ANNUAL REPORT
OF EAU CLAIRE
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH,
EIGHTEEN HUNDRED NINETY-NINE, EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN.
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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
EAU CLAIRE PUBLIC LIBRARY,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30TH, 1899.

EAU CLAIRE, WIS.
1899.
LIBRARY BOARD, 1899-1900.

W. J. Starr, President.
W. K. Coffin, Vice-President.
C. W. Lockwood, Secretary.

C. A. Bullen, MRS. H. C. Putnam, M. S. Frawley.
Alfred Cypreansen, C. H. Ingram.

STANDING COMMITTEES, 1899-1900.

LIBRARY.

M. S. Frawley, MRS. H. C. Putnam, C. W. Lockwood.

ROOMS.


FINANCE.

W. K. Coffin, C. A. Bullen, Alfred Cypreansen.

Ellen D. Biscoe, Librarian.
Jessie F. Hoyt, Assistant.
Nan McLeod, Assistant.
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To the Honorable, the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Eau Claire:

The Board of Directors of the Eau Claire Public Library, pursuant to the provisions of the statute, present herewith the Report of the work and condition of the Library for the year ending June 30, 1899.

This letter of transmittal can do little more than call attention to the results accomplished during this past year, as fully shown in the reports of the Librarian and of the Finance Committee. Certainly it should be interesting and encouraging to our tax payers to note how quickly and how freely the library has responded to the genial influence of the more liberal appropriation given it this past year.

The increase of five hundred dollars in the amount set aside for library work by the Council resulted in an increase of $831.24 in purchases of books, magazines, furniture and supplies over the preceding year; and that, too, without showing an overdraft on our account either at the beginning or end of the year.

The salaries and fixed expenses were practically the same as during the preceding year, but in the item of new books alone we spent over seven hundred and fifty dollars more than we were able to use for that purpose during the year ending June 30, 1898.

This additional amount spent in the purchase of books has brought the Library up to practically ten thousand volumes, and has enabled us to fill out some of the blank spaces heretofore existing.

The use of the reading room and reference department has become very large, so that often the room is crowded. Very soon, if the work grows, as it must to live, more room will be needed, especially for the children.

With the general bettering of conditions in the city, and the increasing use of the Library, we trust that the Library appropriation
may this year be made the sum heretofore asked,—Four Thousand Dollars,—and pledge ourselves to show results commensurate with such an appropriation.

We ask your favorable consideration of this report.

WILLIAM J. STARR,
President of the Board of Directors.

September 1, 1899.
To the Board of Directors of the Eau Claire Public Library:

HEREWITH is submitted a report of the Library for the year ending June 30, 1899.

It is a pleasure to announce that the Library is in a more satisfactory condition than it has been for a number of years. The city appropriation, while not so large as was deemed necessary, was sufficient to prevent us from becoming a "dead letter."

During the last twelve months very little money has been spent for furniture or necessities other than books. There has been, however, a large increase in the number of books purchased and the results have been highly gratifying.

There is immediate need of more stacks, more light, more air. When so many readers are present, some are forced into corners where the light is trying to the eyes. The air in the Library is proverbially bad and is injurious to those who come to read. In securing stacks no provision has been made for growth, each stack being added to relieve present need.

Last winter the room was uncomfortably crowded, and we hope for even larger patronage this winter; in view of this fact, the above mentioned defects in library equipment should have immediate attention that the winter's work may not be handicapped as heretofore.

Growth.

The value of the Library has been increased by the purchase of more than a thousand volumes. In accordance with a vote of the Library Board, seventy-five dollars were devoted each month to this purpose. While many large libraries buy more books a month than ours can afford to buy in a year, nevertheless we feel that the Eau Claire Library has made progress. Books are added to the Library with the two-fold object of securing standard works to
strengthen the reference department; and also of keeping the circulating department up to date.

At present there are five thousand names on the registration books. There should be ten thousand more with books enough for all. Growth is an evidence of life, and it is to be hoped that during the coming year this indication of vitality may be even more marked.

A few German and Norwegian books have been purchased during the year and have been appreciated by those reading these languages.

