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CENTRAL LIBRARY BUILDING.



SIXTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

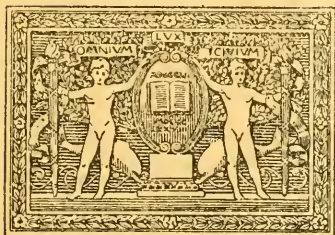
OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

1911-1912



BOSTON  
PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES  
1912

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TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ON FEBRUARY 1, 1912.

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JOSIAH H. BENTON, *President.*

Term expires April 30, 1914.

THOMAS F. BOYLE.

Term expires April 30, 1912.

ALEXANDER MANN.

Term expires April 30, 1915.

SAMUEL CARR.

Term expires April 30, 1913.

WILLIAM F. KENNEY.

Term expires April 30, 1916.

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LIBRARIAN.  
HORACE G. WADLIN.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, organized in 1852, are now incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 114, of the Acts of 1878, as amended. The Board for 1852 was a preliminary organization; that for 1853 made the first annual report. At first the Board consisted of one alderman and one common councilman and five citizens at large, until 1867, when a revised ordinance made it to consist of one alderman, two common councilmen and six citizens at large, two of whom retired, unless re-elected, each year, while the members from the City Council were elected yearly. In 1878 the organization of the Board was changed to include one alderman, one councilman, and five citizens at large, as before 1867; and in 1885, by the provisions of the amended city charter, the representation of the City Government upon the Board by an alderman and a councilman was abolished, leaving the Board as at present, consisting of five citizens at large, appointed by the Mayor, for five-year terms, the term of one member expiring each year. The following citizens at large have been members of the Board since its organization in 1852:

- ABBOTT, SAMUEL APPLETON BROWNE, 1879-95.
- APPLETON, THOMAS GOLD, 1852-56.
- BENTON, JOSIAH HENRY, LL.D., 1894-.
- BIGELOW, HON. JOHN PRESCOTT, 1852-68.
- BOWDITCH, HENRY INGERSOLL, M.D., 1865-67.
- BOWDITCH, HENRY PICKERING, M.D., 1894-1902.
- BOYLE, THOMAS FRANCIS, 1902-.
- BRAMAN, JARVIS DWIGHT, 1869-72.
- CARR, SAMUEL, 1895-96, 1908-.
- CHASE, GEORGE BIGELOW, 1876-85.
- CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN, D.D., 1878-1888.
- CURTIS, DANIEL SARGENT, 1873-75.
- DE NORMANDIE, JAMES, D.D., 1895-1908.
- DWIGHT, THOMAS, M.D., 1899-1908.
- EVERETT, HON. EDWARD, 1852-64.
- FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD, LL.D., 1875-79.
- GREEN, SAMUEL ABBOTT, M.D., 1868-78.
- GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL, 1856-88.
- HAYNES, PROF. HENRY WILLIAMSON, 1880-94.

HILLARD, HON. GEORGE STILLMAN, 1872-75; 76-77.  
 KENNEY, WILLIAM FRANCIS, A.M., 1908-.  
 LEWIS, WESTON, 1868-79.  
 LEWIS, WINSLOW, M.D., 1867.  
 LINCOLN, SOLOMON, 1897-1907.  
 MANN, ALEXANDER, D.D., 1908-.  
 MORTON, HON. ELLIS WESLEY, 1870-73.  
 PIERCE, PHINEAS, 1888-94.  
 PRINCE, HON. FREDERICK OCTAVIUS, 1888-99.  
 PUTNAM, GEORGE, D.D., 1868-77.  
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM REUBEN, 1889-95.  
 SHURTLEFF, HON. NATHANIEL BRADSTREET, 1852-68.  
 THOMAS, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, LL.D., 1877-78.  
 TICKNOR, GEORGE, LL.D., 1852-66.  
 WALKER, FRANCIS AMASA, LL.D., 1896.  
 WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY, 1867-70.  
 WHITMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, 1885-88.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., 1867-68.

The HON. EDWARD EVERETT was President of the Board from 1852 to 1864; GEORGE TICKNOR, in 1865; WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, from 1866 to April, 1888; PROF. HENRY W. HAYNES, from May 7, 1888, to May 12, 1888; SAMUEL A. B. ABBOTT, May 12, 1888, to April 30, 1895; HON. F. O. PRINCE, October 8, 1895, to May 8, 1899; SOLOMON LINCOLN, May 12, 1899, to October 15, 1907; REV. JAMES DE NORMANDIE, January 31, 1908, to May 8, 1908; JOSIAH H. BENTON, since May 8, 1908.

### LIBRARIANS.

(From 1858 to 1877, the chief executive officer was entitled Superintendent.)

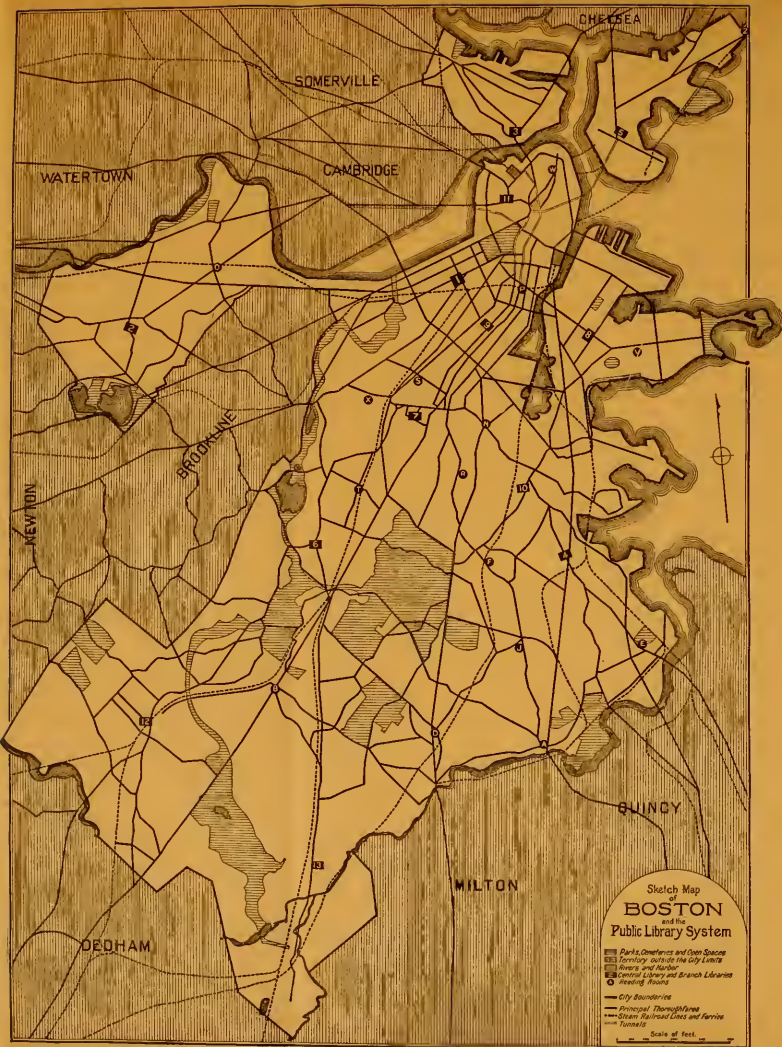
CAPEN, EDWARD, *Librarian*, May 13, 1852-December 16, 1874.  
 JEWETT, CHARLES C., *Superintendent*, 1858-January 9, 1868.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., *Superintendent*, February 25, 1868-September 30, 1877.  
 GREEN, SAMUEL A., M.D., *Trustee, Acting Librarian*, October 1, 1877-September 30, 1878.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, MELLEN, LL.D., *Librarian*, October 1, 1878-September 30, 1890.  
 DWIGHT, THEODORE F., *Librarian*, April 13, 1892-April 30, 1894.  
 PUTNAM, HERBERT, LL.D., *Librarian*, February 11, 1895-April 30, 1899.  
 WHITNEY, JAMES L., *Acting Librarian*, March 31, 1899-December 21, 1899; *Librarian*, December 22, 1899-January 31, 1903.  
 WADLIN, HORACE G., LL.D., *Librarian*, since February 1, 1903.

## LIBRARY SYSTEM, FEBRUARY 1, 1912.

DEPARTMENTS.	OPENED.
Central Library, Copley Sq. Established May 2, 1854.....	Mar. 11, 1895
‡East Boston Branch, 37 Meridian St.....	Jan. 28, 1871
§South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway.....	May 1, 1872
Roxbury Branch, 46 Millmont St.....	July, 1873
‡Charlestown Branch, City Sq.....	*Jan., 1874
†Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Rd.....	*Jan., 1874
‡Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St.....	Jan. 25, 1874
§South End Branch, 397 Shawmut Ave.....	Aug., 1877
†Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St.....	Sept., 1877
‡West Roxbury Branch, Centre, near Mt. Vernon St.....	*Jan. 6, 1880
†West End Branch, Cambridge, cor. Lynde St.....	Feb. 1, 1896
‡Upham's Corner Branch, Columbia Rd., cor. Bird St.....	Mar. 16, 1896
†Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St.....	*Jan. 1, 1912
Station A. Lower Mills Reading Room, Washington St.....	June 7, 1875
"    B. Roslindale Reading Room, Washington St., cor. Ash- land St.....	Dec. 3, 1878
"    D. Mattapan Reading Room, 727 Walk Hill St.....	Dec. 27, 1881
"    E. Neponset Reading Room, 362 Neponset Ave.....	Jan. 1, 1883
"    F. Mt. Bowdoin Reading Room, Washington, cor. Eldon St.....	Nov. 1, 1886
"    G. Allston Reading Room, 354 Cambridge St.....	Mar. 11, 1889
"    J. Codman Square Reading Room, Washington, cor. Nor- folk St.....	Nov. 12, 1890
"    N. Mt. Pleasant Reading Room, Dudley, cor. Magazine St.	Apr. 29, 1892
"    P. Broadway Extension Reading Room, 13 Broadway Extension.....	Jan. 16, 1896
"    R. Warren Street Reading Room, 390 Warren St.....	May 1, 1896
"    S. Roxbury Crossing Reading Room, 1154 Tremont St....	Jan. 18, 1897
"    T. Boylston Station Reading Room, The Lamartine, De- pot Sq.....	Nov. 1, 1897
"    W. Industrial School Reading Room, 39 North Bennet St..	Nov. 3, 1899
"    Z. Orient Heights Reading Room, 1030 Bennington St....	June 25, 1901
"    23. City Point Reading Room, 615 Broadway.....	July 18, 1906
"    24. Parker Hill Reading Room, 1518 Tremont St.....	July 15, 1907

\*As a branch. †In building owned by City, and exclusively devoted to library uses. ‡In City building, in part devoted to other municipal uses. §Occupies rented rooms. ¶The lessee of the Fellows Atheneum, a private library association.





## 1. Central Library, Copley Square.

### BRANCH LIBRARIES, FEBRUARY 1, 1912.

2. Brighton Branch, Holton Library Building, Academy Hill Road.
3. Charlestown Branch, City Square.
4. Dorchester Branch, Aracadia, cor. Adams St.
5. East Boston Branch, 37 Meridian St.
6. Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St.
7. Roxbury Branch, 46 Millmont St.
8. South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway.
9. South End Branch, 397 Shawmut Avenue.
10. Upham's Corner Branch, Columbia Road, cor. Bird St.
11. West End Branch, Cambridge, cor. Lynde St.
12. West Roxbury Branch, Centre, near Mt. Vernon St.
13. Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St.

### DELIVERY STATIONS, FEBRUARY 1, 1912.

- A. Lower Mills Reading Room, Washington, cor. Richmond St.
- B. Roslindale Reading Room, Washington, cor. Ashland St.
- D. Mattapan Reading Room, 727 Walk Hill St.
- E. Neponset Reading Room, 362 Neponset Ave.
- F. Mount Bowdoin Reading Room, Washington, cor. Eldon St.
- G. Allston Reading Room, 6 Harvard Ave.
- J. Codman Square Reading Room, Washington, cor. Norfolk St., Dorchester.
- N. Mt. Pleasant Reading Room, Dudley, cor. Magazine St.
- P. Broadway Extension Reading Room, 13 Broadway Extension.
- R. Warren Street Reading Room, 390 Warren St.
- S. Roxbury Crossing Reading Room, 1154 Tremont St.
- T. Boylston Station Reading Room, The Lamartine, Depot Square.
- V. City Point Reading Room, 615 Broadway.
- W. Industrial School Reading Room, 39 North Bennet St.
- X. Parker Hill Reading Room, 1518 Tremont St.
- Z. Orient Heights Reading Room, 1930 Bennington St.



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TO HIS HONOR JOHN F. FITZGERALD,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston:*

SIR, — The Board of Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston present the following report of its condition and affairs for the year ending January 31, 1912, being their sixtieth annual report.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

The Board organized on May 5, 1911, by the election of Josiah H. Benton as President, Thomas F. Boyle, Vice President, and Della Jean Deery, Clerk.

The term of William F. Kenney expired on April 30, 1911, and he was re-appointed and qualified a member of the Board for five years from that date.

#### RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY.

The receipts of the Library are of two classes: First, those which are to be expended by the Trustees in the maintenance of the Library. These consist of the annual appropriation by the City Council, and the income from Trust funds, given to the Trustees but invested by the City Treasurer under the direction of the Finance Committee of the City. During the past year these receipts were as follows:

Annual appropriation . . . . .	\$355,200.00
Income from Trust funds, including unexpended balance of previous year . . . . .	40,757.96
Total . . . . .	<u>\$395,957.96</u>

Second, receipts which are accounted for and paid into the City treasury for general municipal purposes. These consist of receipts from fines for the detention of books, from sales of find-

ing lists, bulletins, and catalogues; from commissions paid for the use of telephone facilities; from sales of waste; from payments for lost books; and from money found in the Library. These receipts, during the year, have been as follows:

From fines . . . . .	\$5,114.82
From sales of catalogues, etc. . . . .	79.12
From telephone commissions . . . . .	190.23
From sales of waste . . . . .	148.63
From payments for lost books . . . . .	393.32
From money found in the Library . . . . .	2.32
Total . . . . .	<u>\$5,928.44</u>

The \$393.32 received for lost books, being received only to replace lost library property is, when paid into the City treasury, added to the appropriation for library maintenance. A balance sheet showing all the receipts and expenditures of the Library Department in detail is hereinafter contained.

#### CITY APPROPRIATION.

As we have pointed out in previous reports, the sum required for the proper administration of the Library, taking into account the increase in the population of the City, and the enlarged demands made upon the library system, will require a progressive increase in appropriations. Without such an increase, the Library will fail to be efficiently worked and improved to its full capacity for the education of our people, and its usefulness will surely decrease. The Library cannot simply mark time. It must either march forward, or fall behind in its work. The appropriation last year was fully required for the efficient administration and maintenance of the library system.

#### ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

During the year, 36,886 volumes have been added to the library collection. Of these, 25,506 were purchased, 6,749 were given to the Library, and the remainder were received by exchange, binding of periodicals into volumes, etc.; 12,249 volumes were purchased for the Central Library, and 13,257 for the branch libraries and reading-room stations.

The total amount expended for books, including \$6,741.79 for periodicals, \$2,000.00 for newspapers, and \$310.84 for photographs, was \$48,827.81, or about 12.4 per cent of the entire expense of the Library for all purposes.

The average cost of all books purchased was \$1.57 per volume. Of the books purchased, 20,191 were bought from money appropriated by the City, at an average cost of 93 cents a volume, and 5,315 were bought with the income of Trust funds, at an average cost of \$3.93 a volume.

#### BOOK CIRCULATION AND USE OF THE LIBRARY.

There were issued during the year for direct home use 274,981 volumes at the Central Library, and from the Central Library through the branches and reading-room stations 73,576 others, while the branches and reading-room stations also issued 1,093,051 volumes for direct home use. There were also issued from the Central Library, branches and reading-room stations, for use at schools and institutions, 170,662 volumes, making the entire issue for use outside the library buildings 1,612,270 volumes.

The use of the Library for general reference and study is unrestricted. It is therefore impracticable to record this use statistically. Its extent, however, is shown by the fact that about half a million call slips for the table use of books in Bates Hall in the Central Library alone are required during the year. The daily use of books and other library material in the Central Library and in the branches is doubtless many times greater than the home use of books drawn out upon cards.

#### BINDING AND REPAIR OF BOOKS.

During the year 42,398 volumes have been bound in the Bindery. Besides this, a large amount of miscellaneous work has been completed, such as the folding, stitching and trimming of 170,819 library publications, the mounting of maps and photographs, the repairing of books, the making of periodical covers, etc. The expense of performing this necessary miscellaneous

work is equivalent to about 17 per cent of the total expense of the Department. The ability to do it promptly in our own bindery, greatly promotes the convenience, economy and efficiency of the library work.

