8,314
These additions make a grand total of books in the State Library June 30, 1926.....	193,994
These additions by departments are as follows:	
To the General Library	2,894
To the Law and Legislative Reference Department.....	2,116
To the Economic and Sociology Department (an outgrowth of the former Legislative Reference Bureau).....	1,545
To the Medical Department	1,759

The bookkeeper's financial statement showing the classified expenditures for the several departments for the biennium is herewith submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHNSON BRIGHAM,
State Librarian.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

RECAPITULATION

Of Librarian's Expenditures for the biennial period beginning July 1, 1924, and ending June 30, 1926

GENERAL DEPARTMENT

Books purchased	\$ 6,078.49
Periodicals purchased	2,207.80
Binding	1,722.25
Printing	80.41
Carriage	5.26
Miscellaneous Expense	586.19

Total

\$10,680.40

LAW AND LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

Books purchased	\$ 9,832.40
Periodicals purchased	1,279.58
Binding	1,220.17
Printing	252.75
Carriage	20.36
Miscellaneous Expense	759.22

Total

\$13,364.48

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

Books purchased	\$ 1,557.71
Periodicals purchased	2,039.53
Binding	1.25
Printing	142.88
Carriage	20.01
Miscellaneous Expense (including Travel expense)	734.47

Total

\$ 4,495.85

ECONOMICS AND SOCIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Books purchased	\$ 1,575.04
Periodicals purchased	541.40
Binding	885.81
Printing	23.28
Carriage	1.94
Miscellaneous expense	63.20

Total

\$ 3,090.67

HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT

(From July 1, 1924 to July 1, 1925*)

Books and Periodicals	\$ 1,225.42
Newspapers	12.00
Portraiture	952.66
Maps and Manuscripts	1,053.17
Museum	658.47
Carriage	6.71
Printing and Binding	1,013.99
World War	199.75
Miscellaneous Expense	763.91
Archives	3.00

Total

\$ 5,889.08

*Beginning with July 1, 1925, the bookkeeping of the Historical Department was transferred from the State Librarian's bookkeeper to the Curator of the Historical Department.

State of Iowa

1926

THIRTEENTH REPORT

OF THE

Iowa Library Commission

MADE TO THE
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

FOR THE

BIENNIAL PERIOD JULY 1, 1924 TO
JUNE 30, 1926JULIA A. ROBINSON
SecretaryPublished by
THE STATE OF IOWA
Des Moines