We submit the following statistics of growth:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of volumes in the library July 1, 1898</td>
<td>8059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of volumes added by purchase</td>
<td>1087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of volumes added by gift</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazines added to complete sets</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current periodicals bound</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government documents</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>9459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volumes worn out and retired</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books lost in circulation</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books lost and paid for</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books missing from shelves</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Number of books in library June 30, 1899</strong></td>
<td>9275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamphlets received—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government publications</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library reports</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous pamphlets</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Circulation.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of readers registered June 30, 1898</td>
<td>4229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of readers registered June 30, 1899</td>
<td>5144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Registrations</td>
<td>915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation for the year ending June 30, 1898</td>
<td>82,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulation for the year ending June 30, 1899</td>
<td>85,659</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Circulation in different classes.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Works</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philology</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>1,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Useful Arts</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>3,696</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>5,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Fiction</td>
<td>20,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile fiction</td>
<td>16,577</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

That the circulation is slightly less this year than last is partially explained by the use of the teachers' cards. During the
eighteen months that the teachers have used special cards, seventeen hundred books have been drawn on them. These books kept in the school room for a month at a time have necessarily diminished the record for circulation, for if kept at the library the same books would probably have been drawn at least twice during the four weeks. On the other hand, while the books were in the school room all the pupils received the benefit of them, more children having really used the books than would have been possible if they had remained at the library.

The effect of new books is seen in the fact that during the last four months of the fiscal year, the circulation of each month averaged an increase of six hundred over the corresponding months of 1898.

The two-book system has been introduced. This permits each reader to draw two books at once, provided that only one of the two is a work of fiction. One hundred and eighty-five readers have taken advantage of this privilege.

**Periodicals.**

In accordance with our plans at the beginning of the year there has been an attempt to complete the sets of periodicals. Considering the means at our disposal, an excellent beginning has been made. The following sets of magazines are at present complete up to date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cyclopedic Review of Current History.</td>
<td>Recreation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum.</td>
<td>Saint Nicholas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kodak.</td>
<td>Scribner’s Magazine.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many volumes have also been added to Harper’s Magazine, Littell’s Living Age, Nation, and Public Opinion.

**Cataloging.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of books cataloged</th>
<th>1439</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of pamphlets cataloged</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of cards written</td>
<td>3727</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Binding.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of books sent to the bindery</th>
<th>335</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of current periodicals bound</td>
<td>198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of periodicals to complete sets bound</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>517</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Juvenile Department.

The work with the children is constantly assuming greater proportions until it is becoming one of the great problems in our library work. During the long evenings of last winter the library became a pleasant, safe retreat for hundreds of children who frequently came in such numbers the older people were crowded out.

The children are in urgent need of a room of their own with a special attendant, one who could give her undivided attention to them. In behalf of the children, the older people, and the library staff we urge the consideration of a children's room.

Reference.

The volumes of periodicals which have been added to complete imperfect sets have been of the greatest value to the reference department. In addition to these the following reference books have been purchased.

- New American Supplement to the Britannica with index, 6 vols.
- Annual Cyclopedia. Appleton.
- Dalbiac, P. H. Dictionary of Quotations.
- Adams, O. F. Dictionary of American Authors.
- Hulme, F. E. Flags of the World.

The series of Wisconsin Blue Books was found to be incomplete. An appeal was made to the people for missing numbers, and as a result the library has all the biennial issues, which began in 1885, and volumes 11, 16 to 21 inclusive of the annual issues.

Respectfully submitted,

ELLEN D. BISCOE,

Librarian.

July 1, 1899.

Report of the Finance Committee of the Board of Directors of the Eau Claire Public Library for the year ending June 30, 1899.

Receipts.
July 1, 1898—Balance in City Treasury .......................................................... $241.72
Appropriation ........................................................................................................ 3500.60
Fines collected and paid to City Treasurer ...................................................... 79.54
Total ...................................................................................................................... $3821.86

Disbursements.
Salaries .................................................................................................................. $1496.85
Books ..................................................................................................................... 1151.09
Binding and Repairs .......................................................................................... 356.18
Papers and Magazines ....................................................................................... 199.30
Light .................................................................................................................... 155.40
Printing and Supplies ......................................................................................... 154.90
Rent ...................................................................................................................... 75.00
Furniture and Fixtures ....................................................................................... 104.19
Annual Report .................................................................................................... 36.40
June 30, 1899—Balance in City Treasury ......................................................... $3578.71
Total ...................................................................................................................... $3821.86

For the purpose of convenient comparison we submit herewith copy of our report for the year ending June 30, 1898, as follows:

Receipts.
Appropriation ........................................................................................................ $3000.00
Fines ....................................................................................................................... 82.14
Total ...................................................................................................................... $3082.14