#### HOURS OF SERVICE.

The Central Library and the branches open and their work begins at nine o'clock in the morning. The reading-room stations open in the afternoon at varying hours, most of them at two o'clock. The service continues until ten o'clock at night at the Central Library building and at the West End Branch, and until nine at the other branches and reading-room stations except during the summer months. From June 15 until September 15 the Central Library and West End Branch are closed at nine o'clock. The other branches and reading rooms during a shorter period close earlier than in winter, most of them at six o'clock. The Central Library is in operation 102 week days of twelve hours each, 203 week days of thirteen hours each, 17 Sundays of nine hours each, and 35 Sundays and two holidays of ten hours each, making an aggregate of 359 days, or 4,680 hours, during each twelve months.

The Sunday service as now arranged includes the Central Library and the West End Branch throughout the year. All the other branches (except the West Roxbury Branch, which has no Sunday service) and the eight largest reading rooms provide Sunday service from November 1 to May 1 only. The hours are as follows:

At the Central Library and West End Branch, from twelve o'clock to ten o'clock, except that the closing hour is nine o'clock from June 15 until September 15. At the South End Branch from twelve o'clock to nine o'clock. At the other branches, and at the eight largest reading rooms (namely, Allston, Codman Square, Broadway Extension, Warren Street, Roxbury Crossing, Boylston Station, City Point, Parker Hill), from two o'clock to nine o'clock. At all of these reading rooms except Codman Square the room is closed from six to seven o'clock.

The total number of hours of Sunday service provided annually at the Central Library and at the West End Branch is 507 each; at the South End Branch, 234 hours; at the other branches, and at the Codman Square Reading Room, 182 hours each; and at the following reading rooms: Allston, Broadway Extension, Warren Street, Roxbury Crossing, Boylston Station, City Point, Parker Hill, 156 hours each.

#### LIBRARY COÖPERATION WITH SCHOOLS, ETC.

The Trustees continue to coöperate with the educational work of the schools, and, during the past year, the Library has supplied with books 28 branches and reading rooms, 110 public and parochial schools, 61 engine houses and 33 institutions, and sending out upon the average from the Central Library, about 400 volumes every day by its delivery wagons. The number of volumes sent on deposit from the Central Library through the branch system was 41,296, of which 9,386 were sent to schools. There were also sent from the branches themselves and from two of the largest reading rooms 20,803 volumes on deposit, distributed among 128 places. Of these 16,327 were sent to schools. That is to say, not only is the collection of the Central Library used as a reservoir from which books may be drawn for use in the branches and reading rooms, but each of the branches and reading rooms is in itself a reservoir from which books are drawn for use by teachers in schools in its immediate vicinity.

#### JAMAICA PLAIN BRANCH.

The new building erected for this Branch, on part of the Curtis Hall lot, South and Sedgwick Streets, Jamaica Plain, was opened to the public July 24.

This is the first independent building apart from the Central Library, built by the City exclusively for library uses. It cost \$33,000, including furnishings, but exclusive of the lot, which was owned by the City. It is built of brick and stone, with slated roof, was planned with special reference to its site, and has every convenience required for the effective administration of the

Branch. Separate provision is made for adult and juvenile readers, and all the books are openly accessible to readers. In the basement, with separate entrance from the street, is a small assembly hall or lecture room, already occasionally used for story-telling to children, and adapted to be used by study classes or meetings of any kind properly within the scope of library work. The building is entered from Sedgwick Street, and is so arranged that the custodian or assistants at the central desk may overlook the entire floor area, although, by the use of plate glass screens, quiet is secured in the different reading rooms.

The entire accommodation for the public, except the lecture hall, is provided on the first floor, and the use of stairs is not required. The first floor area, exclusive of the custodian's room and entries, is 3,800 square feet. Shelving is provided for about 22,000 volumes.

#### NORTH END BRANCH.

The need of better library facilities in the congested North End district has been urged in previous reports. On the 17th of March last, the Trustees addressed to Your Honor a communication in part as follows:

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston have the honor to submit this communication with reference to the need of further library accommodations for that part of the City known as the North End, substantially within the limits of Ward 6.

The Trustees have maintained a reading room in a building occupied by the North Bennet Street Industrial School at 39 North Bennet Street, which was opened November 3, 1899. It has never been satisfactory for library purposes, but was the best that could be obtained with the means at the disposal of the Trustees. In their Fifty-eighth Annual Report, for 1909-10, they stated that "these rooms are wholly inadequate for library purposes."

They have also maintained since June 9, 1903, a reading room on the ground floor of the building at 207 North Street, which was adequate for its purpose although inconvenient and not suitable in many respects for proper library service. This building, however, has been sold and the tenancy of the Library terminated by the new owner. All the library accommodations for this part of the City are now necessarily supplied at the North Bennet Street Reading Room, where some additional room has been obtained, but only for temporary purposes. It will be seen there-





JAMAICA PLAIN BRANCH LIBRARY.



fore, that provision for library service for the people of the North End of the City is wholly inadequate, and there is imperative need that something should be done without delay to provide that part of the City with such library service as the people obviously have a right to expect. It was the opinion of the Trustees, as expressed in their Fifty-eighth Annual Report, transmitted to Your Honor in February, 1910, that "there should be a building for a new branch at the North End at an early date," and they are of the same opinion now, the need for such accommodations being even more imperative than at the time this report was made. The situation is so fully set forth in the Report of the Examining Committee, appended to the Report of the Trustees recently submitted to Your Honor, that we beg leave to refer to that as a fair statement of the situation.

\* \* \* \* \*

In this urgent state of affairs the Trustees have deemed it their duty to ascertain whether some method could not be devised for providing the North End with suitable library accommodations, and to bring the same to Your Honor's attention. They have therefore fully investigated the matter of obtaining land and building for a branch library at the North End. They find that the City can purchase an estate now occupied by the Church of St. John Baptist, on North Bennet Street, comprising 4,980 feet of land with a substantial building thereon, for the assessed valuation of \$38,000, and they have taken an option to the City to purchase the estate at any time within ninety days from March 15, 1911, at that price, which they believe to be reasonable. This estate is, in the judgment of the Trustees, properly located to serve library purposes in Ward 6. It is near the main avenues of travel, but sufficiently removed therefrom to avoid noise of street cars and teams. It is nearly opposite the open grounds connected with the municipal gymnasium, and in the vicinity of several large schools which would be served by the library station. The building is approximately 56 × 71 feet in size.

The Trustees have had the building carefully examined by Messrs. Maginnis & Walsh, Architects, who report to them that the walls and foundation are in good condition and of adequate thickness to permit remodeling for library purposes, and also that it is feasible to make such changes and reconstruction of the building as will provide two stories, each with a floor area of approximately 3,500 square feet, and a flat roof. Such reconstruction would give an adequate room for adults, and a small hall, seating about 325 persons, on the first floor; and on the second floor good reading and reference rooms for children, with excellent top lighting. Provision can also be made if desired for an open air reading room upon the roof, for summer use. New heating apparatus could be placed in the basement, which would also amply provide for storage and work rooms. The character of the building as thus remodeled is shown by a sketch of the front, provided by the Architects, which is herewith transmitted. Rough plans of the interior as remodeled are in preparation, but they are of

substantially such changes as have been above indicated. The cost of making these changes in the building has been estimated by the Architects, at \$38,000 for second class construction, which in this case would as we understand, be permitted, or \$42,000 for first class fireproof construction. The difference is so slight that we are of the opinion it would be better economy in the long run to adopt the fireproof method of construction.

In conclusion we beg to say, that in making this recommendation as to the needs of the North End, we are not unmindful of the needs of various other parts of the City for improved library service, notably East Boston, the district served by the Broadway Extension Reading Room, and Charlestown. But it is impossible that all these needs should be met at once, and we are of the opinion that the improvement which we suggest at the North End should be undertaken and carried out now, to the end that thereafter improvements of a similar character may be made in other parts of the City which may be found to require them and where they can be provided within the means at the command of the City.

We earnestly request therefore, that an appropriation be made sufficient to enable the Trustees to purchase the land at the price of \$38,000, and to remodel the building at an expense of \$42,000, making \$80,000. In addition to this the appropriation should include \$5,000 for the expense of fittings for the building for library use, making a total of \$85,000, to accomplish the purpose the Trustees deem desirable.

In response to this communication, Your Honor recommended a loan order, and an order of the Council, approved June 26, 1911, appropriated \$86,000, to be expended under the direction of the Trustees, for the purchase of land and the provision of a building with suitable fittings, as recommended by the Board.

The property on North Bennet Street was taken by the street commissioners for the City use and was conveyed to the City by the owner for \$38,000. On July 7, 1911, Messrs. Maginnis & Walsh were selected by the Trustees as architects, a selection afterwards approved by you. Plans and specifications have been prepared and a contract made under which a suitable branch building will result from the remodeling of the existing structure, formerly used as a church.

It is expected that early in the fall of 1912 this building will be ready for occupancy, and by concentrating our work at the North End in the virtually new branch thus created, the residents of Ward 6 will have the improved library facilities they have so much needed.

## CHARLESTOWN BRANCH.

The need of supplying this Branch with a suitable building, nearer the centre of population in the district, and more conveniently arranged for library work, has been urged by the Board for several years. During that time the question of a proper location has been considered, and sketch plans of a suitable building have been prepared, with estimates of cost. An appropriation of \$30,000 was made in 1901, the feasibility of acquiring the Harvard Church estate, Thompson Square, and remodeling the building for library uses being then under special consideration. This, however, was found impracticable, and the money was never spent. By a transfer from the reserve fund, in accordance with and upon the written recommendation of Your Honor, and approved by you November 28, 1911, \$30,000 additional was appropriated, and by another order, similarly recommended and approved by you November 29, the sum appropriated in 1901 was combined with this, so that the entire amount now available for land and building is \$60,000. This sum being, in the opinion of the Board, insufficient for the purpose, the following communication was sent to Your Honor, under date of December 8:

December 8, 1911.

TO HIS HONOR JOHN F. FITZGERALD,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston.*

SIR, — The Board of Trustees of the Public Library are advised of an appropriation by the City Council of \$60,000 to be expended by the Trustees for a branch library in Charlestown. The Trustees are of the opinion that before proceeding to acquire land for this branch library they should bring the situation with regard to the expense of such a branch library to your attention.

Before 1905 an appropriation of \$30,000 was made for a branch library in Charlestown. At that time, for the purpose of ascertaining what further appropriation would be required, the Trustees caused preliminary sketch plans of a library building and an estimate of its cost to be prepared by Messrs. Fox & Gale, Architects. From this estimate it appeared that such a building would cost at that time approximately \$50,000 for second class construction, or about \$55,000 for first class construction, which the Trustees recommend.

Since that time, the increase in the cost of building would probably bring the cost at the present time for first class construction of a suitable building to a little over \$60,000, and for second class construction, as we are advised, about ten per cent less.

In March last, in answer to a written request from the Acting Mayor, Hon. Walter L. Collins, the Trustees replied, referring to their previous reports to the Mayor on the subject, indicating the kind of building which they are of the opinion should be provided, and said that a building adapted to the needs of Charlestown "could probably be provided at an expense for land and building of approximately \$70,000 or \$75,000." This was intended to include furnishing and equipment of the building for use.

It is the judgment of the Trustees that an adequate branch library building suitably located for the needs of Charlestown cannot be constructed at a cost for land and building substantially less than from \$70,000 to \$75,000.

If therefore the Trustees should proceed under the present appropriation to acquire land for the building, it would be necessary before they could proceed to the construction of a suitable building, that there should be an added appropriation of \$15,000. They respectfully recommend, as far as they properly can, that such additional appropriation be now made, so that the work of providing this important and much needed public improvement may be at once begun and carried out without delay.

Respectfully,

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston by

(Signed) J. H. BENTON,  
*President.*

For this building a site has been selected on the corner of Monument Avenue and High Street, involving an expense of \$15,000. The selection has been approved by Your Honor.

#### EAST BOSTON BRANCH.

The need of a new building of modern type, to provide for the requirements of this Branch, pointed out in previous reports of this Board, has been considered by Your Honor and by the City Council, and in accordance with and after your written recommendation, an appropriation of \$50,000 has been made, by transfer from the appropriation for reserve fund, under an order approved December 19, this sum to be expended under the direction of the Trustees for such a building, including the purchase of land.

The question of site has been carefully considered by the Board, and we are entirely clear that a location at the corner of Bennington and Porter Streets, adjacent to land now owned by the City and occupied by the Hospital Relief Station, is the best site for the proposed new building, as set forth in a communication to Your Honor, under date of December 29. The erection of a new building is now immediately required, as the building at present occupied by this Branch is to be taken down, to permit the site to be used for a new court house.

#### BROADWAY EXTENSION READING ROOM.

It is proposed to give this Reading Room proper accommodation in the new Municipal building to be erected on a site not yet selected in Ward 7. If this is done, the limitations under which this important Reading Room has been operated in leased quarters at 13 Broadway Extension, — namely, inadequate space, poor light, no proper ventilation, and noise, will be overcome, and the public will be served, as it should be in this congested district, in rooms of adequate size, conveniently arranged, and properly fitted for the purpose.

#### CITY POINT READING ROOM.

This Reading Room now occupies leased quarters in the building, 615 Broadway. The new Municipal building to be built on part of the lot now occupied by the Perkins Institution, will contain, on the second floor, superior accommodations for the Reading Room, entirely independent of the other uses to which the building is devoted, with a separate entrance from the street.

The Board has recorded its opinion that branch libraries are so important and distinctive in their purpose, and the work performed by them is of such a character, that they ought not to be placed in buildings devoted in part to other, and generally incongruous uses. On the other hand, reading rooms, although in a sense minor branches, are at present usually placed in single apartments leased for the purpose, and the limited function which they serve as compared with the branch libraries, although im-

portant as part of the library system and essential to efficient public service, does not necessarily require their location in independent buildings. The accommodation of the City Point Reading Room, as well as that of the Broadway Extension Reading Room, previously mentioned, in apartments arranged especially for them in the projected Municipal buildings, is approved by the Board, provided the rooms are planned so as to be independent of the other parts of the buildings, and have entirely separate entrances.

#### THE HYDE PARK BRANCH.

On January 1, by annexation of the Town of Hyde Park to the City of Boston, the Hyde Park Public Library became part of the Boston Public Library system, and has been designated by the Trustees as the Hyde Park Branch.

The Branch occupies a modern building of good design, well planned and completely furnished, built in 1899, on Harvard Avenue, Winthrop and Everett Streets. It comprises about 25,000 volumes. In connection with this Central Library a deposit station and reading room is operated at Readville, in a building which was not owned by the Town, and which therefore does not pass to the City.

The employees of the Hyde Park Library, who are familiar with the service, and have been especially trained for it, have been continued in their respective positions, and the operation of the Library as a branch of our system has proceeded without friction. The citizens of Hyde Park, as a result of annexation, obtain the privilege of using the important collections of our Central Library, and, as in our branch service generally, there has been put in operation a system of daily delivery and return of books from and to the Central Library by way of the Hyde Park Branch. Certain wider privileges in the use of books at the Branch will also follow. The schools in that Ward will have the opportunity of obtaining deposits of books and pictures for class work that has heretofore been enjoyed by the schools of Boston. It is our belief that this Branch will become one of the



most important in the City, and that the library service under the new conditions will be found satisfactory to the people of Hyde Park.

The increased expense to the City due to the acquirement of the Hyde Park Library, and its operation as a branch of our system, upon the scale of service given to other branches, will during the present year amount to about \$6,900, in detail as follows:

Salaries . . . . .	\$3,690.00
Books and periodicals . . . . .	1,200.00
Stationery, small supplies and miscellaneous expenses . . . . .	1,210.00
Fuel . . . . .	350.00
Lighting . . . . .	300.00
Repairs . . . . .	120.00
Telephone . . . . .	30.00
	<hr/>
Total . . . . .	\$6,900.00

#### INTER-LIBRARY LOANS.

Under the coöperative inter-library loan system books are occasionally lent to public libraries in other cities or towns for the temporary use of a person who wishes to consult a book which his local library does not possess. In this way 993 volumes were lent to libraries in the State, during the year 1911, and to libraries outside Massachusetts 245 volumes. On the other hand, a person in Boston can by this arrangement obtain in the same way from other libraries books which our Library does not have, and during the year 41 volumes were thus borrowed.

#### RETIREMENT OF A LIBRARY EMPLOYEE ON PENSION.

The provisions of Chapter 113, of the Acts of 1911, enable city employees who are veterans of the Civil War, and who have been employed at least ten years, to be retired on half-pay, provided they are incapacitated for active duty.

Dennis McCarthy, a night watchman at the Central Library, who entered the library service May 2, 1888, and who was in poor health, was retired November 2. He was paid \$15.75 per week, and under the terms of the Act now receives one half of that sum. He is the first library employee who has ever been retired on pension.

