Good Morning, ladies and gentlemen. Again we open the doors of the Reference Room Of The Air to give you a variety of facts and figures gleaned from the books in your public library. Robert Crawford has been gathering information about the library which is of interest to him. First thing this morning I'm going to let him sum up the material he has discovered.

15,828 people have cards at the library. They borrowed for home use last year 254,203 books. The total book count at the end of 1937 was 53,393 volumes of books. In addition the library has thousands of unbound magazines, pamphlets, and government documents. The library is really a school without age limits, a university without entrance examinations.

Speaking of schools, here are some very interesting statistics on the school situation in Eau Claire. 5270 students enrolled in the city schools this month. Saint Patrick's school reports an enrollment of 804, Sacred Heart School of 282. The Model School of the State Teachers' College has an attendance of 180 and the college itself reports 600 registered for the new school year. The night school for adults opens very soon, too, I believe.

Eau Claire offers innumerable educational opportunities.

Tomorrow the educational and good will tour of the Wisconsin Chapter Of The National Aeronautic Association visits Eau Claire.

Is this the same tour that was postponed from last week?

Yes, three pilots from Eau Claire started out last week and returned. Mr. Ward and Mr. Hurd fly Piper Cub light planes and Mr. Hamilton a Cessna four place job. There is no admittance charge to the fields where the tour stops and everyone is invited to inspect the planes and have a good time. The tour began at Manitowoc at 10 A.M. Monday, going from there to Milwaukee for luncheon, then to Waukesha,
and to Racine for the night. Yesterday the schedule included Janesville, Madison, and Lake Delton. Today the party will visit Fond du Lac, Oshkosh, Appleton, and spend the night tonight in Wausau. Tomorrow forenoon the planes will arrive here and remain for lunch, after which the tour will proceed to Wisconsin Dells where the group will disband.

Among the prominent pilots in this year's tour are Mr. Howard Morey, chairman of the state of Wisconsin aeronautical commission and Mr. Steve Wittman of Oshkosh. Mr. Wittman won third place in the Thompson Trophy race at Cleveland.

R.C. It should be fun to see the planes.

M.L. If you can leave this studio long enough to get out to the airport, we'll see you because here's one librarian who likes to fly.

R.C. Isn't there a book yet by Howard Hughes and Douglas Corrigan?

M.L. Not yet, but Anne Morrow Lindbergh has a new book called, Listen! The Wind, which is about her husband's famous flight to Paris. It will be ready for the public next month. The outstanding literary gem of all books on famous flights is North To The Orient by Mrs. Lindbergh. She says there is a fundamental magic of flying. "It is a magic which one experiences standing in front of serene Madonnas or listening to cool chorales, or even reading one of those clear passages in a book - so clear and so illuminating that one feels the writer has given the reader a glass-bottomed bucket with which to look through the ruffled surface of life far down to that still permanent world below....and if flying, like a glass-bottomed bucket, can give you that vision, that seeing eye, which peers down to the still world below the choppy waves - it will always remain magic."

Edward Alexander Powell has been everywhere and done everything. His travel books are as interesting as the titles; Beyond The
Utmost Purple Rim, Yonder Lies Adventure, The Map That Is Half Unrolled, By Camel And Car To The Peacock Throne, His latest book is called Aerial Odyssey which is an account of flying over Central and South America.

Claudia Cranston flew 25,000 miles by clipper ships over South America, Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean which she describes in Sky Gypsy.

The commercial and pleasure field of aviation is interesting but the military phase makes one almost wish that planes had never been invented. Tennyson wrote prophetic words long ago:

"For I dipt into the future, far as human eye could see,
Saw a vision of the world, and all the wonders that would be;
Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails,
Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with costly bales,
Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rain'd a ghastly dew
From the nation's airy navies grappling in the central blue."

I wonder how Tennyson would have felt could he have seen the great bombing planes being amassed in Europe today. This brings us to our big reference question of today. One listener to this program called me Saturday night and said something like this, "I listen to the news broadcasts on the radio and read the headlines in the newspapers, but I don't know what it is all about, do you? I confessed that it was a muddle, but set to work to get the answers to the questions which she asked me. In the rest of the time I have left this morning, I'll try to present the story of Czechoslovakia as I have found it in books and magazines.
Czechoslovakia is an independent republic in Central Europe. The name is a combination of the names of the two major peoples forming the present republic. The Slováks, formerly part of Hungary and the Czechs, who, were at one time a part of the Bohemian Kingdom, but through betrayal were absorbed by the Austrian Empire. Though the Czechs remained under Austrian rule for almost two hundred years, they managed to keep their nationality alive. The World War furnished them the opportunity which they were seeking to be freed from Austria. The republic was proclaimed by the Czechoslovaks on Oct. 18, 1918 and was given its present boundaries frontiers by the peace treaties of Versailles, St. Germain, and Trianon, and by the decision of the Conference of Ambassadors on the question of Teschen in July 1920.