Disbursements.
July 1, 1897—Overdraft ...................................................................................... $105.56
Salaries .................................................................................................................. $1472.83
Books ..................................................................................................................... 396.67
Binding and Repairs .......................................................................................... 265.40
Papers and Magazines ....................................................................................... 178.05
Light .................................................................................................................... 155.40
Printing and Supplies ......................................................................................... 94.70
Rent ...................................................................................................................... 75.00
Furniture and Fixtures ....................................................................................... 58.79
Annual Report ..................................................................................................... 2734.96
June 30, 1898—Balance ....................................................................................... 35.00
Total ...................................................................................................................... $3082.14
From the above reports we make the following comparative table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDED FOR</th>
<th>1897-8</th>
<th>1898-9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>$396.67</td>
<td>$1151.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Binding and Repairs</td>
<td>263.40</td>
<td>356.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papers and Magazines</td>
<td>178.05</td>
<td>199.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and Fixtures</td>
<td>58.79</td>
<td>104.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$966.91</td>
<td>$1810.76</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above expenditures are all for the enlargement or betterment of the library. This increase (*more than double*) in the expenditures for these accounts is very gratifying.

We would respectfully submit the following estimate of expenses for the Library Year of 1899-1900:

- **Salaries**: $1600.00
- **Lighting**: $150.00
- **Papers and Magazines**: $250.00
- **Binding and Repairs**: $400.00
- **Stationery and Supplies**: $150.00
- **Furniture and Fixtures**: $100.00
- **Rent**: $75.00
- **Sundries**: $50.00
- **Total**: $2800.00

New Books: $1200.00

We have made a very careful estimate and are convinced that we cannot carry on the work that ought to be done during the year for any less than $2800.00 asked for, and we cannot maintain the library with anything less than $1200.00 for new books.

Respectfully submitted,

W. K. COFFIN,
Chairman Finance Committee.

September 1, 1899.
Gifts to the Library.

Miscellaneous.

AMES, Mrs. E. L.
Stoddard, J. L. Photograph folios.

BIRGE, E. A.
Peckham, G. W. and E. G. Solitary wasps.
Roth, F. Forestry conditions of Northern Wisconsin.

BLACKWELL, F.

BRADFORD, I. B.
Blue Book. 1880.

CINCINNATI PUBLIC LIBRARY.
Catalog of dramas.

CYPREANSEN, A.
Handbook of Chippewa Co.

EMERY, J. Q.
Commission of ten on Rural Schools. Report.
List of books for township libraries.

FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA.
Bulletin.

HAMMOND, J. E.
Suggestive special day programs.

HAYDEN, Miss G.
Harrison, Miss B. Well bred girl in society.

HELENA (Mont) PUBLIC LIBRARY Bulletins.

HOE, R.
I. O. O. F. Report of the 52nd Annual Session.

HUTCHINS, C. H.
Iles, G. Class in geometry.
Hutchins, C. H. Two years progress in the libraries of Wisconsin.
Stearns, L. The child and the small library.

Wisconsin Academy of Science, Arts and Letters. Transactions.

KEPLER, S. S.
Eau Claire City Charter.
Lake Mohonk Conference Report.
MCLELLAN, J. E.
Bradford, W. History of Plymouth Colony.

MCGRATH, MRS.
Richter, J. P. Titian.

MCKAY, F. M.
Deems, C. F. Light of Nations.

MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Fiction catalog.
Quarterly bulletin.

MORRISON, MRS. P. B.
Howells W. D. Traveler from Altruria Casanova and Latude.
Escapes from prison.

NELSON, L.
Blue Book. 1887.

NEWARK (NEW JERSEY) PUBLIC LIBRARY.
Program on laying cornerstone of new library.

OLMSTEAD, D. H.

PHILLIPS, MRS. GEO.
Randall, T. E. History of Chippewa Valley.

PUTNAM, MRS. H. C.
Fouque, F. Undine.

SOUTHERN R. R. CO.
Empire of the South.

STARR, W. J.
Dharma, or, The religion of enlightenment.

SWIFT, MISS L.
Fiske, J. Cosmic Philosophy

THOMPSON, MRS. G. T.
Blue Book. 1887.

TEASDALE, T. W.
Whirlwind of the wheels.

WISCONSIN.
Laws.
Milwaukee Civil Service Commission Report.

WISCONSIN DAIRYMAN'S ASSOCIATION.
Report.

WISCONSIN STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
Report.

WISCONSIN STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
Report.