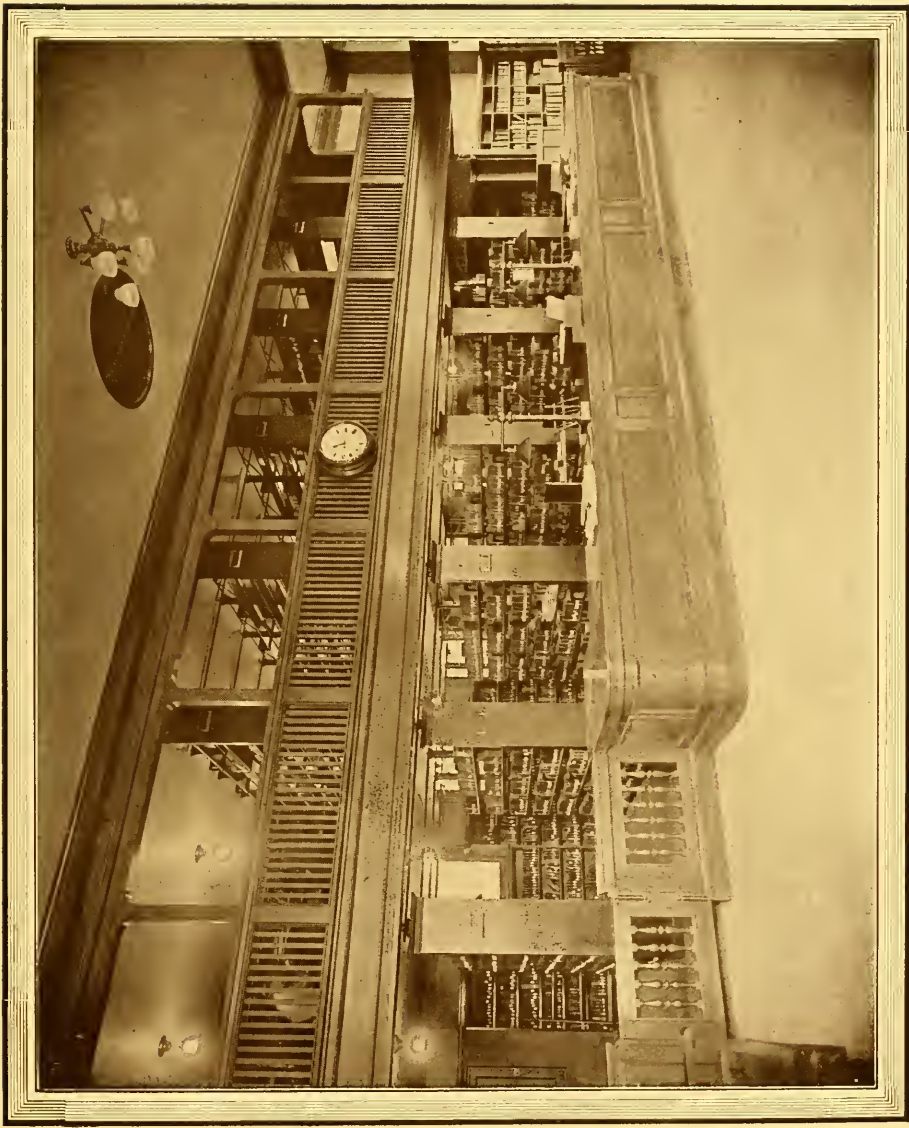
## RETIREMENT AND PENSION FUND.

In their last report the Trustees stated the result of an examination, made in compliance with a request by Your Honor, of the effect upon this Department of the provisions of Chapter 619 of the Acts of 1910, entitled "An Act to Authorize Cities and Towns of the Commonwealth to Establish Retirement Systems for their Employees." Such examination showed clearly that this Act would be of no practical value to the Library Department, either by increasing the efficiency of its service or in reducing the expense by the City for the maintenance of the Department, and we so reported to you.

We have examined the Act of 1911 in amendment of this Act, being Chapter 338 of the Acts of 1911, and in our judgment this Act, like that of 1910, would be of no practical value to the Library Department. It would neither increase the efficiency of the service, nor reduce the expense for the maintenance of the Department. We therefore renew the suggestion made in our Report of 1910 as to the importance of legislation which will enable some provision to be made by the Trustees for a contribution to the support of employees who become worn out in the service of the Library.

A large part of library service is specialized work. It is very desirable that persons who enter the library profession should remain in it, and after they have been in this profession long enough to be of the best service to it they are practically unfitted for any other work. The margin between the salaries which can be paid them within the library appropriation and their necessary expenses for reasonable and decent living is very small. One of the Examining Committees of the Library recently said in its report: "It is manifestly impossible for persons receiving such rates of compensation to create and maintain any adequate fund to which resort can be had in the emergencies of life which confront, or are likely to confront them." In this statement we entirely concur.

The necessary result of this condition is that persons are retained in the library service after they cease to be able to do the



DELIVERY ROOM, JAMAICA PLAIN BRANCH.



best work, because they cannot be retired from it without becoming objects of charity or requiring the assistance of others for their support. The public service suffers from this because the worn-out employee cannot do as good work as ought to be done. The expense of the public service is also increased because it is necessary to have more employees if a portion of them are unable to do the best work. Merited promotion is also often delayed, and the tendency is to weaken the library service where it should be strengthened. A worn-out tool is the most expensive tool for use, whether it be a combination of merely material things like wood and metal, or a living human being. The law does not permit the Trustees to retain any portion of the annual library appropriation to provide for such cases, and they have no trust fund the income of which is applicable to this purpose. The employees have themselves done all they can. They have established a Mutual Benefit Association, to which they make contributions within their means, and out of which some small sums are paid for time lost on account of sickness, and a moderate sum is paid to a beneficiary at the death of a member. What they have done has proved very beneficial and is of advantage to the library service. We commend them and their efforts in this direction to the benevolent consideration of the public and of persons interested in the Library.

What we now wish however to press earnestly upon the consideration of the City Government and of the people of the City, is the importance not only from humanitarian but from business considerations, of some provision which will render it unnecessary for the Library Department to retain in its service employees who have been worn out by years of work in that service, and whose retirement with suitable provision for their support is demanded, not only because it is humane, but because it is for the best business interests of the City.

The annual expense for this purpose need not be large, and it should, we think, be met in part by contributions from the employees who are to be benefitted by it. But we feel that the interests of the Library require that the Trustees should have power to deal with this matter in such just and reasonable way

as may be found for the best interest of the library service and of the City.

#### MONEY FOR MAINTAINING AND WORKING THE LIBRARY.

Substantially all the money which the Trustees can use for the maintenance and working of the library system comes from the annual appropriation by the City Council. The Trust funds, that is, property given to the Trustees in trust for the uses of the Library, are by law required to be invested by the City Treasurer under the direction of the Finance Committee of the City.

A detailed statement of these funds and the income therefrom is annually contained in the report of the City Treasurer and in the report of the City Auditor, and therefore is not presented here. The income received from them in 1911 was \$16,520.41. This income can only be used for the specific purposes of the several trusts under which it is held, which vary widely.

During the past ten years the estimates of the Trustees, the recommendations by the Mayor, and the amounts appropriated by the City Council have been as follows:

	ESTIMATES OF TRUSTEES.	AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR.	AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED BY CITY COUNCIL.
1901 . . . . .	\$291,713.65	\$300,000.00	\$302,000.00
1902 . . . . .	310,144.67	305,000.00	300,000.00
1903 . . . . .	318,383.10	305,500.00	305,500.00
1904 . . . . .	320,414.00	300,000.00	305,000.00
1905 . . . . .	325,465.00	310,000.00	310,000.10
1906 . . . . .	324,550.00	320,000.00	324,550.00
1907 . . . . .	326,100.00	325,000.00	325,000.00
1908 . . . . .	332,800.00	325,000.00	310,000.00
1909 . . . . .	335,200.00	335,200.00	349,455.00
1910 . . . . .	351,978.00	351,978.00	351,978.00
1911 . . . . .	359,497.00	355,200.00	355,200.00

#### RELATION OF THE LIBRARY TO SCHOLARSHIP.

We desire at this time to call attention to the importance of the relation of the Library to scholarship. It is true that the primary purpose of a free public library supported by taxation is to give good books to those who would not otherwise have them, and to

afford instruction by the intelligent use of books to those who would not otherwise have it. But the Boston Public Library also has another purpose not less important to the welfare of the people, though less in the public view, and not so obvious to the public at large. It is a scholar's library, and it is of public importance that it should be maintained as such. It is only by the scholar's work that the primary purpose of a public library can be accomplished.

Good books do not come by chance. They come only by the work of scholars. The scholar writes the text-book that the child studies; he discovers the law by which the inventor improves an existing industry, or creates a new industry. The scholar recreates a period of history from its scanty records and manuscripts; he constructs a grammar by means of which civilization makes its way into new territories, or the new world shares its knowledge and its traditions with the old. The scholar's work is manifold, and that time and that state are poor indeed which are without it.

The scholar's work is nowhere more important than in our City, which is preëminent in the work of education. Nearly 20,000 students are pursuing their studies either within immediate reach or within easy access of the Central Library building. The teachers in these institutions are scholars, many of them not only teaching students directly, but working in the preparation of books for students. Their work covers language, art, literature, economics, science, music, sculpture, applied mechanics and every other form of intellectual instruction. These institutions of learning not only give dignity and importance to our City, but they also aid its material prosperity, and even in that aspect are as important as factories and warehouses, railroad and steamship lines, or wharves and docks.

Our Library is therefore not only an important means of popular education, but it is also a valuable business asset of the City. It not only gives instruction for the people, but it provides material for the work of the scholar without whose work popular education and instruction could not go on. The Boston Public Library was founded by scholars and from the beginning recognized its duty to scholarship. The roll call of its special collections tells

the story of provision for the scholar, not only by private gift but by public expense. Dr. Bowditch brought to it his rare and valuable books on pure mathematics. The unique collection made by the Rev. Thomas Prince, surpassingly rich in books relating to early New England history, has found its proper place here. The Ticknor library offers opportunity to scholars for study in the French, Spanish and Portuguese languages which is probably not to be found elsewhere in America. The Barton library, with its priceless Shakespeareana, acquired partly by the generosity of Mrs. Barton, and partly by the expenditure of City money, is the crown of the Library's collections. The Allen A. Brown Music and Dramatic collections, the Thayer library, the Parker library, the John Adams library, the Chamberlain manuscript collection, and many other important and some unique collections, justify the claim of our Library to be the Mecca of America for those men and women who are pledged to the service of learning.

This Library has thus a great inheritance of material upon which the scholar can work. The City cannot afford to regard these collections with indifference, or even with inactive respect. They must be kept up, cared for, extended, made more perfect, so that people will continue to come to our City for the purpose of using them. It is good for Boston that men should come to it as they go to Rome, or London, or Paris, that they may find the great rare books of the world and use them. Boston is bound in honor to keep alive its traditional hospitality toward scholarship. Rare books, books for scholars, as well as books for children, and books for the people, must be continually acquired. The money spent for a rare book which is needed for but one scholar, and by him but twice in a lifetime, may be well spent if it brings him to Boston for that book and saves him a journey half around the world to find it and use it. It may lead him, as is often the case, to make this City his home because he can here best find help in research and study. The Library must continue to employ scholars. It must recognize scholars. It must help scholars in their work. Only by doing this can it be worthy of its own history, and be of the greatest benefit to our City.



## HISTORY OF THE LIBRARY.

At the close of the first fifty years from the opening of the Library for public use, in 1854, the Trustees considered the matter of some action which would be a permanent memorial of that half century of the Library work. They concluded that a publication which told the story of the origin and growth of the Library would be the most appropriate memorial, and requested the Librarian to prepare it. He took up this work in addition to his other duties, but was so thorough in his examination and so faithful in the work, that it assumed under his hands a more important form than was at first intended. The work was finished and brought down to the close of the last year as a complete history of the Library from its beginning to that time. It was printed by our own Printing Department and issued in December, 1911. It is a credit to the scholarship and industry of the Librarian, and to the careful work of all who have had a part in its preparation and execution.

## EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The Trustees appointed an Examining Committee of persons not members of the Board, and joined with them the President of the Board as Chairman, to examine the Library and make to the Board a report of its condition, as required by the ordinance. That Committee consisted of the following persons:

Mrs. Charles E. Aldrich.	Mr. Joseph B. Maccabe.
Dr. Fred W. Allen.	Rev. W. B. McNamara.
Dr. Barnard L. Bernard.	Mr. Max Mitchell.
Mr. G. L. Bruné.	Mr. Thomas A. Mullen.
Mr. Michael S. Cooney.	Miss Elizabeth M. Needham.
Mrs. Thomas Downey.	Mrs. Ellor C. Ripley.
Miss Rose E. Fitzgerald.	Mrs. James J. Storrow.
Miss Heloise E. Hersey.	Dr. Patrick J. Timmins.
Rev. C. E. Jackson.	Rev. William H. Van Allen.
Mr. Charles J. Kidney.	Mr. Thomas M. Watson.
Rev. Leo J. Knappe.	Mr. Frank C. Weeks.

The report of the Committee is hereto annexed and included as part of this report.

## CONCLUSION.

The Trustees have held regular meetings each week during the year, except during the summer months, for the transaction of the business of the Department, which is constantly increasing in amount and in the detail required for its proper administration.

They feel that the Library service has been well administered during the year, and that this is due to the industry, intelligence, and loyalty with which the employees of the Library have performed their respective duties. The Trustees are glad to be able to bear testimony to the substantially uniform excellence of their work.

The Trustees desire to express their appreciation of the cordial and generous support which the Mayor and the City Council have given to the Library Department during the past year, not only in appropriations for its maintenance and working, but by important appropriations for the construction of new branch buildings. It will be their desire to so administer the affairs of the Department as to merit the continued confidence of the City Government.

JOSIAH H. BENTON.  
THOMAS F. BOYLE.  
WILLIAM F. KENNEY.  
SAMUEL CARR.  
ALEXANDER MANN.



## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY AND BRANCHES:

## To expenditures for salaries —

General administration . . . . .	\$184,433.22
Sunday and evening force . . . . .	26,470.36
Pensions . . . . .	67.51

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 \$210,971.09

## To expenditures for books —

From City appropriation . . . . .	\$19,159.90
Trust funds income . . . . .	19,834.42
Carnegie gift, Galatea collection . . . . .	22.16
Sullivan bequest . . . . .	1,070.08

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 40,086.56

## To general expenditures —

Newspapers, from Todd fund income . . . . .	\$2,000.00
Periodicals . . . . .	6,741.79
Furniture and fixtures . . . . .	5,469.74
Gas . . . . .	2,643.77
Electric lighting . . . . .	1,431.56
Cleaning . . . . .	9,720.51
Small supplies . . . . .	3,428.32
Ice . . . . .	251.00
Stationery . . . . .	2,028.93
Rents . . . . .	16,547.46
Fuel . . . . .	12,004.51
Repairs . . . . .	5,128.26
Freights and cartage . . . . .	1,748.14
Transportation between Central and Branches . . . . .	5,347.00
Telephone service . . . . .	773.23
Postage and telegrams . . . . .	974.75
Typewriting . . . . .	5.40
Travelling expenses (including street car fares on li- brary service) . . . . .	282.84
Grounds . . . . .	239.67
Lecture account (including lantern slides and operator)	210.93
Miscellaneous expense . . . . .	28.25
Insurance . . . . .	136.37

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 77,142.43

## PRINTING DEPARTMENT:

## To expenditures for salaries . . . . . \$7,118.22

## To general expenditures —

Stock . . . . .	2,998.44
Equipment . . . . .	17.85
Electric light and power . . . . .	263.50
Contract work . . . . .	1,105.56
Rent . . . . .	529.19
Freights and cartage . . . . .	103.00
Insurance . . . . .	191.25
Gas . . . . .	226.11
Cleaning . . . . .	161.20
Small supplies, ice, repairs, furniture and fixtures . . . . .	46.24

