ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Eau Claire Public Library
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 1906
Eau Claire, Wisconsin
ANNUAL REPORT
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EAU CLAIRE PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
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Eau Claire, Wisconsin
1906
Library Board 1905-1906.

W. K. COFFIN, President.
F. H. L. COTTEN, Vice-President.
C. W. LOCKWOOD, Secretary.

W. J. STARR, MRS. H. C. PUTNAM, M. S. FRAWLEY,
L. A. DOOLITTLE, M. N. McIVER,
C. T. EAGLES, A. CYPREANSEN.

STANDING COMMITTEES, 1905-1906.

Literature.
MRS. H. C. PUTNAM, C. W. LOCKWOOD, M. S. FRAWLEY.

Executive.
W. J. STARR, Chairman.

Finance.
M. N. McIVER, Chairman.

MARY A. SMITH, Librarian.

Assistants—
KATE LEWIS,
LAURA C. SANDERS,
LILLIAN RADENSLEBEN.
Library Board 1906-1907.

L. A. DOOLITTLE, President.
C. W. LOCKWOOD, Vice-President.
A. CYPREANSEN, Secretary.

W. J. STARR, MRS. H. C. PUTNAM, M. S. FRAWLEY,
C. T. EAGLES, W. H. SCHULZ, RICHARD LOETHER.
K. ROSHOLT,

STANDING COMMITTEES, 1906-1907.

Literature.
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MRS. H. C. PUTNAM, W. H. SCHULZ.

Executive.
W. J. STARR, Chairman.
K. ROSHOLT, C. T. EAGLES.

Finance.
A. CYPREANSEN, M. S. FRAWLEY, Chairman.
RICHARD LOETHER.

MARY A. SMITH, Librarian.

Assistants—
LAURA OLSON.
LAURA C. SANDERS.
WINIFRED COFFIN.
LOUISE PRITZLAF.

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

To the Honorable, the Mayor and the Common Council of the City of Eau Claire:

Allow me to present the annual report of the Board of Directors of the Eau Claire Public Library, including the report of the librarian, and the financial statement of the secretary.

The library appears to have grown somewhat in size and usefulness, but the growth is small at best, and I fear is more apparent than real.

The work and usefulness of the library have undoubtedly grown very greatly, but we have not been able to buy new books as fast as needed for growth, nor even to replace old and worn-out books, and we have not been able to keep the physical condition of our books up to the standard.

I urge your careful consideration of the librarian’s report, particularly as it relates to the growth of the library and the development and enlargement of its work, and to the report of the secretary as it relates to the finances past and future. The trouble appears to be that we have not sufficient funds available for the purchase of new books.

The board is very grateful for past favors and encouragement, and respectfully requests that the council appropriate $6,000.00 for the library, the same amount as last year.

W. K. COFFIN,
President of the Board of Directors.

July 1, 1906.
REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

To the Honorable, the Mayor and the Common Council of the City of Eau Claire:

Gentlemen: The board of directors of the Eau Claire Public Library beg to submit herewith the annual report of receipts and disbursements for the year ending June 30, 1906:

Receipts:

June 30, 1906.
- Fines: $49.08
- Donations: $587.10
- Appropriation: $6,000.00
- Total: $6,636.18

Disbursements:

July 1, 1905.
- Due city treasurer: $283.53
- Annual report: $30.60
- Bindings and repairs: $315.90
- Building: $657.00
- Fuel: $374.05
- Furniture and fixtures: $442.61
- Janitor: $510.00
- Lighting: $266.06
- Maintenance: $19.56
- Periodicals: $250.43
- Real estate: $15.10
- Salaries: $2,920.28
- Supplies and expense: $150.21
- Telephone: $44.50
- Water: $11.15
- June 30, 1906.
- Balance with city treasurer: $931.91
- Total: $6,636.91

The item of donations, $587.10, covers collections during the year from subscribers to the fund for improving the library site, and making it suitable for the building. The total subscription was $1,669.60, all of which has been paid with the exception of one
amount due from the estate of a deceased subscriber, for which the usual claim has been filed by the city attorney. The total of $1,669.60 was advanced by the Board from their regular funds.

The fiscal year of the library ends June 30, while the appropriation from the city is not received until the following January. The Board is consequently out of funds for six months every year, and has always been obliged to arrange with a bank to carry its orders until Jan. 1, and therefore is making an effort to do away with this custom by curtailing needful expenditures during the first half of the year and transferring them to the second half in order always to have a balance to its credit with the city treasurer. The result in a credit with the treasurer on July 1 of this year of $937.94, instead of an overdraft of $283.50 the year before. The curtailment of book purchases has seriously hampered the work of the library, but it is the intention to increase the amount expended during the present six months. The library building and contents are insured for $35,000 and in February 1907 it will be necessary to renew the policies for another three years at the cost of $525.00. The Board believes it needs the same appropriation as last year, viz.: $6,000, and respectfully asks your honorable body to grant its request.