WISCONSIN UNIVERSITY.
Bates, O. Superintendent of bridges and buildings.
Kahlenberg, L. Action of solutions on the sense of taste.
Periodicals and Newspapers.

ADAMS, T. L.
Church Echoes.

ASHBAUGH, H. C.
Evening Free Press.

 ATKINSON, H. M.
New York Tribune.
New York Sun.
Daily Northwestern.

 ATKINSON, W. K.
Daily Leader.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH.
Christian Science Journal.
Christian Science Sentinel.
Washington News Letter.

CYPREANSEN, A.
Folkebladet.

DORAN, G. A.
St. Paul Dispatch.

EPWORTH LEAGUE OF BARSTOW
St. M. E. CHURCH.
Epworth Herald.

EAU CLAIRE HIGH SCHOOL.
Kodak.

HUTCHINS, C. H.
35 Volumes of magazines.

SMITH, MISS A.
Electrical Engineering.

STARR, W. J.
Acker & Gartenbau Zeitung.

SWIFT, MISS L.
Independent.

WELCH, WM. P.
Daily Telegram.
Weekly Telegram.

SOURCE UNKNOWN.
Bloomer Advance.
Chippewa Observer.
Folkebladet.
Lutheranean.
Menomonie Times.
Superior Leader.
Weekly Herald.
## List of Magazines and Newspapers.

### Monthly.

- American Amateur Photographer.
- Arena.
- Art Interchange.
- Art Journal.
- Atlantic Monthly.
- Birds and All Nature.
- Book-buyer.
- Century.
- Charities Review.
- Chautauquan.
- Christian Science Journal. *(Gift)*
- Church Echoes. *(Gift)*
- Cosmopolitan.
- Critic.
- Cumulative Index.
- Current Literature.
- Cyclopedia Review of Current History.
- Eclectic Magazine.
- Education.
- Engineering Magazine.
- Fortnightly Review.
- Forum.
- Harper's Round Table.
- Kindergarten Magazine.
- Kodak. *(Gift)*
- Library Journal.
- Library News Letter.
- Literary News.
- Little Men and Women.
- McClure's Magazine.
- Missionary Review.
- Munsey.
- Music.
- New England Magazine.
- Nineteenth Century.
- North American Review.
- Our Dumb Animals.
- Overland Monthly.
- Popular Science Monthly.
- Public Libraries.
- Recreation.
- Review of Reviews.
- St. Nicholas.
- Scribner's Magazine.

### Weekly.

- Acker & Gartenbau Zeitung—*(Gift)*
- Bloomer Advance. *(Gift)*
- Chippewa Observer. *(Gift)*
- Dial.
- Education.
- Electrical Engineer.
- Epworth Herald. *(Gift)*
- Fliegende Blatter.
- Folkebladet—*(American)*
Folkebladet. (Gift)
Forest and Stream. (Gift)
Good Roads.
Harper's Bazaar.
Harper's Weekly.
Illustrated London News—
(American.)
Independent. (Gift)
Journal of Education.
Leslie's Weekly.
Life.
Living Age.
Lutheran. (Gift)
Menomonie Times. (Gift)
Montreal Witness.

Nation.
New York Tribune.
Official Gazette of U. S. Patent
Office. (Gift)
Outlook. (Gift)
Public Opinion.
Publisher's Weekly.
Puck.
Reform. (Gift)
Scientific American and Supple-
tment.
Ueber Land und Meer.
Union Signal.
Weekly Herald. (Gift)
Youth's Companion.

Dailies.

Chicago Inter-Ocean.
Chicago Record.
Chicago Times-Herald.
Daily Telegram. (Gift)
Eau Claire Leader. (Gift)
Evening Free Press. (Gift)
Evening Wisconsin.
Milwaukee Sentinel.
New York Sun. (Gift)

New York World. (Gift)
Daily Northwestern.
St. Paul Dispatch. (Gift)
St. Paul Globe.
St. Paul Pioneer Press.
Skandinaven.
Superior Leader. (Gift)
Wisconsin State Journal.
Library Reports.

Chicago Public Library.
Detroit, Mich., Public Library.
Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Md.
John Crerar Library, Chicago, Ill.
Kansas City, Mo., Public Library.
Minneapolis, Minn., Public Library.
Newark, N. J., Public Library.
New Britain Institute, Conn.
Otis Library, Norwich, Conn.
Peoria, Ills., Public Library.
Philadelphia, Pa., Free Public Library.
Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.
St. Paul, Minn., Public Library.
Salem, Mass., Public Library.
Scranton, Pa., Public Library.