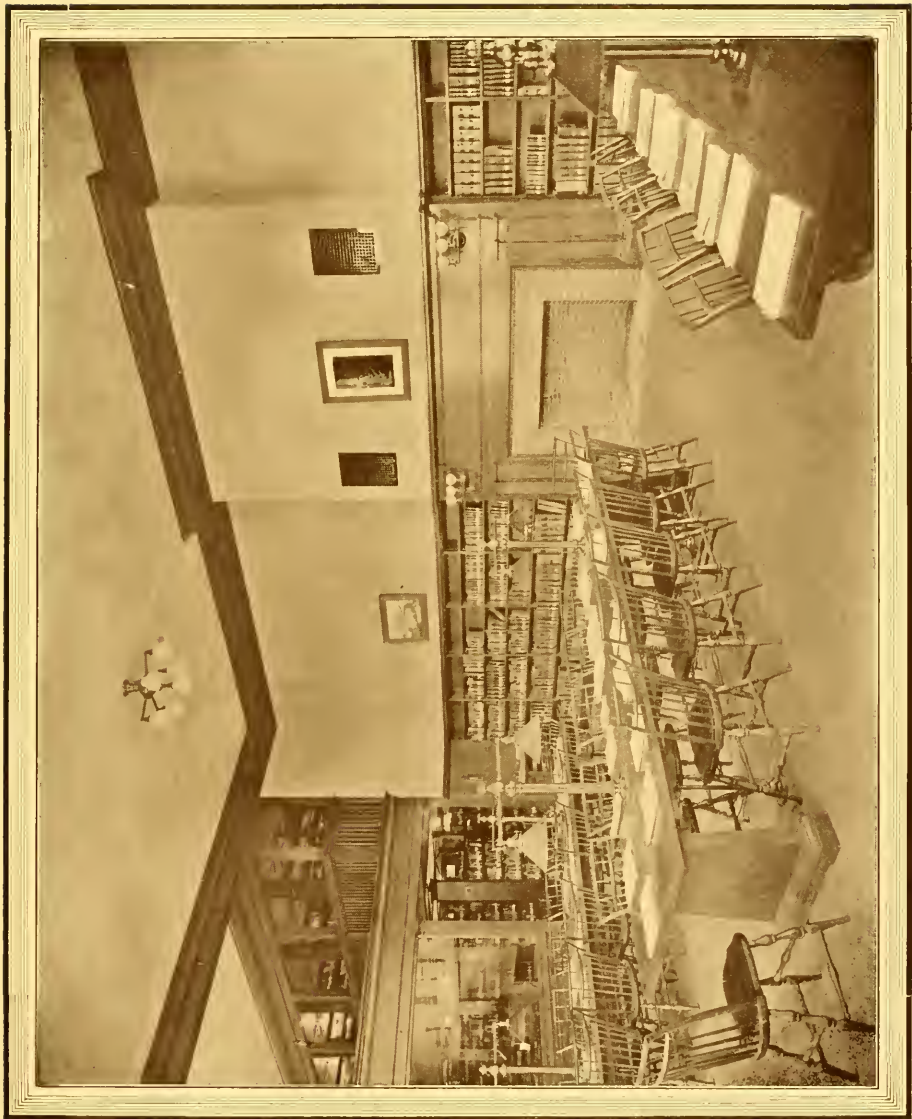
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 12,760.56

Carried forward . . . . .

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 \$340,960.64



READING ROOM, JAMAICA PLAIN BRANCH.



## EXPENSES, JANUARY 31, 1912.

		CR.
BY CITY APPROPRIATION, 1911-12 . . . . .	\$355,200.00	
Income from Trust funds . . . . .	16,520.41	
Payments received for books lost . . . . .	393.32	
Carnegie gift for Galatea collection . . . . .	80.75	
Sullivan bequest . . . . .	1,070.08	
Hyde Park, balance of appropriation . . . . .	253.96	
	<hr/>	\$373,518.52
BY BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD FEBRUARY 1, 1911:		
Trust funds income on deposit in London . . . . .	\$638.83	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	597.49	
Trust funds income balance, City Treasury . . . . .	23,598.72	
Carnegie gift for Galatea collection . . . . .	294.50	
Accrued interest on bank deposits . . . . .	2,263.77	
	<hr/>	27,393.31
<hr/>		
<i>Carried forward</i> . . . . .		<hr/> \$400,911.83

## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .		\$340,960.64
BINDING DEPARTMENT:		
To expenditures for salaries . . . . .	\$29,847.17	
To general expenditures —		
Stock . . . . .	\$3,602.68	
Equipment . . . . .	73.09	
Electric light and power . . . . .	160.90	
Contract work . . . . .	413.09	
Rent . . . . .	929.20	
Freights and cartage . . . . .	813.00	
Insurance . . . . .	191.25	
Gas . . . . .	34.63	
Cleaning . . . . .	161.20	
Small supplies, ice, repairs, furniture and fixtures . . . . .	141.44	
		<hr/>
		36,367.65
TO AMOUNT PAID INTO CITY TREASURY:		
From fines . . . . .	\$5,114.82	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists . . . . .	79.12	
Commission on telephone stations . . . . .	190.23	
Sales of waste paper . . . . .	148.63	
Money found in the Library . . . . .	2.32	
Accrued interest on bank deposits . . . . .	2,263.77	
		<hr/>
		7,798.89
TO BALANCES, JANUARY 31, 1912:		
Trust funds income on deposit in London . . . . .	\$2,958.72	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	2,043.14	
Trust funds income balance, City Treasury . . . . .	15,964.82	
Carnegie gift for Galatea collection . . . . .	353.09	
		<hr/>
		21,319.77
		<hr/>
		\$406,446.95



## EXPENSES, JANUARY 31, 1912.

	CR.
<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .	\$400,911.83
<b>BY RECEIPTS:</b>	
From fines . . . . .	\$5,114.82
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists . . . . .	79.12
Commissions on telephone stations . . . . .	190.23
Sales of waste paper . . . . .	148.63
Money found in the Library . . . . .	2.32
	<hr/>
	5,535.12

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\$406,446.95

## REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

A City Ordinance requires the Trustees to appoint annually an Examining Committee of not less than five persons, not members of said Board, who, together with one of said Board as Chairman, shall examine the Library and make to the Board a report of its condition.

The Examining Committee appointed by the Trustees of the Public Library, in accordance with this Ordinance, held its first meeting in the Trustees' Room of the Central Library on Monday, November 10, 1911. Mr. Josiah H. Benton, President of the Board of Trustees is Chairman of the Committee, and Miss Della Jean Deery of the library staff was appointed Clerk.

## ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEE INTO SUB-COMMITTEES.

The investigation of the various departments of the Library was divided among nine sub-committees, and these sub-committees were instructed to report their findings to a tenth sub-committee, which was empowered to draft the general report, and submit it to the whole Committee at an early date in January. The sub-committees were made up as follows:

## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

Mr. G. L. Bruné, *Chairman*.

Mr. Thomas A. Mullen.

Mr. Frank C. Weeks.

## BOOKS AND FINE ARTS.

Dr. Fred W. Allen, *Chairman*.

Rev. W. B. McNamara.

Mrs. Charles E. Aldrich.

## PRINTING AND BINDING.

Mr. Michael S. Cooney, *Chairman*.

Mr. Frank C. Weeks.

## BRANCHES AND READING ROOMS.

SOUTH BOSTON AND SOUTH END BRANCHES, CITY POINT AND BROADWAY EXTENSION  
READING ROOMS.

Dr. Barnard L. Bernard, *Chairman*.

Dr. Patrick J. Timmins.

Mrs. Thomas Downey.

CHARLESTOWN AND EAST BOSTON BRANCHES, ORIENT HEIGHTS READING ROOM.

Rev. C. E. Jackson, *Chairman*.

Mr. Joseph B. Maccabe.

Mr. Max Mitchell.

BRIGHTON, JAMAICA PLAIN AND WEST ROXBURY BRANCHES, ROSLINDALE, BOYLSTON STATION, WARREN STREET, ROXBURY CROSSING, PARKER HILL AND ALLSTON READING ROOMS.

Miss Elizabeth M. Needham, *Chairman*.

Mr. Thomas M. Watson.

Dr. Fred W. Allen.

DORCHESTER, ROXBURY AND UPHAM'S CORNER BRANCHES, CODMAN SQUARE, MT. PLEASANT, MT. BOWDOIN, LOWER MILLS, MATTAPAN AND NEPONSET READING ROOMS.

Mr. Charles J. Kidney, *Chairman*.

Miss Rose E. Fitzgerald.

Mrs. Charles E. Aldrich.

WEST END BRANCH, INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL READING ROOM.

Rev. Leo J. Knappe, *Chairman*.

Miss Heloise E. Hersey.

Mrs. James J. Storrow.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT AND WORK WITH SCHOOLS.

Rev. William H. Van Allen, *Chairman*.

Miss Rose E. Fitzgerald.

Mrs. Ellor C. Ripley.

GENERAL COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION OF REPORT.

Mr. Max Mitchell, *Chairman*.

Miss Heloise E. Hersey.

Mrs. James J. Storrow.

In accordance with the scheme thus outlined, the various sub-committees made their respective reports, some with more, some with less detail. As informed by these reports and by its own observation the General Committee submitted the draft of its report for adoption as follows:

*To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston:*

The Examining Committee submits the following report:

NEW HISTORY OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

We wish as our first word to pay tribute to the admirable History of the Public Library which has just been issued by

your Board. It fills a need which has become fully evident only now that it has been met. It traces the evolution of the Institution from the day in 1854, when two rooms in Mason Street housed the small collection of books, to the present time, when twenty-nine buildings and parts of buildings are in daily use, when two hundred and twenty persons are employed in the service of the Library, when \$350,000 are annually appropriated by the City for the administration of the Library, when a million and a half volumes are used annually in the homes of the people. The story of the fifty-five years of the life of the Library is more wonderful than the tale of Aladdin's lamp. Every citizen of Boston who loves his city ought to read the book, and he will feel himself anew a debtor to the Trustees who conceived the idea of issuing the history of their trust, and not less to the Librarian, Mr. Wadlin, who has so successfully carried the scheme to completion.

The present condition of the Public Library and its branches, as reported by members of the Committee, is good. The house-keeping is careful, the courtesy of the employees commendable, conditions in the Printing and Binding Department satisfactory, and evidences of life and vigor in the library service are everywhere to be seen.

#### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT PROSPEROUS.

The Children's Department is especially prosperous, both in the Central Library and the branches. It has been recognized as a separate department only since 1895. but now has some provision at each branch and station. Twelve hundred and twenty-two chairs are provided for juvenile readers, and over 50,000 volumes are on open shelves for the children's use. Even this number is too small, for, as one of our members well says, "children are naturally curious to see the covers and pictures of their books before they become seriously interested in them." Cards are issued to children over ten years old, and the attendants seem to be untiring in their efforts to seek out reference books for children in connection with their school work. Classes from the schools visit the Central Library and are instructed in the use of

the Catalogue, boxes of books on special subjects are sent to the school rooms on application, and graded finding lists are issued to the schools. So it is apparent to your Committee that the Library lays its foundations strongly where they ought to be laid, — in the minds of the children. It is only by planting there enthusiasm for good reading that the future of the Library can safely be left to the next generation. An intelligent and coöperating public opinion is at once the Library's safeguard and its inspiration. In passing it is worth while to suggest that story-telling for children may well be more generally used, by way of awakening the taste for books in the minds of little children. The new Branch building at Jamaica Plain has a small hall in the basement admirably adapted for this, and perhaps volunteers might be willing to take part in such work. Each of the new branches should be furnished with such a hall. It is now recognized as a necessary part of the library equipment. Lectures may be given there, classes may be brought there by teachers from the schools, and exhibitions may be held there of historical or artistic interest as circumstances make them timely.

#### FREE PUBLIC LECTURES.

The free public lectures held at the Central Library on Thursday evenings have proved so popular that the Library has added to them a course to be given on Sunday afternoons. One set of three of these is given by the Librarian, Mr. Wadlin, and is on "The Poetry of the People." The subjects of the others are chiefly literary and historical, and admirably adapted to stimulate and guide interest in good books.

#### DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS.

The Committee finds the Department of Fine Arts much used and well conducted. It calls especial attention to the interesting gift by Mr. Alexander Steinert of the first example of piano making in America. The quaint old instrument has found by Mr. Steinert's generosity a suitable home in the room which contains the Allen A. Brown Collection of Music.

The Library is evidently "in good working order;" its staff is loyal; its public is large and exacting, — as it ought to be. With the exceptions to be hereafter noted in this report, the conduct of the great municipal institution is just cause for modest, civic satisfaction.

#### SELECTION OF BOOKS FOR PUBLIC USE.

The work of a great public library may be divided into four departments: *First*, the selection and procuring of books; *second*, the cataloguing of them, for only by listing do the books become accessible to readers; *third*, the housing of the books, and *fourth*, the distribution of the books to readers, either in the library buildings or in their homes.

For the selection and the procuring of books, your Committee finds the Boston Public Library well equipped and well operated. It is a sign of a healthy appetite for books that the cry goes up continually from the citizens for larger and larger expenditure for books. It would be a sad day for Boston when its readers found all the books they wanted on the shelves of their Library. It is of prime importance for the usefulness of a library that the books should be carefully and intelligently selected. With the enormous output of printing presses today, the problem has become not so much "What may we buy?" as "What must we reject?"

#### CURRENT FICTION NOT BOUGHT.

The Boston Public Library deserves the praise of all lovers of good books for standing firmly by its deliberately assumed determination not to buy current fiction with the money of the taxpayers until time has winnowed the chaff from the wheat. If the Library bought the necessary thirty copies of every new novel, it would have at the end of each year an accumulation of useless and undesired literary rubbish which would clog and retard the proper use of the Library, and appall the educator and the economist alike. So the Examining Committee desires to express its hearty approbation of the courageous position taken by the Trustees in regard to the purchase of ephemeral books.

## CALL FOR BOOKS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES FOR ADULTS ONLY.

There is another question in regard to the purchase of books which the Committee wishes to raise. Our City is rapidly forming a series of foreign centres, — of Italians, Jews, Poles, Portuguese and other foreigners in different localities of the City. Many of these foreigners are eager readers. They want the companionship of books as a cure for homesickness, and they want the information to be gained from books as an aid to advancement in their occupations. When these foreign-born persons are children or under twenty-five years old, it seems to this Committee that their desire for books should be used as a spur to them to learn the English language. In order to make them good citizens, they must learn the speech in which Patrick Henry, Washington, and Lincoln spoke and wrote. But what of the middle-aged and the elderly? the women and the “shut-ins” among these foreign-speaking residents? The sub-committees on the North End and the South End make pleas for more books in Yiddish, Italian and Polish. This request is a proper one so far as it applies to books for comparatively uneducated adults. But to children and young people it is the duty of the Library to hold out interesting books as their reward for the hard work of learning our language. Their books should be in English and in English only. Meantime, the custodians of the various branches should watch the stream of immigration, and as one nationality and another appears in their quarter of the City, should enter requisitions for books for the adult newcomers.

## CATALOGUING A TECHNICAL ART.

The cataloguing of books has become an art in itself. It requires a high degree of technical skill, and must be carried on by experts. The Examining Committee commends the general results of this special work in the Public Library, and especially the Weekly Lists, which make the new books easily known to the public. Good service has also been done for the hundreds of music students in this vicinity by the publication of a list of

books in the Library on the operas announced for production at the Boston Opera House during this season.

The catalogue of the Boston Public Library is simple and among the best in the world for the general public. The system of classification has grown with the Library and has changed as needs required. It is not perfect, but there can never be a crystalized classification not subject to change. As the public do not use the shelves, the fact that all books on a given subject cannot always be placed together has not inconvenienced them. Since 1895 the American Library Association has been working on the question of "Subject Headings." The Boston Public Library is helping the Association in its work and watching to take advantage of improvements recommended by the Association. There seems to be no reason at present for making any revolutionary change in the method of cataloguing in the Library.

The real problem of the Public Library appears to the Examining Committee of this year, as it appeared to that of last year, to be concerned with the inadequate housing of the books in certain of the branches and reading rooms, and their consequent restricted and difficult use,— whether in the homes or the libraries.

#### CONDITIONS IN CITY POINT READING ROOM.

The experience of the Examining Committee repeats itself year after year. "We are sorry," says one sub-committee on the City Point Reading Room, "to report very bad conditions. On the floor above the Reading Room is a moving picture establishment, and immediately behind it is a bowling alley. The noise from these two places of public amusement naturally disturbs and distracts the readers. The Library is thus robbed of its first essential, quietness. The room itself is unsatisfactory, — narrow, dark, ill-ventilated, and so small that the children are packed against the walls, using their knees as desks. The Broadway Extension Reading Room is even worse. The noise from the elevated trains is deafening. The room seats only sixty, and any evening, a line of children may be seen, waiting with such patience as they can command for admission to the library. The



poor, thin clothing of many of these anxious, shivering boys and girls is mute testimony to their eager desire for books."

#### WHAT HAS BEEN DONE IN THE PAST YEAR?

These conditions and others of a similar nature were set forth in the Report of last year's Examining Committee, and the argument then made was nobly responded to by the City Government. Let us review what has been done in the past year toward satisfying the needs then described.

The most crying demand, that of the teeming population of the North End, has been answered by the appropriation of \$86,000 for a branch library there. The Trustees have purchased the Church of St. John Baptist, situated on North Bennet Street. Plans have been made for its remodeling, and as this report goes to print, bids are being considered for the alterations.