C. W. LOCKWOOD,
Secretary.
REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

To the Board of Directors of the Eau Claire Public Library:

Herewith is submitted a report for the library for the year ending June 30, 1906.

It is a pleasure to announce that the library seems to have made some growth in spite of the disadvantages under which it has been. The statistics of growth are as follows:

- Registration July 1906: 6356
- Registration July 1905: 4356
- Gain: 1000

- Number of volumes in the library July, 1906: 16,818
- Number of volumes in the library July, 1905: 16,867
- Gain: 451

- Circulation of books July 1906-June 1906: 46,191
- Circulation of books July 1905-June 1905: 42,176
- Gain: 3,016

The library was closed mornings from Aug. 25, 1905, to Jan. 1, 1906, and this doubtless lessened the circulation somewhat.

- Total number of books added July 1905-June 1906: 1,023
- Total number of books withdrawn July 1905-June 1906: 672
- Gain: 451

The large number of books withdrawn explains the small gain in total number of books. The large withdrawal is somewhat explained in other parts of the report. The increase in the main library is due to the large amount of fiction that had worn long and well until it was impossible to mend and clean it so that it was presentable.

Periodicals.

Two new periodical indexes, the Abridged Poole Index and the Readers' Guide were bought in January and have proved very useful, especially to high school students. These indexes cover very satisfactorily the files of periodicals in the library.

Beginning with the January number, a duplicate copy of the Atlantic, the Century, the Harper's Magazine, the McClure's and the Scribner's was taken to be loaned as a seven-day book. These
magazines have been very popular and have been in constant circulation.

Branches.

An examination of the books in the Ninth Ward Branch Library showed a large per cent of them to be worn so as to be unfit for circulation. The remainder were evidently read out. The report of 1905 showed only a circulation of 332 children's books in this branch. As it seemed impossible to replace these books so as to offer people in that part of the city new and attractive books, the Library Board decided to close that branch and have the books brought to the main library. Very many of these books had to be withdrawn and account in part for the large number of withdrawn books the past year. Reports of past years show that this branch was used by people when books were new. It is to be hoped that book funds will soon allow such books to be again offered to them.

School Libraries.

The books loaned to Principal Hammar of the Fourth Ward School and used largely by his pupils were so well received that it seemed worth while to try putting books in other grades. Accordingly in March a small library was placed in every room above the second grade. The child who wished to borrow books was registered at the main library, and the teacher issued the books; 489 books were circulated in this way at this building and testify to the success of the plan.

Very few of these books would otherwise have been read, as the children live too far from the library to visit the children's room.

This was a trial on a small scale of the school deposit library that has proved so successful in other cities. We hope book funds will allow an extension of this work, especially to the lower grades of the Ninth and Tenth Ward Schools.

Children's Room.

| Number of children registered | 2,171 |
| Number of books in room       | 1,856 |
| Number of books circulated    | 15,567 |

The above figures tell a rather puzzling tale. Less than 1900 books had a circulation of 15,567, a large circulation if we consider
only the number of books on the shelves, but a small one if we consider the number of children to be served.

A few words about the condition of the books in this room will explain the puzzle. The book fund has not been sufficiently large lately to buy books for this room, and in order to try to have enough to go around, they have been kept on the shelves after they have reached an honorable old age. These old books have been withdrawn rapidly this year and help to account for the large withdrawal number. A large proportion of this year's increased book fund has been spent on children's books and will need to be for several years, as the rapid withdrawal must continue. It seems not fitting that a child come into so fine a room and depart with a soiled, torn book. It will not teach him respect for books. He is surely entitled to a book in good condition and ought to be held responsible for its return in like condition. Respect for public property is also so desirable a trait in boys and girls that it is worth while that a public library do its share towards its cultivation.

Again, more books must be provided so that it will be impossible for one of those 2,171 children to come and not be fitted. That has happened the past year. The children appreciate new, attractive books; 2,007 of the 3,016 increase in circulation was in their room and occurred after the new books came.

Story Hour.

At 10 o'clock Saturday morning during February and March, a story was told to the children of grades three and four. 1,207 children listened to these stories and most certainly enjoyed them. We are under obligation to Mrs. John Smith, Miss Spaulding, Misses Edith and Mabel Fitzgerald and Miss Mary Wilcox for their help.

Exhibits.

Three exhibits of the drawing work in the public schools were made by Miss Carpenter, who has charge of that work. These exhibits are very attractive to the children. They also enable people, who do not visit the schools but do the library, to see what the children are doing in this line of work. To have his work on exhibition in the library is much of an incentive to the
The model library of children's books loaned by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission came to us in March, and during its stay here was examined by many people interested in books for children.