The republic is bounded on the west by Germany, North by Poland, East by Roumania, South by Hungary and Austria. Its area is 54,244 square miles. The population in 1934 was 14,729,536. The West-East length is 594 miles and the width varies from 175 miles to less than 45 miles.

The population of the republic at the 1930 census was 14,729,536. This was divided into 66.9% Czecho-slovaks, 22.3% Germans, 4.8% Magyars, 3.3% Ruthenes, 1.3% Jews, and .6% Poles.

Prague, the capital, has a population of 846,823 and is the largest city in the nation.

About 40% of the population is engaged in agriculture, 34% in industry, and 11% in commerce. The remainder of the population is engaged in government services, professions and other fields.

The elevations and climate combine to make Czechoslovakia one of the richest forest lands of Europe. Over half of the forest areas are covered with conifers, the rest mixed woodlands, mostly deciduous trees. Sugar beet, corn and high-grade barley for beer-brewing are cultivated in the low-lying areas, the cultivation of potatoes, rye and oats.
predominates in the more elevated regions, the high lands not in forests 
are used for grazing and for fodder crops.

Mineral wealth is important. Coal is an important article of export, 
iron ore is obtained in the provinces of Bohemia and Slovakia, but is still 
inadequate so much is imported from Sweden.

About 400,000 tons of kaolin or porcelain clay is obtained each 
year from Bohemia and Moravia.

A systematic program of waterpower development and electrification 
has been started.

Industries depend to a large extent on agricultural products. The 
largest is the sugar industry. The beer-brewing industry has attracted 
world wide attention, especially Pilsen beer. Smoked meats, especially 
ham are world famous. Foundaries are abundant throughout the nation.
Glass, pottery and porcelain are well developed industries. Bohemian 
glass is exported to all parts of the world. The chief timber product 
is furniture. Paper, textile, and leather are also important industries.

Now a few words about the government. Czechoslovakia is a democratic 
republic with an elected president at its head. Legislative authority 
is exercised by parliament elected by universal, equal, secret, and 
compulsory suffrage based on proportional representation. Parliament 
consists of two chambers, Chamber of Deputies of 300 members elected 
for six years, and a Senate of 150 members elected for eight years.
Citizens are eligible for the Chamber of Deputies at the age of 30, the 
Senate at the age of 45. Parliament must sit twice a year. When not 
sitting, a commission of 24 members (16 from the Chamber of Deputies, 
6 from Senate) enact important measures. The president is elected by a 
joint session of the two chambers for a seven year term, he may be 
re-elected for seven years. In order to qualify for a second term he 
must wait seven years after the expiration of his second term.
Thomas Masaryk was elected the first president on Nov. 14, 1918 and was reelected on May 27, 1920, and again in May 1934 but in Dec. 1935 he resigned. He was the real founder of the present nation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where he negotiated a Czech-Slovak pact.

Time will not permit me to tell the interesting historical development of this new nation since 1918. Rather we shall trace briefly the briefly the rise of the Sudetendeutsch Partei. Since 1931 the world economic crisis and the rise of Hitlerism have combined to change the story of Czechoslovakia. The depression hit hardest the overdeveloped German Bohemia industrial centers.

Unemployment bred political discontent and despair. In June 1933 Nazism was suppressed in Austria, and in October the National Socialist Party of Czechoslovakia forestalled dissolution by voluntarily disbanding. It encouraged its members to enter the newly formed Home Front party led by Konrad Henlein. From control of German clubs as an instructor in gymnastics Henlein moved into politics and on October 1, 1933, called on all Germans to unite in the German Sudeten party. The name was taken from the Sudetic Mountain region where he was born. In May 1935 his party won 44 of the 75 German seats in the lower chamber.

Henlein wants three alternative demands, 1. Local autonomy for the Sudetens, with municipal, education, public services and police left to the community majority, foreign affairs administered from Prague,
2. a plebiscite to determine whether the Sudetens want to be citizens of Germany of remain as they are, 3. Third solution Germany seize the territory.

Some observers agree that the Sudetens have a grievance. In 1920 the horse-shoe mountainous strip was added to the republic by the
Allied peacemakers by the Treaty of Saint-Germain, in order to set up a natural fortification barrier against Germany. This gave the Czechoslovak state a 22% German population, these people today form 5% of the nation's unemployed.

At one point this Sudeten area reaches to withining 20 miles of Prague. It is rich in coal and iron resources. Some people in this district have no real desire to be annexed to Germany. Is Henlein the latest joker in Hitler's deck?

R.C. This has been a real reference question, but keep sending them in, this program was designed to be of value to our radio listeners.

Until this same time next week, this is Robert Crawford speaking for the staff of the Eau Claire Public Library.