The East Boston Branch occupies the quarters assigned to it in 1871, although the population which it serves has increased from 23,000 to nearly 60,000, and the books for home use are now nearly 100,000 annually. An appropriation of \$50,000 has been made, and a new building for the exclusive use of this Branch is contemplated.

The Charlestown Branch has occupied the present quarters since 1874. Although the population has increased only from 33,556 to 41,444, the annual circulation of books for home use has grown from 32,000 to 55,000. This growth would probably have been even greater in the last years, if the books had been better housed and in a location more accessible to those who need the Library. Sixty thousand dollars has been appropriated for a new building for the Branch.

The South Boston City Point Reading Room is to be given new quarters in the municipal building to be erected on Broadway, near the present location of the Reading Room.

The Broadway Extension Reading Room serves a population of nearly 25,000 people, and it is the darkest spot in the great library system of Boston. The City Government plans to give it new and enlarged rooms in the municipal building soon to be erected in that district.

It appears accordingly that no less than five new buildings have been determined upon during the year by the City Government, three of them to be exclusively for the use of the Library, and two others to be partly given to its service. Appropriations have been made for all these buildings, but at least two of them have been insufficient for the essential demands of the branches. Land must be bought for both the Charlestown Branch and the East Boston Branch, and \$50,000 for East Boston is said by the sub-committee to be \$46,000 short of the proper sum, and Charlestown needs \$15,000 or \$20,000 in addition to its \$60,000 appropriated. The delay and vexatious confusion of plans when the sum to be expended is left in uncertainty is too evident to need argument.

#### IMPERATIVE CALL FOR PROMPT COMPLETION OF PROPOSED BUILDINGS.

The Examining Committee believes that the one vital service it can perform for the year is to urge upon the City Government the imperative necessity that these five library buildings should be begun and completed as soon as possible. Not a stone has yet been laid or a nail driven in them. The locations have not all been settled. It too often happens with public buildings that the weighing and balancing of conflicting interests regarding location prolong unduly the preliminaries of the building. The Committee begs to remind the City Government that in case of these special buildings it is eminently true that he gives twice who gives quickly. In fact this gift postponed for even one year can never be fully given. Desirable and dignified surroundings for many public enterprises may come almost as satisfactorily tomorrow or the next day as today. But for the library or the school, since they serve the child, there is no tomorrow. When tomorrow comes, today's child has passed on. The wistful throng of boys and girls who stand outside the closed door of a crowded library in 1912 will not be there in 1913, and by so much as the City fails in its duty to those particular children do they become a reproach to both the generosity and the wisdom of the City.

No public service is more needed in Boston today than that which can be rendered by prompt, sufficient appropriations for these already determined branches of the Public Library, and the speedy application of those appropriations for the adequate housing of good books, and their consequent easy, abundant distribution to every home, — the poorest as well as the richest in our City.

The foregoing was adopted as the report of the whole Committee at a meeting held January 9, 1912.

DELLA JEAN DEERY,  
*Clerk.*

## REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

*To the Board of Trustees:*

I respectfully submit the following report for the year ending January 31, 1912.

### REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

The following important repairs have been made during the year: At the Central Library the entire basement walls and ceilings have been cleaned and whitened, the walls and ceilings of the Lecture Hall washed and retinted, and the walls of the Children's Room retinted. Such repairs as have been required to keep the structure of the building in proper condition have been made, and the elevators, motors, and steam plant have been kept in effective operation by such repairs or replacement of parts as were needed from time to time.

At the branches, besides the usual routine repairs, the entrance doors have been made to open outward by the construction of an inner vestibule at the Brighton Branch, and a fire escape attached to the rear of the building; a fire escape has been put in place by the Public Buildings Department at the West Roxbury Branch; the grounds in front of the West End Branch have been further improved by coöperation with the Park Department, and improvements in the heating apparatus have been made within the building. Our landlords at the Roxbury Branch, and at the Broadway Extension, Mt. Bowdoin and Orient Heights Reading Rooms have improved the premises by whitening and repainting; cork matting has been provided by the Public Buildings Department at the Charlestown Branch and at the Upham's Corner Branch; and at the Upham's Corner Branch, also, the librarian's office has been repainted and varnished, window screens put in place and grille partitions and doors supplied. Additional shelves and furniture have been supplied as required

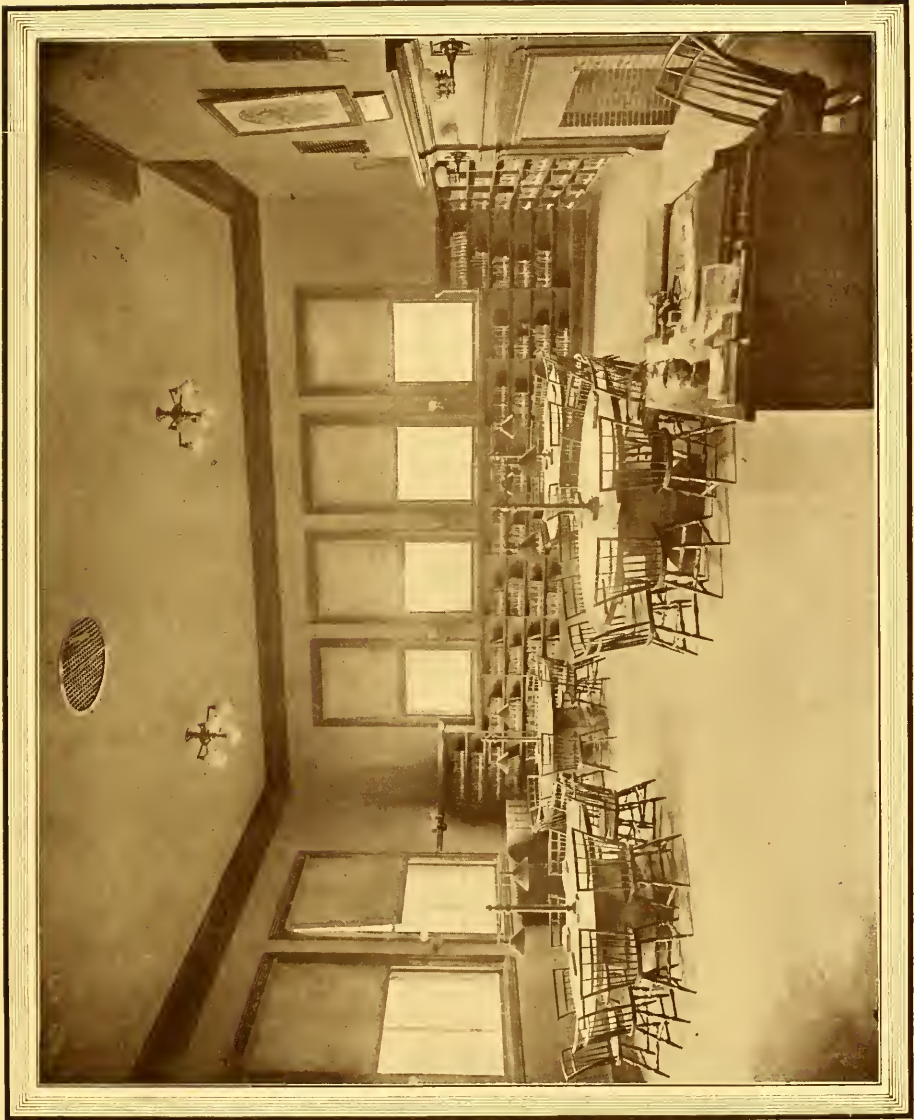
by the increased demands of the service throughout the system. The Industrial School Reading Room has been enlarged and materially changed to provide for the increased use of the rooms, on account of the consolidation therewith of the reading room heretofore maintained at No. 207 North Street. Improvements in lighting have been made by our landlord at the Parker Hill Reading Room, and by ourselves at the Dorchester Branch. The new building for the Jamaica Plain Branch has been opened for public use, fully equipped for the effective administration of the Branch.

#### THE USE OF BOOKS.

The use of books supplied by the Library is of two kinds. Extensive use is made of the collections within the buildings, and this use is constantly increasing, although not recorded statistically. It includes reference use by students from the various institutions of learning in the vicinity, or by pupils from the schools; literary research work for the purpose of authorship, or by special students; and the use of books by scholars, connected with the faculty or staff of instructors of some college or advanced school, either in Boston or elsewhere. The scholarly character of the books contained in this Library has always invited this extensive reference use of our collection.

Besides this use of books within the buildings, the circulation of books for home use during the past year numbered 1,612,270 volumes. The following tables show this circulation in detail, and so far as they relate to the Central Library, are based upon the annual report of Mr. Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief of the Issue Department. The figures for the branches are from the regular returns of the custodians. It is perhaps well to repeat the caution contained in reports of previous years: "The tabulated figures are of value in comparison with our own similar figures presented in other years, but they should not be closely compared with the records of other libraries, unless it is certain that such records have been made upon exactly the same system as that in use by us." It will be plain, also, that since these figures show circulation for home use only, and are entirely distinct from the reference circulation referred to above, they cover only a part of the entire circulation of the Library.

	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTAL.
CENTRAL LIBRARY:			
<i>a.</i> Direct . . . . .	274,981		
<i>b.</i> Through Branches and Reading-Room Stations . . . . .	73,576		
<i>c.</i> Schools and Institutions through Branch Dpt. . . . .		84,115	432,672
BRANCHES:			
Brighton . . . . .	33,486	10,913	44,399
Charlestown . . . . .	43,292	7,981	51,273
Dorchester . . . . .	44,246	10,289	54,535
East Boston . . . . .	88,638	10,359	98,997
Jamaica Plain . . . . .	40,721	3,894	44,615
Roxbury . . . . .	71,790	9,625	81,415
South Boston . . . . .	85,731	7,720	93,451
South End . . . . .	86,841	10,015	96,856
Upham's Corner . . . . .	83,878	1,072	84,950
West End . . . . .	83,588	8,103	91,691
West Roxbury . . . . .	33,951	6,081	40,032
<i>Carried forward</i> . . . . .	1,044,719	170,167	1,214,886
<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .	1,044,719	170,167	1,214,886
READING-ROOM STATIONS:			
A. Lower Mills . . . . .	14,991	.....	14,991
B. Roslindale . . . . .	44,562	167	44,729
D. Mattapan . . . . .	10,182	.....	10,182
E. Neponset . . . . .	12,953	.....	12,953
F. Mt. Bowdoin . . . . .	28,385	.....	28,385
G. Allston . . . . .	29,237	.....	29,237
J. Codman Sq. . . . .	42,914	.....	42,914
N. Mt. Pleasant . . . . .	23,557	.....	23,557
P. Broadway Ext. . . . .	21,353	328	21,681
R. Warren St. . . . .	22,765	.....	22,765
S. Roxbury Crossing . . . . .	21,872	.....	21,872
T. Boylston Sta. . . . .	23,132	.....	23,132
W. North Bennet St. . . . .	21,788	.....	21,788
Z. Orient Heights . . . . .	18,658	.....	18,658
22. North St. . . . .	1,202	.....	1,202
23. City Point . . . . .	40,883	.....	40,883
24. Parker Hill . . . . .	18,455	.....	18,455
Totals . . . . .	1,441,608	170,662	1,612,270



CHILDREN'S ROOM, JAMAICA PLAIN BRANCH.





The figures reported by months are presented in detail:

CIRCULATION FROM CENTRAL BY MONTHS.

	HOME USE DIRECT.	HOME USE THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	TOTALS.
February, 1911 . . . . .	29,328	9,707	8,987	48,022
March, " . . . . .	28,652	7,916	9,190	45,758
April, " . . . . .	28,727	7,587	8,918	45,232
May, " . . . . .	23,112	5,408	9,428	37,948
June, " . . . . .	19,453	5,216	8,598	33,267
July, " . . . . .	14,969	3,606	2,834	21,409
August, " . . . . .	16,221	3,630	3,169	23,020
September, " . . . . .	17,378	3,683	2,801	23,862
October, " . . . . .	19,905	4,561	5,579	30,045
November, " . . . . .	26,954	7,444	7,978	42,376
December, " . . . . .	26,470	8,173	8,350	42,993
January, 1912 . . . . .	23,812	6,645	8,283	38,740
Totals . . . . .	274,981	73,576	84,115	432,672

The following summary condenses the figures for the entire system:

*Books Lent for Home Use, including Circulation through Schools and Institutions.*

From Central Library (including Central Library books issued through the branches and reading-room stations) . . . . .	432,672
From branches and reading-room stations (other than books received from Central) . . . . .	1,179,598
	<hr/>

Total number of volumes lent for home use and through schools and institutions . . . . . 1,612,270

Comparative statements follow, showing the circulation of books for use outside the library buildings in each of two succeeding years:

	1910-11.	1911-12.
Central Library circulation (excluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use . . . . .	299,771	274,981
Through branches and reading-room stations for home use . . . . .	74,182	73,576
Carried forward . . . . .	<hr/>	<hr/>
	373,953	348,557

<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .	373,953	348,557
Branch Department circulation (excluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use		
From branch collections . . . . .	685,327	696,162
From reading-room stations . . . . .	383,826	396,889
	<u>1,069,153</u>	<u>1,093,051</u>
Schools and institutions, circulation: (including books from Central through the branch system) . . . . .	159,119	170,662
Totals . . . . .	<u>1,602,225</u>	<u>1,612,270</u>

In response to individual applications made at branches and reading-room stations for books from the Central Library, to be issued through the Branch Department, 76,006 volumes have been issued for home use as compared with 76,754 in the preceding year. The proportion of unsuccessful applications for books issued in this way (that is, applications which did not secure the book, owing to the fact that it was already in the hands of some other borrower) was 49 per cent as against 55 per cent for the preceding year. At least two-thirds of these unsuccessful applications are for current fiction, for which the demand usually exceeds the supply. We are constantly endeavoring to reduce the percentage of unsuccessful applications, by providing additional copies of such standard books as are likely to be called for.

The circulation of volumes sent on deposit (to 143 different places) from the Central Library through the Branch Department was 135,000 as against 127,000 (sent to 143 places) in the preceding year. The circulation of books for home use to young readers applying in the Children's Room at the Central Library numbered 55,078 volumes, and 17,935 volumes were sent out from this room for home use through the Branch Department.

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

A statistical statement of the number of books received follows:

	<i>Books acquired by purchase.</i>	
	1910-11.	1911-12.
For the Central Library:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	8,361	7,666
From Trust Funds income . . . . .	5,545	4,583
	<hr/> 13,906	<hr/> 12,249
For branches and reading-room stations:		
From City appropriations . . . . .	8,801	12,525
From Trust Funds income . . . . .	3,876	732
By Fellows Athenæum (for the Roxbury Branch) . . . . .	920	1,147
	<hr/> 13,597	<hr/> 14,404
Totals . . . . .	<hr/> 27,503	<hr/> 26,653

The following statement shows whether the books added to the Library during the year have been obtained by purchase, gift or exchange:

	CENTRAL,	BRANCHES,	TOTAL,
	VOLUMES.	VOLUMES.	VOLUMES.
Accessions by purchase (including 1,147 vols. by Fellows Athenæum, for Roxbury Branch) . . . . .	12,249	14,404	26,653
Accessions by gift (including 47 vols through Fellows Athenæum, for Roxbury Branch) . . . . .	5,698	1,098	6,796
Accessions by exchange . . . . .	63	48	111
Accessions by Statistical Department . . . . .	549	.....	549
Accessions of periodicals (bound) . . . . .	2,288	429	2,717
Accessions of newspapers (bound) . . . . .	60	.....	60
	<hr/> 20,907	<hr/> 15,979	<hr/> 36,886

## PURCHASES OF FICTION.

Of current fiction, chiefly English, including juvenile fiction, 884 different titles have been carefully examined during the year. A selection of 136 titles was made, and 2,239 copies purchased, 251 copies for the Central Library and the rest for use through the branch system. In addition, 8,942 volumes of fiction were purchased for replacement of worn-out books and to increase the number of copies of certain books in large demand. The total expenditure for fiction, was \$9,499.29, or 23.70 per cent of the amount expended for all books.

## NOTEWORTHY ACCESSIONS.

The report of Miss Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief of the Ordering Department, furnishes the following details as to important accessions:

## PURCHASES.

Among the important purchases of the year are four which are especially noteworthy, two of which are works still in progress. They are:

(1) The North American Indians, by E. S. Curtis, a series of twenty sumptuous volumes, describing the Indians of the United States and Alaska, of which eight volumes with their accompanying portfolios of photogravures have been issued.

(2) *Histoire physique, naturelle et politique de Madagascar*, by Alfred and Guillaume Grandidier, an exhaustive work in fifty-two volumes, embodying the original researches of many specialists. Twenty-four volumes published.