Changes in the Library Staff.

Miss Lillian Radensleben, who had been an assistant in the library since 1902, resigned in June to become Mrs. S. G. Knott. She was the only member of the library staff of 1904-05 who remained, and rendered much assistance to the newcomers.

Miss Kate Lewis, who came as first assistant in December 1905, resigned in June 1906.

The librarian feels grateful to the library board and to the patrons of the library for their forbearance while the new staff who entered on their work in November 1905 were accommodating themselves to the new conditions. MARY A. SMITH, Librarian.
# List of Magazines and Newspapers

**Monthly**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Magazine/Source</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Historical Review</td>
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<td>American Homes and Gardens</td>
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<td>American Journal of Sociology</td>
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<td>Arena</td>
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<td>Atlantic</td>
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<td>Birds and Nature</td>
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<td>Bookman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston Cooking School Magazine</td>
<td>(Gift)</td>
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<td>Brooklyn Public Library Bulletin</td>
<td>(Gift)</td>
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<td>Canadian Magazine</td>
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<td>Carnegie Library Bulletin</td>
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<td>Catholic World</td>
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<td>Century</td>
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<td>Chautauquan</td>
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<td>Christian Science Journal (Gift)</td>
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<td>Cosmopolitan</td>
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<td>Country Life in America</td>
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<td>Courant (Gift)</td>
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<td>Current Literature</td>
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<td>Eclectic Magazine</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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<td>Educational Review</td>
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<td>Engineering Magazine</td>
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<td>Everybody's Magazine</td>
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<td>Fortnightly Review</td>
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<td>Forum</td>
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<td>Grand Rapids' Public Library Bulletin (Gift)</td>
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<td>Harper's Bazar</td>
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<td>Harper's Magazine</td>
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<td>House Beautiful</td>
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<td>Indian's Friend (Gift)</td>
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<td>International Studio</td>
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<td>Johns Hopkins University Studies</td>
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<td>Journal of Western Society of Engineers (Gift)</td>
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<td>Kindergarten Magazine</td>
<td>(Gift)</td>
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<td>Ladies' Home Journal</td>
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<td>Library Journal</td>
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<td>Little Folks</td>
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<td>McClure's Magazine</td>
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<td>Manual Training Magazine</td>
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<td>Masters in Art</td>
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<td>Missionary Review</td>
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<td>Municipality</td>
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<td>Munsey's Magazine</td>
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<td>New England Magazine</td>
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<td>Nineteenth Century</td>
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<td>North American Review</td>
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<td>Our Dumb Animals</td>
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<td>Outing</td>
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<td>Popular Mechanics</td>
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<td>Popular Science Monthly</td>
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<td>Pratt Institute Free Library Bulletin (Gift)</td>
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<td>Public Libraries</td>
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<td>Putnam's Monthly</td>
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<td>Reader's Guide to Periodicals</td>
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<td>Review of Reviews</td>
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<td>Rudder</td>
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<td>Saint Nicholas</td>
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<td>School Review</td>
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<td>St. Louis Library Bulletin (Gift)</td>
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<td>Scribner's Magazine</td>
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<td>Seattle Public Library Bulletin (Gift)</td>
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<td>Success</td>
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<td>What's in the Magazines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wit. Alumni Magazine (Gift)</td>
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<tr>
<td>World's Work</td>
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LIST OF MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPERS—CONTINUED.

WEEKLIES.

Amateur Photographer Living Age
Bloomer Advance (Gift) Lumberman
Charities Montreal Witness
Christian Science Sentinel (Gift) Musical Courier
Collier's Weekly Nation
Dial New York Times Saturday Review of Books
Dial and Entering Wedge (Gift) Outlook
Electrical World Publishers' Weekly
Forest and Stream Puck
Gazette of the Patent Office (Gift) Scientific American
Harper's Weekly Scientific American Supplement
Illustrated London News Wisconsin Advocate (Gift)
Independent Youth's Companion
Life
Literary Digest
Little Chronicle

DAILIES.

Chicago Chronicle Milwaukee Sentinel
Chicago Record Herald Minneapolis Journal
Congressional Record (Gift) New York Sun (Gift)
Dailly Telegram (Gift) New York Tribune
Eau Claire Leader St. Paul Dispatch
Evening Wisconsin St. Paul Pioneer Press
Kansas City Journal (Gift) Seattle Post Intelligencer
Madison Democrat (Gift) Wisconsin State Journal

GERMAN.

Acker und Gartenbau (Gift) Herald of Christian Science (Gift)
Fliegende Blatter Uber Land und Meer
Der Herold (Gift)

NORWEGIAN.

Amerika (Gift) Reform (Gift)
Lutheraneren (Gift) Sandnaven