(3) The Ellsmere Chaucer. Reproduced in facsimile from the manuscripts of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* now in the possession of the Ellsmere family. Two volumes. Published by Manchester University.

(4) An excellent example of a Horn Book, containing the alphabet in large and small letters, the vowels with combinations, the Invocation and Lord's Prayer on paper, under a horn face, oak back, with handle and brass rim. (17—?)

(The Library had no original example of a Horn Book.)

Other books acquired, of especial interest, are given in the following list, those relating to, or published in Boston, being grouped in division I.

## I.

The Boston Gazette. Ten numbers, 1720-1723.

The Boston Weekly News-Letter. Thirty-three numbers, 1755-1759.

The Boston News-Letter, number for August 12-19, 1706. (The earliest number previously possessed by the Library is dated May, 1713.)

The Belles-Lettres Society. Minutes of the organization, with addresses, poems, etc., of a society which existed in Boston in 1813-15. In manuscript.

The Cash Book of Henry Bromfield. Boston, January 1750-1756.

Journal (Day-book) belonging to John Erving, Esqr., merchant in Boston, 1733-1745. (A carefully written manuscript bound in vellum.)

Crosby, Thomas. The work of a Christian. An important case of practical religion. Boston. 1702.

- (Dawes, Thomas.) The law given at Sinai: A poem. By a young gentleman. Boston. 1777.  
 The New-England Primer improved. For the more easy attaining the true reading of English. Boston. Printed and sold by Nathaniel Coverly in Newbury Street. 1762.

## II.

- Ailesbury, Thomas, Earl of. Memoirs (written by himself). Printed for the Roxburgh Club. 1890. 2 v.  
 Bible. New Testament. Codex Sinaiticus Petropolitanus. The New Testament . . . preserved in the Imperial Library of St. Petersburg. Now reproduced in facsimile from photographs. Oxford. 1911.  
 Bibliophile Society. The Dickens-Kolle Letters, edited by H. V. Smith. Etched portrait by W. N. Bicknell and facsimile, a. l. s. of Dickens. Boston. 1910. (For the Artz Collection.)  
 British Museum. The sculptures of the Parthenon. With an introduction and commentary by A. H. Smith. London. 1910. 2 v. Ninety-five plates.  
 Bruges. Les chefs-d'œuvre d'art ancien à l'Exposition de la Toison d'Or à Bruges en 1907. Bruxelles. 1908.  
 Burke, H. Farnham. Historical account of the coronation of Their Majesties King George Fifth and Queen Mary. (With colored portraits.) London. 1911.  
 Carbonell, P. M. Chroniques de Espaya. Barcelona. 1547. (Title in red and black with a wood-cut border and engravings in the text. For the Ticknor Library.)  
 Cust, L. Eton College portraits. London. 1910.  
 Fouquier, M. De l'art des jardins du XV<sup>e</sup> au XX<sup>e</sup> siècle. Paris. 1911. (For the Codman Collection.)  
 Gould, John. A century of birds from the Himalaya Mountains. Eighty colored plates. London. 1832.  
 Holmes, Oliver Wendell. Poem for the dedication of the fountain at Stratford-on-Avon presented by G. W. Childs. Cambridge. 1887. (For the Artz Collection.)  
 Jones, E. A. The gold and silver of Windsor Castle. Letchworth, Eng. 1911.  
 Lockwood, L. V. The Pendleton Collection of furniture. Rhode Island School of Design. 1904.  
 Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth. Bronze plaque portrait issued by the Grolier Club. Reproduced from a model made by John Flanagan. (1911. For the Artz Collection.)  
 Magni, G. Il barocco a Roma: nell' architettura e nella scultura decorativa. Parte I. Chiese. Torino. 1911.

- Marbeck, John. *A Concordāce, that is to saie, a worke wherein by the ordre of the letters of the A.B.C. ye maie redely finde any worde conteigned in the Whole Bible, etc.* Black-letter. Richardus Grafton. 1550. (The first edition of the first English Concordance of the Bible.)
- Marucchi, O. *I monumenti del Museo Cristiano Pio-Lateranense.* Ninety-six plates. Milano. 1910. Imperial folio.
- Meserve, F. H. *The photographs of Abraham Lincoln.* Privately printed. New York. 1911. No. 39 of an edition of 102 signed copies. (For the 20th Regiment Collection.)
- Morrison, A. *The painters of Japan.* 2 v. London. 1911.
- Ravel, M. *L'heure espagnole. Partition d'orchestre.* Paris. Durand. (For the Allen A. Brown Collection of Music.)
- Sandier, A. *Les cartons de la manufacture de Sèvres.* Paris. 1911. 2 v.
- Stainer, Sir John. *Early Bodleian music . . . ranging from about A.D. 1185 to . . . 1505.* London. 1901. (For the Allen A. Brown Collection of Music.)
- Vinci. *Il codice di Leonardo da Vinci della biblioteca di Lord Leicester in Holkham Hall.* Milano. 1909. (A transcript and facsimile.)
- Verneuil, P. *Japanese textiles, woven and embroidered. A series of 80 coloured plates illustrating . . . 200 choice examples from important museums, etc.* London. 1910.
- Wesley, Samuel. *Te Deum, Jubilate, Sanctus, Kyrie Eleeson, Magnificat et Nunc dimittis . . . with an accompaniment for the organ or pianoforte.* First edition. Inserted are two autograph letters from Wesley and a signed autograph manuscript with his musical setting. 1800. Also a portrait of Wesley at the age of eight. (For the Allen A. Brown Collection of Music.)
- Also, a large collection of photographs of European ports, harbors and docks.

#### THE PATRICK F. SULLIVAN BEQUEST.

About 200 volumes were bought with the Patrick F. Sullivan Bequest, including 28 copies each of volumes 10, 11 and 12 of the *Catholic Encyclopaedia*, L. von Pastor's *Supplementary volumes to Janssen's Geschichte des deutschen Volkes*, *The Life of Father Vaughan*, a new edition of the *Roman Breviary* translated by the Marquis of Bute, *Gueranger's Liturgical Year* in 15 volumes, a series of *Motettes* for the seasons of the *Ecclesiastical Year* in 70 numbers, and *Sa's History of the Catholic Church in India*.

#### GIFTS.

The gifts received during the year number 10,243 volumes, 19,453 serials and 49 newspaper subscriptions. From these the following selection is made:

- Anonymous. (In memory of Charles Stuart Pratt and Ella Farman Pratt.) An autograph letter, signed, of J. G. Whittier, and the manuscript of his poem "The poet and the children"; an autograph letter signed by E. C. Stedman, and the manuscript of his poem "The star bearer."
- Benton, J. H. Fifty-two volumes; 17 photographs of scenes in Hungary and Vienna; one large framed photograph of the Gross Glockner from Franz Josef Höhe, for the Children's Room.
- Brown, A. A. One hundred and ninety-four volumes of music for the Brown Collection of Music.
- Converse, F. S. The full score of his opera "The Sacrifice" in manuscript. (For the Allen A. Brown Collection of Music.)
- Ditson, Oliver, Co. Twenty-five volumes of modern music.
- Dowse, Estate of Miss Martha E. Three hundred and seventy-five volumes, including some first editions of American poets.
- Green, Dr. Samuel A. Six volumes and a collection of old playbills (105) and (Boston) Campaign literature.
- Halverson, Mrs. Anne. Fifty volumes of the works of modern Danish and Norwegian writers.
- Haven, Miss Mary E. One hundred and thirty-five volumes, chiefly Greek and Latin classics.
- Higginson, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Sixty volumes of miscellaneous works.
- Higginson, T. W. A collection of autograph letters of women authors of the later 19th century. (For the Galatea Collection.)
- Higginson, Mrs. T. W. A collection of autograph letters of Emily Dickinson. (For the Galatea Collection.)
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Two hundred and fifty-three volumes, miscellaneous collection.
- Morgan, J. P. The Golden Latin Gospels in the Library of J. P. Morgan . . . Now edited for the first time . . . by H. C. Hoskier. (One of 200 copies.) New York. Privately printed. 1910.
- Morse, F. S. (The Robert Shaw School.) One hundred and eighty-five volumes, histories and books of travel.
- Nichols, Miss Mary P. A large collection of sheet music and bound volumes of the works of Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, Krause, Liszt, Mendelssohn and Meyerbeer; also 33 volumes, chiefly biographies of composers.
- Robins, Miss Julia P. One hundred and nineteen volumes, including a large number of Greek, Latin and German text-books.
- Sampson & Murdock Co. Four hundred and ninety-six volumes, directories of cities and towns in the United States.
- Sears, Mrs. J. M. A collection of one hundred and thirty-four portraits of Milton.

- Webster, Frank G. A subscription for a copy of "The Old Silver of the American Churches," by E. A. Jones, to be issued under the auspices of the Massachusetts Society of Colonial Dames.
- Widener, H. E. A catalogue of some of the more important books, manuscripts and drawings in the Library of H. E. Widener. Philadelphia. Privately printed. 1910. (No. 69 of 102 copies on Whatman paper.)
- Whiting, Miss Lilian. Six volumes and 31 manuscript letters from Phillips Brooks, Julia Ward Howe, O. W. Holmes, Harriet Prescott Spofford, Robert Barrett Browning, Jane Barlow and some others. (For the Kate Field Collection.)
- A photograph of Robert Browning in his Oxford robes, from the painting by R. B. Browning. From a negative owned by Miss Whiting. (For the Browning Collection.)

#### THE CATALOGUE DEPARTMENT.

As in preceding years a tabular statement of the work of this Department follows, derived from the report of Mr. S. A. Chevalier, its Chief:

	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.
	1910-11.		1911-12.	
Catalogued (new).				
Central Library Catalogue . . . . .	20,080	13,355	19,773	14,167
Serials . . . . .	5,430	.....	6,517	.....
Branches . . . . .	18,733	16,309	15,866	14,321
Re-catalogued . . . . .	19,472	12,165	16,568	10,135
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals . . . . .	63,715	41,829	58,724	38,623

Many soiled and worn cards in the public catalogues have been replaced, and a large number of subject headings in the catalogue cases have been revised, sub-divided, and made more useful. Old cards containing inadequate matter are gradually being replaced by others newly printed, carrying more significant descriptions. Three parts of the second volume of the Allen A. Brown Music Catalogue have been published during the year, bringing the work through the title "Panormo," and about one-third of the fourth and last part of that volume is in type. The Catalogue of Books on Architecture is three-quarters in type and will be completed within a short time. Considerable progress has been made in cataloguing the recently-acquired Allen A. Brown



Dramatic Collection. Work is also in progress, and well advanced, on a revised card catalogue of maps, and during the year considerable work, apart from actual cataloguing, has been done in this Department, such as the selection and classification of volumes for deposit at the Boston Medical Library (in furtherance of the plan of transfer of medical books to a deposit station there, begun some time ago); the transference and re-arrangement (involving new numbering and recording) of many books in the general collection, for greater safety and convenience; and the examination of bibliographies, sales catalogues, etc., antecedent to recommendations for purchase.

## SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The following condensed statement relating to the number of volumes finally placed on the library shelves is compiled from the report of Mr. W. G. T. Roffe, in charge of the Shelf Department:

Placed on the Central Library shelves during the year:	
General collection, new books (including continuations) . . . . .	17,310
Special collections, new books . . . . .	2,253
Books reported lost or missing in previous years, but now found, transfers from branches, etc. . . . .	789
	<hr/>
	20,352
Removed from the Central Library shelves during the year:	
Books reported lost or missing, condemned copies not yet replaced, transfers, etc. . . . .	6,237
	<hr/>
Net gain at Central Library . . . . .	14,115
Net gain at branches and reading-room stations . . . . .	5,334
	<hr/>
Net gain, entire library system . . . . .	19,449

The total number of volumes available for public use in the Library at the end of each year since the formation of the Library is shown in the following statement:

1852-53 . . . . .	9,688	1859-60 . . . . .	85,031
1853-54 . . . . .	16,221	1860-61 . . . . .	97,386
1854-55 . . . . .	22,617	1861-62 . . . . .	105,034
1855-56 . . . . .	28,080	1862-63 . . . . .	110,563
1856-57 . . . . .	34,896	1863-64 . . . . .	116,934
1857-58 . . . . .	70,851	1864-65 . . . . .	123,016
1858-59 . . . . .	78,043	1865-66 . . . . .	130,678

1866-67	136,080	1889	520,508
1867-68	144,092	1890	536,027
1868-69	152,796	1891	556,283
1869-70	160,573	1892	576,237
1870-71	179,250	1893	597,152
1871-72	192,958	1894	610,375
1872-73	209,456	1895	628,297
1873-74	260,550	1896-97	663,763
1874-75	276,918	1897-98	698,888
1875-76	297,873	1898-99	716,050
1876-77	312,010	1899-00	746,383
1877-78	345,734	1900-01	781,377
1878-79	360,963	1901-02	812,264
1879-80	377,225	1902-03	835,904
1880-81	390,982	1903-04	848,884
1881-82	404,221	1904-05	871,050
1882-83	422,116	1905-06	878,933
1883-84	438,594	1906-07	903,349
1884-85	453,947	1907-08	922,348
1885	460,993	1908-09	941,024
1886	479,421	1909-10	961,522
1887	492,956	1910-11	987,268
1888	505,872	1911-12	1,006,717
Volumes in entire library system			1,006,717
In the branches and reading-room stations			224,642

### These volumes are located as follows:

Central Library	782,075	Lower Mills (Station A)	758
Brighton	18,560	Roslindale (Station B)	6,240
Charlestown	21,687	Mattapan (Station D)	818
Dorchester	19,864	Neponset (Station E)	757
East Boston	16,326	Mt. Bowdoin (Station F)	3,811
Jamaica Plain	14,765	Allston (Station G)	1,122
Roxbury Branch:		Codman Square (Station J)	4,276
Fellows Athenæum	28,014	Mt. Pleasant (Station N)	1,080
Owned by City	8,564	Broadway Ext. (Station P)	2,968
Total, Roxbury Branch	36,578	Warren Street (Station R)	925
South Boston	17,536	Roxbury Crossing (Station S)	1,070
South End	16,103	Boylston Station (Station T)	1,119
Upham's Corner	7,171	North Bennet St. (Station W)	1,477
West End	16,598	Orient Heights (Station Z)	1,623
West Roxbury	8,285	City Point (Station 23)	2,140
Parker Hill (Station 24)			985

### LOST AND MISSING BOOKS.

The loss of books, principally from the open shelves, by reason of theft or by the carrying away of volumes without the formality of having them charged on a library card, still remains a vexing incident of library administration with us, as with every library

wherein the privilege of open access to the books is granted. The number lost does not greatly increase, being kept within limits more or less definite, by the rules relating to the use of the open shelf privileges now in force at the branches. It is true that the books lost are largely of the cheaper kind, especially those for young readers, but the moral delinquency involved in their loss is more serious than the unwarranted expense thus thrown upon the Library. It is deplorable that the free access to the shelves, granted in the interest of all, a privilege prized and properly used by the majority, should be abused by a few, with complete disregard of the rights of those who are deprived of the use of the books improperly carried away. One phase of the evil has become particularly vexatious. It has long been our practice to display temporarily upon open shelves near the Centre Desk in Bates Hall all recent accessions, as the books are made available for public use from week to week. The loss of books by theft from these shelves, affecting as it does new books, just published and in active demand, has become so great that, in the public interest, a new arrangement with some limitation upon freedom of access is required. It is proposed to place such books upon guarded shelving in the delivery room, immediately under the control of an attendant, to permit any one to examine them upon request, but to require the use of a call slip before they can be removed to the reading tables.

Notwithstanding the loss of books, which we deplore, it is apparently true that in proportion to the number of books circulated the number lost annually is no greater than during the first decade of the Library's history. Indeed, the proportion appears to have been reduced. During the ten years following the opening of the Library for public use, in 1854, the proportion of books lost to every 1,000 books lent for home use was approximately 1.69. During the ten years ending January 31, 1912, the proportion is 1.09. The books lost in recent years are mainly lost from open shelves, and not from books issued for home use, and the number issued for home use has perhaps little direct relation to the number lost during either period. But the circulation for home use is the only recorded index to the amount of business

done, and the comparison at least shows that with the large increase in the circulation of books in the later as compared with the earlier period, without taking into account the almost unrestricted access to the books now granted as against the closed shelves of earlier days, the relative number of books lost is even less than formerly. The recorded figures in the earlier years are possibly not so exact as those based upon the inventories now annually taken, but upon the record the comparison is valid, and such errors as may exist in the early reports would hardly affect the general conclusion.

It does not follow that the present loss of books should be disregarded, or that diligent effort should not be made to diminish it. It is plain, however, that the extension of privilege, the undoubted advantage to the public of handling the books directly, without burdensome formalities, has not resulted in a larger percentage of loss than under the old restricted conditions; and it is also clear that of the large number of persons who now use the books freely, comparatively few disregard the principles of honesty and respect for the rights of others, which are essential to the continuation of the wider privileges now enjoyed.

#### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

The use of this Department at the Central Library, by young readers at hours when the public schools are not in session frequently exceeds the provision made for them at the reading tables. Especially on Sundays the main room is often crowded. The inner room, set apart for reference work by teachers and advanced pupils, is also largely used. Particular phases of the work of the Department are referred to in the following extracts from the report of Miss Alice M. Jordan, Custodian:

Readers in the room have evidenced a satisfactory appreciation of the Library as a place wherein to read. An Australian boy returning home spoke of his days in the Children's Room as the pleasantest part of a four months' visit in Boston. And this is but a single illustration of the attitude of many readers on whom we believe the room has had an influence.

In coöperation with the schools, assistance has been given many readers ranging from primary school to normal school age. The usual instruction on books as tools and on the card catalogue was given to ten classes. With so few schools planning to aid the outgoing pupil in the intelligent appre-

ciation of the Library one is led to ask how far the Library can go alone in forcing upon the schools the close relationship desired. During the ten years that the Library has given these lessons the gain in number of visiting schools has been almost negligible. Yet those teachers who methodically make the visits are unanimous in declaring their value. If the schools aim to build up a system of education and development that is life long rather than a course which lasts through youth only, they cannot afford to neglect this movement of bringing school and library together. One effective way of accomplishing this would be for the Normal School itself to incorporate in its curriculum a series of lessons on library methods and children's reading. Until this is done the teachers are likely to underrate its importance.

On the other hand, there has been progress this year on the part of teachers in the recognition of what the Library may do for their own professional advancement. The recent activity of the Education Conference of "Boston-1915" has brought to the attention of many teachers the library facilities for study, and has stimulated the interest of others who had a partial knowledge of its resources. As a result of circulars sent by the School Committee to the schools, groups of teachers have prepared and sent us lists of books which seem to them of sufficient value to be reserved permanently for reference use. A considerable proportion of the titles suggested on the general subject of education and psychology were already on the shelves of the School Reference Room; others have been added as space allowed. Current educational periodicals have also been transferred from the Periodical Room so that there are now eighteen of the best pedagogical journals on file in this room.

In addition to the lessons given to classes from the elementary schools the Custodian of the Children's Department has addressed the Boston Normal School, the Wheelock Training School, has lectured at Simmons College and at the Training School for Children's Librarians, Pittsburg, and has spoken at several educational clubs on the general subject of children's reading. The demands upon the Department for lists of books for children in English and foreign languages and for special information on the part of authors, editors and educators as well as for assistance in book selection seem steadily to increase. One long list was prepared for the Federated Boys' Clubs, and was printed by them in the magazine, "Work with Boys." Another list published by the National Congress of Mothers was revised by us.

#### BATES HALL.

Mr. Oscar A. Bierstadt, the Chief of the Reference Department, located in Bates Hall, the principal reading room at the Central Library, reports in part as follows:

There has been no decrease in the number of students frequenting Bates Hall, although no statistics can be kept and no figures show the total of readers consulting books at its tables. Nowhere else in the entire library

system are so many visitors congregated as here. Visiting strangers quickly learn to avail themselves of the advantages freely offered here to all, and often express their gratitude. Noteworthy is the high character of the books used. Novels are comparatively seldom called for unless for purposes of reference. The greatest demand is for standard, educational, and scholarly works, and they are diligently studied.

The amount of reference work done by the Bates Hall staff increases constantly. Readers whose questions are once satisfactorily answered are very likely to submit other requests for information. The subjects of inquiry take such a wide range that only the faculty of a large university could be competent to deal with all of them, but the reference librarian, from long experience, is usually able to put the right book into the reader's hands. Much time is also saved to visitors by the expert assistance given in the use of the immense card catalogue, so confusing at first in its complexity.

In order to facilitate the rapid delivery of books to readers at the tables in the Hall, arrangements have been made to determine immediately whether or not a book requested from the stacks can be supplied. Previously, such requests were first sent to the Issue Department, where a record is kept of all books lent, and there examination was made to discover whether the book asked for was in its place upon the shelves or whether it had been already lent. This examination required several minutes, and to overcome this delay, and enable the examination to be made in the Hall itself, a duplicate record tray has been installed at the Centre Desk. All slips requesting books, filed by readers in the Hall, now undergo examination at this desk, and if the book is available, it is at once sent for. If, on the other hand, the book cannot be supplied the slip is returned to the applicant with a statement in explanation stamped upon it. The time thus saved, as compared with that formerly required, facilitates the rapid delivery of the book to the reader, or, if it cannot be delivered, informs the applicant without undue delay. The new arrangement even permits a reader to discover whether a desired stack book is "in" or "out" by direct inquiry at the Centre Desk, without the necessity of filing a slip.

Mr. Pierce E. Buckley, in charge of the Centre Desk, reports that the maximum attendance of readers in Bates Hall (319) was recorded on the afternoon of February 19, 1911, at five o'clock.

## THE SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The following details relating to the operation at the Central Library of the special libraries, so-called, including the Fine Arts Department, the Allen A. Brown Music Room, and the Barton-Ticknor Room, are based upon the report of Mr. Frank A. Chase, Custodian in charge:

## THE FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT.

*Photographs and Lantern Slides.*

The circulating collection of pictures, available for school and club use, now numbers 10,434, of which 1,453 have been added during the year. Nearly all the accessions have been photographs. The circulation of pictures during the year has increased as shown by the following table:

*Portfolios of Pictures Issued by Years.*

BORROWERS.	1911.	1910.	1909.	1908.	1907.	1906.
Public schools . . . .	1,951	1,497	860	832	646	493
Private schools . . . .	18	9	26	21	32	50
Clubs . . . . .	27	31	35	49	68	88
Classes . . . . .	46	35	22	24	12	12
Miscellaneous . . . .	116	117	64	26	15	32
Totals . . . . .	2,158	1,689	1,007	952	773	675

Allowing 15 pictures to each portfolio, a fair average, the total approximate circulation of individual pictures, based upon the foregoing table, amounts to 32,370, or three times the number contained in the entire circulating collection.

The collection of lantern slides is gradually enlarging by the addition of slides acquired for use in our own lecture courses. The number added during the year was 282. The entire number is now 3,402. From this collection 1,174 slides have been lent during the year (to 45 different borrowers), as compared with 606 lent during the preceding year.

The circulation during the year of books from the Fine Arts Collection (included in the statement of total circulation, pages 38-39), was 19,540, as compared with 18,963 for the preceding year.

## BARTON-TICKNOR ROOM.

Barton-Ticknor books issued . . . . .	18,033
Maps issued . . . . .	790
Books from other departments, issued for readers applying in this room . . . . .	7,690

## ALLEN A. BROWN MUSIC ROOM.

The number of volumes added during the year to the Collection in this room is 318. Of these 194 were given by Mr. Brown. Among the important accessions are orchestral scores of the following: Converse's *Sacrifice* (autograph manuscript); Offenbach's *Contes d'Hoffmann*; Humperdinck's *Königskinder*; Ravel's *L'heure espagnole*; Rakhmaninov's *Der geizige Ritter*; and Mahler's *Eighth symphony*. Among early American music added may be noted, "Sonnet for the 14th of October, 1793, when were entombed the remains of John Hancock," and an early edition of "Adams and Liberty." This room is constantly used by students of music, and this use increases. The duplicate scores and librettos for circulation are in continual demand.

## MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

*Visits of Classes.*

As in preceding years a large number of study clubs and classes have held meetings in the West Gallery of the Fine Arts Department. The total number of these meetings is 194, with a total attendance of 1,896 students. Tables have also been reserved there for students from the Massachusetts Normal Art School, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Emerson College of Oratory. The instructors in English in the Harvard-Lowell University Extension Courses meet their pupils in the West Gallery for individual conferences, and in the provision of library material for use in these courses and in connection with the use of the Department by the schools and classes mentioned, the Library fills an indispensable part in the work of education in Boston.

*Use of the Photograph Room.*

It is perhaps not generally known that a photograph room,







HYDE PARK BRANCH LIBRARY.

equipped for the making of photographic plates, from library material, is available in connection with the Fine Arts Department. The use of this room is already considerable, but it is desirable to promote it further, whenever copies of illustrations are to be made or other photographic work is to be done, from books which cannot be withdrawn from the Library, or which are in such demand that if lent inconvenience to the public would be caused.

#### LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS.

The following lists enumerate the free public lectures given in the Lecture Hall, and the exhibitions given in the Fine Arts Exhibition Room at the Central Library, during the year.

Besides the regular Thursday evening course of free lectures, a free course to be given Sunday afternoons was begun December 10, 1911, to close March 31, 1912.

#### *Lectures.*

1911. January 19. The Land of the Shamrock. By Minna Eliot Tenney. (Repeated on January 23.)  
 January 26. The Architecture of Persia. By Garrick M. Borden.  
 February 2. Joan of Arc. By Rev. Thomas I. Gasson.  
 February 4. Campaigning in Two English Elections. By George L. Fox.  
 February 6. Ruined Cities of Asia Minor. By D. M. Robinson. (Under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America.)  
 February 9. Historic Cathedrals of England (Canterbury, Durham and Westminster). By George N. Cross.  
 February 13. The Haunts of Nature. By Edward F. Bigelow. (Under the auspices of the Field and Forest Club.)  
 February 14. Home Life in Oberammergau, and the Passion Play of 1910. By Minna Eliot Tenney.  
 February 16. Beautiful New Brunswick and Historic Quebec. By Minna Eliot Tenney.  
 February 21. The Passion Play of Oberammergau. By Rev. Thomas I. Gasson.  
 February 23. The Palace of Urbino; Italian Home Life in the Fifteenth Century. By Annie Beecher Scoville.  
 March 2. The English Homes of Shakespeare's Day. By Annie Beecher Scoville.  
 March 9. Housing Problems: Houses at Moderate Rents. By J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr.

- March 13. The Work of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. By Dr. Francis H. Rowley. (Under the auspices of the Field and Forest Club.)
- March 16. Along White Mountain Trails and Paths. By John Ritchie, Jr.
- March 21. Predynastic Egypt. By George A. Reisner. (Under the auspices of the Museum of Fine Arts.)
- March 23. Switzerland and the Rhine. By Henry Warren Poor.
- March 28. The Early Dynastic Period in Egypt. By George A. Reisner. (Under the auspices of the Museum of Fine Arts.)
- March 30. Recent Masterpieces of Sculpture. By Edmund von Mach.
- March 31. The Age of the Pyramids. By George A. Reisner. (Under the auspices of the Museum of Fine Arts.)
- April 10. Useful Birds of Farm, Field and Forest, and how we can protect them. By Edward H. Forbush. (Under the auspices of the Field and Forest Club.)
- May 8. Yucatan, the Egypt of the Western Hemisphere. By Flora Kendall Edmand. (Under the auspices of the Field and Forest Club.)
- May 17. The Greek Theatre and Greek Drama.\* By W. S. Harris. (Under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America.)
- October 19. Commercial and Industrial Development of Boston. By Henry C. Long.
- October 26. Moorish Art in Spain. By Garrick M. Borden.
- November 2. The Land of the Pyramids. By Francis Kingsley Ball.
- November 9. Italian Villas and Their Gardens. By Samuel E. Gideon.
- November 16. An Architect's Impressions of the Boston Chamber of Commerce Trip to Europe. By Frank A. Bourne.
- November 23. American Excavations at Ancient Cyrene. By Arthur Fairbanks. (Under the auspices of the Museum of Fine Arts.)
- December 4. Excavations of the Archaeological Institute at Cyrene. By J. C. Hoppin. (Under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America.)
- December 7. As Men Live in the Great Sahara. By Anna Speed Brackett.
- December 10. The Music of the Bible.\* By Louis C. Elson.
- December 14. The Passion Play of Oberammergau. By Rev. Arthur T. Connolly.
- December 17. Folk Tales of Many Lands.\* By Mary W. Cronan.
- December 28. Florence. By H. H. Powers.
- December 31. The Poetry of the People, with Illustrative Selections:  
I. The Ballad, old and new.\* By Horace G. Wadlin.
1912. January 4. The Collection and Distribution of News. By William U. Swan.

\* All lectures *not* marked with a star were illustrated.

- January 7. The Evolution of the New England Home.\* By Frank Smith.  
 January 11. Isabella d'Este and the Courts of Mantua and Ferrara.  
 By Martha A. S. Shannon.  
 January 14. Benjamin Franklin, the Craftsman.\* By Lindsay Swift.

*Exhibitions, Central Library.\**

1911. January 16. Irish Scenery.  
 January 23. Modern Persian Architecture.  
 January 30. Joan of Arc and Her Story.  
 February 1. (Street Floor.) Abraham Lincoln.  
 February 6. English Cathedrals.  
 February 13. Scenery of Canada.  
 February 20. Urbino.  
 February 27. England in Shakespeare's Time.  
 March 6. Reproductions of Bookbindings.  
 March 13. Switzerland, Ireland and the White Mountains.  
 March 13. (Street Floor.) Mexico.  
 March 27. Modern Sculpture.  
 April 1. Exhibition of Bibles in commemoration of the Tercentenary of the King James Version of the English Bible.  
 April 8. Modern American Architecture. (Pictures loaned by Brookline Education Society.)  
 April 15. (Street Floor.) Bygone Boston.  
 May 8. Photographs of Old Boston.  
 May 25. Photographs of Portraits by F. P. Vinton.  
 June 15. Coronation of George V. — Pictures, Books and Manuscripts relating to Harriet Beecher Stowe, born June 14, 1811.  
 July 3. Old New England Houses.  
 July 8. Pictures and Books relating to William M. Thackeray, born July 18, 1811.  
 July 29. Posters.  
 August 1. Pictures and Books relating to Edwin A. Abbey and his work.  
 August 14. Japanese War cartoons and photographs.  
 August 21. Photographs. Harvard Aviation Meet, 1910.  
 September 11. Reproductions of paintings in the Mond and Wallace Collections, London.  
 October 9. Water Fronts of the World.  
 October 16. (Street Floor.) Views and Maps of Boston Harbor.  
 October 23. Moorish Architecture of Spain.  
 October 30. Egypt.  
 November 6. Italian Villas and Gardens.

- November 13. Places visited by the Boston Chamber of Commerce Party in Europe.  
 November 20. Northern Africa.  
 November 27. Pictures, books and manuscripts relating to Wendell Phillips, born Nov. 29, 1811.  
 December 4. Northern Africa.  
 December 11. Madonnas; also (on the Street Floor) Enlargements of Tyrolese mountain views.  
 December 26. Florence.  
 1912. January 8. Isabella d'Este, Mantua and Ferrara.  
 January 15. French painting of the Nineteenth Century.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DOCUMENTS AND STATISTICS.

This Department has continued in charge of Mr. H. L. Wheeler, first assistant under Mr. Whitney, the former Chief. The Statistical Collection, so-called, includes not merely statistical reports, but state, municipal, and special official reports, the United States documents, works on economics, civics, industrial questions, and such books as form a reference library on municipal problems, social economics, etc. This collection now numbers 17,424 volumes on its shelf-list, and directly available for use in the Department are many others, approximately 20,000 in all, including the Sessional papers of the House of Commons, the Congressional Annals, Globe and Record, etc.

The demand for such information as the collection contains continually increases, the use of the Department grows, and reservations of tables are now regularly made in it for students and others.

Owing to the remote location of the so-called Manuscript Room, which has heretofore contained the general manuscript collection belonging to the library, arrangements have been made for transferring the collection to cases placed in the lobby immediately connected with the Librarian's Office, where the manuscripts will be made available for public use.

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\*Except as otherwise mentioned, all these exhibitions were held in the Fine Arts Exhibition Room on the Special Libraries Floor.

## BRANCHES AND STATIONS.

## EXPENSE OF OPERATION.

The total expense of operation of the branch system, chargeable against the city appropriation, including the reading rooms or minor branches, 16 in number, as well as the 11 principal branches was \$110,663.71 for the year.

The circulation through the branches is shown in the tables on pages 38-39.

The branch system has been enlarged by the addition of the Hyde Park Public Library, through the annexation to Boston of the town of Hyde Park, but as this did not take effect until January 1, 1912, it does not materially affect the operations of the year covered by this report.

The change of ownership of the property occupied in part by us for reading-room purposes at 207 North Street, has led to a concentration of our agencies in Ward 6 at the Industrial School Reading Room on North Bennet Street. The acquisition by the City of the church building of St. John Baptist, on North Bennet Street, and its authorized remodeling for library purposes, now in progress, will enable us to carry on our work hereafter in that district, in our own building, properly equipped for such public service as the Library offers.

The new building at Jamaica Plain, and others contemplated, will materially strengthen the branch system, and enable us to operate it to the point of highest efficiency. The following excerpts are made from the annual report of Mr. Langdon L. Ward, Supervisor of Branches:

From the Central Library and the branches there have been sent on deposit to the schools 25,713 volumes as against 23,302 volumes in the preceding year. We have supplied 664 teachers, an increase of 14 over the year before. Of these 509 were supplied from the branches and large reading rooms and 155 from Central.

The work of supplying the schools with books shows thus a healthy gain. The gain year by year can never be very large while the applications are purely voluntary, and while we continue to have the same number of assistants and approximately the same number of books. The most notable

advance of the year is in the number of pictures sent, which is nearly twice as large as in the preceding year.

The chief work of this Department with schools is done at the branches and reading rooms, which continue to receive and care for the crowds of children who come for assistance as soon as school closes. Their wants and those of the teachers are kept in mind when the books are chosen and in the daily activities of the branches. It would seem as if the connection between most of the schools and the branches to which they are assigned was as close as present conditions permit.

The attendance at the branches and reading rooms has been good in general throughout the year. Many of those who come never take home books, but read them at the branch, or read only the newspapers and magazines. I quote a passage from the report of the custodian of a large branch: "This community, made up as it is of various nationalities, finds in the branch a common ground to which it gravitates, not alone to borrow books for home use, but to read there the newspapers and current periodicals. The main room at the branch is largely a reading room, and is used to a considerable extent by men, only a small proportion of whom take books away from the building. On one of the busy days this season, at four o'clock in the afternoon, there were in this room 79 men and 17 women reading at the tables. If it were possible to keep statistics of this use of the branch they would be very large. We have tried to estimate in a general way the hall use of the books at this branch, by occasionally counting those left on the tables by the readers, and on two days this year there were gathered 426 and 398. This, however, does not give any fair idea of the number of books used in this way, as there were perhaps as many more consulted and put back on the shelves by the borrowers."

Many volumes of vocational books have been placed in the branches this year. A considerable number of books by Jewish authors have been added. Some books have been bought with special reference to the story-telling. Books that will assist foreigners in learning English have been bought. We need, however, a moderate supply of books in foreign languages for adult foreigners.

As to the circulation of pictures, Mr. Ward remarks:

The number of pictures circulated this year from the branch collections, chiefly among schools and for use at those reading-room stations which have no collections of their own, is 40,149 as against 21,719 in 1910: that is, the use of these pictures has nearly doubled in one year. Early in the year a new edition of the printed lists of these pictures was issued and distributed among teachers, and these lists have stimulated the circulation. The custodians have been steadily adding to their collections pictures for which they know there will be a demand, and this has been appreciated by the teachers.

The nature and use of the branch collections of pictures were thoroughly described in the last annual report of this Department.



I quote a passage from the report of the custodian of one of the smaller reading rooms: "1736 plates have been issued this past year to 26 teachers. This means that every one of the teachers in the district has at some time during the year been supplied with pictures. The method by which these results have been accomplished has been that of sending to the masters at regular intervals blanks on which the teachers could sign their names and give the subjects for which they would like pictures sent them. The masters send these lists to the Library, and the requests are filled from the collections of the branches and reading rooms or from Central. This method has been a very satisfactory one both to the teachers and custodian. Both masters and many of the teachers in the district have expressed many times their appreciation of the Library, and have said how helpful the pictures and books have been in their work."

The following relates to the personal influence exerted through the Library at different branches or reading-room stations:

In the branches and reading rooms, which are really small local and district libraries, it is often possible to become well acquainted with individuals and their peculiar wants and hence to become increasingly successful in helping them to make efficient use of the Library. This is the aim of the branch employees, but success varies with the personality of the employee and the equipment of the branch. The following passages from reports of custodians illustrate various phases of this personal work with the public, which is as important as any function of the Department:

"The characteristic feature of the year's work seems to be a gain in sympathy and understanding between the reading room and the district. We have acquired a wider knowledge of our large, closely packed section, which presents all the problems of city and country, includes every degree of wealth and poverty and of perfection and degradation.

Our work continues to be with individuals, which is the secret of giving satisfaction with service. We cannot merely direct our visitors to the open shelves, while our room is so crowded and our collection of books so small; they would glance around and remark that they had read 'everything.' We need intuition, tact, and persuasion in order to convince people that we can supply their needs. But we soon acquire a person's approximate 'book measure,' and any information which will guide in selecting and recommending books is shared by all members of the force."

"The books other than fiction show the largest increase in circulation, and the circulation of books other than fiction among adult readers has nearly doubled. We have always circulated a good many histories and geographies to those who are studying in evening classes or by themselves, but it has seemed lately as if this demand were increasing. At the registration desk we make it a point of helping a new card-holder draw his first book, and so usually find out what he is specially interested in. Over and over the request is for some technical book — banking, automobiles, or

engineering. The use of the Central Library through the branch shows the same tendency. It is a satisfaction to look over the table where the books are laid out and feel that the Library is helping so many people along some line of serious endeavor."

#### STORY TELLING TO CHILDREN.

For some time Mrs. Mary W. Cronan has conducted a "story hour" for children, in the small lecture room at the South End Branch, without expense to the Library. Since the opening of the new building at Jamaica Plain, she has rendered similar service in the lecture hall there, for compensation provided by the subscriptions of residents of Jamaica Plain who were interested in promoting such work. A small appropriation has been made by the Library to continue her services during the ten months beginning with November, 1911.

Although sometimes introduced for special reasons or to mark certain anniversaries, usually at the Central Library, story telling for children has never been a part of the regular work of this Library, nor does the limited engagement and small sum paid to Mrs. Cronan necessarily imply its continuance. If kept within definite limits, and so conducted as to afford not merely amusement, but to promote the use of good books, it is now recognized as a legitimate function of library work with children. Mrs. Cronan's methods are especially adapted to this result, and she has been unusually successful in attracting the interest of her audiences, and in developing the educational value of such work. It is proposed to introduce her, during the term of her engagement, at other branches, where it is possible to accommodate audiences.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF PATENTS.

By the addition of 366 volumes during the year the total number of volumes in the Patent Collection has been brought to 11,691. The use of this room increases, as will be seen from the fact that 11,832 persons used the collection, consulting 81,397 volumes, as compared with 9,729 persons and 67,528 volumes reported for the year 1910-11. The figures do not include a considerable unrecorded use of books from the open shelves.

## THE PERIODICAL ROOM, CENTRAL LIBRARY.

The following table shows the number of readers in the Periodical Room, Central Library, at certain hours as totalized in each of two successive years:

HOURS.	10	12	2	4	6	8	10
	A.M.	M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
1911-12 . . . . .	9,801	13,942	20,643	26,320	19,611	23,142	8,146
1910-11 . . . . .	9,796	13,890	20,169	26,085	19,710	23,243	8,042

The number of bound volumes from the files consulted in this room during the year, in the day time (week days only), was 32,460 as compared with 31,752, the number reported in the preceding year. The number consulted in the evening or on Sunday was 11,120, as compared with 10,644 reported in the preceding year. Unbound back numbers of periodicals, in all 27,841, were issued to applicants during the day time on week days and 17,402 in the evening or on Sundays; the corresponding figures for the preceding year being 26,782 and 16,643. Several magazines devoted to educational subjects heretofore displayed in this room have been transferred to the Teachers' Reference Room on the main floor of the Library and a few medical periodicals have been transferred to the deposit station established at the Boston Medical Library in the Fenway.

## THE NEWSPAPER ROOM, CENTRAL LIBRARY.

At present, 340 newspapers are filed for reading in this room, currently as received. Of these, 233 are published in the United States and the others in foreign countries. The daily newspapers number 257 and the weeklies 83. The seating capacity of the room, always taxed to the utmost, has been increased by the removal of the large magazine racks formerly located in the room, for which wall racks have been substituted. This change permits the placing of three additional tables in the room, and about 30 chairs.

Mr. Pierce E. Buckley, in charge of the Department, reports that the maximum attendance at any one time during the year was 275, on February 5, 1911, at five o'clock P.M. From the

files of old papers 23,052 bound volumes were consulted during the year by 10,988 persons. These figures compare with 20,667 and 9,111, respectively, for the year 1910-11.

Some very rare eighteenth century newspapers have been added to the files during the year; among others a copy of the Boston News Letter for August 16, 1706. This is the earliest issue of that paper which we possess. Some of the copies received of the Boston Gazette, 1729-1764, are especially valuable and rare, several being the only known copies extant. A copy of the New England Courant for February 26, 1722, among the acquisitions of the year, is the only number we have of this rare newspaper; and another rarity is a copy of the Weekly Rehearsal for August 4, 1735, the next to the last number of this paper which was published before it was succeeded by the Boston Evening Post.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

Under the editorial supervision of Mr. Lindsay Swift the following publications have been issued:

1. Quarterly Bulletin (four issues), aggregate pages 376; edition, first three numbers, 3,000 copies; last number, 2,000 copies.
2. Weekly Book List, each week, (52 numbers), aggregate pages, 360; edition, 2,500 copies.

The Library has also published a useful and popular list of books on Domestic Science. The proof of this list was examined by Dr. W. T. Sedgwick and the late Mrs. Ellen H. Richards of the Institute of Technology, and by Miss Sarah L. Arnold, Dean of Simmons College, who gave the work their approval as a whole, and to whom we are indebted for helpful suggestions and criticism. The current issues of the Allen A. Brown Catalogue, and the revision of the Catalogue of the Adams Library have received editorial supervision during the year. A list of books on the operas announced for production at the Boston Opera House during the season of 1911-12 was issued by the Library in October. This was prepared by Miss Barbara Duncan, in charge of the Allen A. Brown Music Room, and not under the supervision of the library editor.

## THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

The following table, compiled from the report of Mr. Francis Watts Lee, Chief, exhibits the range of work in the Printing Department in two successive years:

	1910-11.	1911-12.
Requisitions on hand at opening of year . . . . .	17	9
Requisitions received during year . . . . .	202	142
Requisitions on hand at end of year . . . . .	9	11
Requisitions filled during year . . . . .	193	140
Card Catalogue (Central):		
Titles (Printing Dept. count) . . . . .	16,812	13,434
Cards finished (excluding extras) . . . . .	170,900	164,691
Titles in type, but not printed . . . . .	168	360
Card Catalogue (Branches):		
Titles (Printing Dept. count) . . . . .	464	304
Cards (approximately) . . . . .	34,800	22,800
Pamphlets not elsewhere enumerated . . . . .	28,425	21,150
Call slips . . . . .	1,777,795	1,525,340
Stationery and blank forms . . . . .	722,530	652,234
Signs . . . . .	840	651
Blank books . . . . .	55	182

## THE BINDERY.

Mr. James W. Kenney, Chief of the Bindery, in his annual report presents figures upon which the following comparative view of the work of the Department is based:

	1910-11.	1911-12.
Number of volumes bound, various styles . . . . .	37,154	42,398
Volumes repaired . . . . .	2,200	2,494
Volumes guarded . . . . .	1,584	1,945
Maps mounted . . . . .	978	1,021
Photographs and engravings mounted . . . . .	5,521	4,258
Magazines stitched . . . . .	233	206
Library publications, folded, stitched and trimmed . . . . .	160,106	170,819

The figures reported above show a substantial increase in the output of the Bindery. The gain in the total number of volumes bound during the past year is 5,244, as compared with the preceding year, and 8,254 as compared with the work of the year 1909-10. The general miscellaneous work also has increased. Mr. Kenney reports that notwithstanding the increase in wages under the union scale, the average cost per volume bound in what is termed "Bates Hall" style (full canvas or half morocco), has been reduced to \$1.01 as compared with \$1.15 in 1910-11 and \$1.35 in 1909-10.

## DOCUMENTS AND SUPPLIES.

Mr. George V. Mooney, in charge of the Stock Room, reports the following as to the distribution of library publications during the year:

Sent to departments for free distribution . . . . .	117,841
Sent to departments for sale . . . . .	968
Free direct distribution . . . . .	32,683
Distributed for library use . . . . .	95
Total . . . . .	<u>151,587</u>

## REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

The report of Mr. John J. Keenan, Chief of the Registration Department, supplies the basis for the following statistical statement as to card holders:

Cards held by men and boys . . . . .	39,116
Cards held by women and girls . . . . .	50,046
Cards held by persons over 16 years of age . . . . .	49,545
Cards held by persons under 16 years of age . . . . .	39,617
Teachers' cards . . . . .	4,634
Pupils' cards (public and parochial schools) . . . . .	30,012
Students' cards (higher institutions of learning) . . . . .	24,080

On January 16, 1911, there were 86,913 borrowers' cards in force, entitling their holders to borrow books from the Library for use outside the buildings. During the year, 41,719 new cards were issued, and 39,470 lapsed and have not at present been renewed. The net gain for the year is, therefore, 2,249.

## SUNDAY AND EVENING SERVICE AT THE CENTRAL LIBRARY.

The average number of books lent upon Sundays and holidays from the Central Library, for use outside the library building, was 720. The largest number lent on any single Sunday (or holiday) was 1,259. The largest number of readers present in the Bates Hall Reading Room on any single Sunday was 319, on February 19, 1911, at five o'clock P.M.

## EXAMINATION.

An examination for the library service, Grade E, was given September 16, 1911; 105 applicants appearing, of whom 65 passed.

CHIEFS OF DEPARTMENTS AND CUSTODIANS OF BRANCHES  
AND READING-ROOM STATIONS.

As at present organized, the various departments of the Library and the Branches and Reading-room Stations are in charge of the following persons:

Samuel A. Chevalier, Chief of Catalogue Department.  
 William G. T. Roffe, In charge of the Shelf Department.  
 Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief of Ordering Department.  
 Oscar A. Bierstadt, Custodian of Bates Hall Reference Department.  
 Pierce E. Buckley, Custodian of Bates Hall Centre Desk, Patent and  
 Newspaper Departments.  
 Frank H. Chase, Custodian of the Special Libraries.  
 Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief of Issue Department.  
 Langdon L. Ward, Supervisor of Branches and Stations.  
 Alice M. Jordan, Custodian of the Children's Department.  
 John J. Keenan, Chief of the Registration Department.  
 Horace L. Wheeler, First Assistant, in charge of Statistical Department.  
 Francis Watts Lee, Chief of Printing Department.  
 James W. Kenney, Chief of Bindery Department.  
 Henry Niederauer, Chief of Engineer and Janitor Department.  
 Katherine S. Rogan, Custodian of Brighton Branch.  
 Elizabeth F. Cartée, Custodian of Charlestown Branch.  
 Elizabeth T. Reed, Custodian of Dorchester Branch.  
 Ellen O. Walkley, Custodian of East Boston Branch.  
 Elizabeth Ainsworth, Custodian of Hyde Park Branch.  
 Mary P. Swain, Custodian of Jamaica Plain Branch.  
 Helen M. Bell, Custodian of Roxbury Branch.  
 Mary J. Minton, Custodian of South Boston Branch.  
 Margaret A. Sheridan, Custodian of South End Branch.  
 Mary Loretta Brick, Custodian of Upham's Corner Branch.  
 Alice M. Robinson, Custodian of West End Branch.  
 Carrie L. Morse, Custodian of West Roxbury Branch.  
 Mary A. Hill, Custodian of Station A, Lower Mills Reading Room.  
 Grace L. Murray, Custodian of Station B, Roslindale Reading Room.  
 Emma D. Capewell, Custodian of Station D, Mattapan Reading Room.

Mary M. Sullivan, Custodian of Station E, Neponset Reading Room.  
 Isabel F. Wetherald, Custodian of Station F, Mt. Bowdoin Reading Room.  
 Katherine F. Muldoon, Custodian of Station G, Allston Reading Room.  
 Gertrude M. Harkins, Custodian of Station J, Codman Square Reading Room.  
 Margaret H. Reid, Custodian of Station N, Mt. Pleasant Reading Room.  
 Cora L. Stewart, Custodian of Station P, Broadway Extension Reading Room.  
 Mary L. Kelly, Custodian of Station R, Warren Street Reading Room.  
 Laura N. Cross, Custodian of Station S, Roxbury Crossing Reading Room.  
 Elizabeth P. Ross, Custodian of Station T, Boylston Station Reading Room.  
 Florence Bethune, Custodian of Station Z, Orient Heights Reading Room.  
 Josephine E. Kenney, Custodian of Station 23, City Point Reading Room.  
 Mary F. Kelley, Custodian of Station 24, Parker Hill Reading Room.

I wish to acknowledge the continued coöperation of the foregoing, to thank the employees generally, who in their several places have faithfully performed the routine work of the Library, and to record again my appreciation of the loyal and efficient services of Mr. Otto Fleischner, Assistant Librarian.

Respectfully submitted,

HORACE G. WADLIN,

*Librarian.*



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