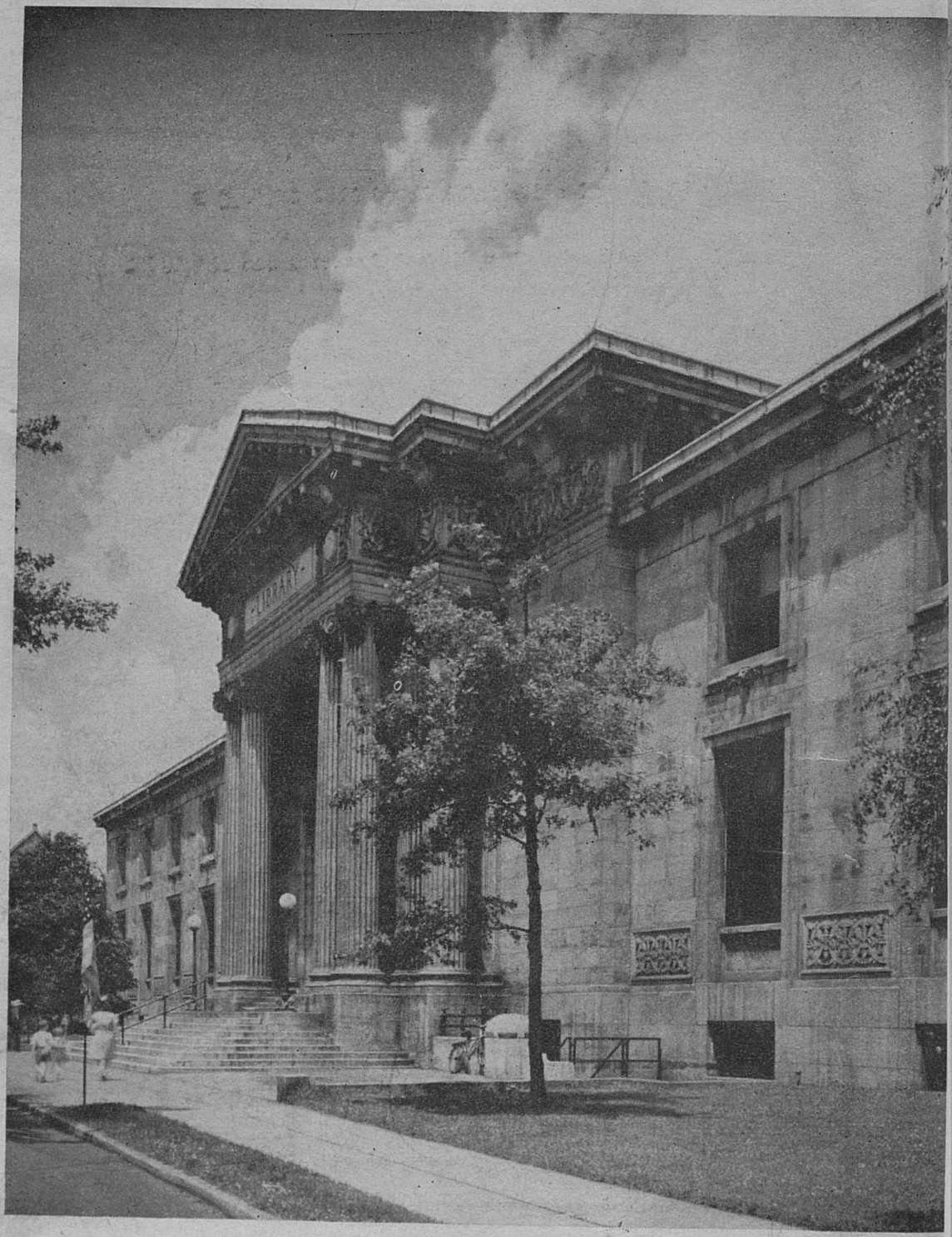
LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY of KENTUCKY

LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY of KENTUCKY

LIBRARIES AND LOTTERIES

A History of the Louisville Free Public Library



MAIN BUILDING

LIBRARIES AND LOTTERIES

A HISTORY OF THE
LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Compiled by Workers in the Service Division
of the Work Projects Administration
in the State of Kentucky

AMERICAN GUIDE SERIES

ILLUSTRATED

U.S. Work projects administration, Kentucky.

LIBRARY
U OF KY

216818

THE HOBSON BOOK PRESS
CYNTHIANA, KENTUCKY
1944

027.4769
Un3

Copyright 1944 by the Louisville Free Public Library

All rights are reserved, including the right to reproduce this book, or parts thereof, in any form

First Published in 1944

LIBRARY

Sponsored by
THE LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

12/13/43

FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

MAJ.-GEN. PHILIP B. FLEMING, Administrator

WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

GEORGE H. FIELD, Acting Commissioner

FLORENCE KERR, Assistant Commissioner

GEORGE H. GOODMAN, State Administator

B'B. 12/13/43

INTRODUCTION

The members of the Board of Trustees of the Louisville Free Public Library appreciate very much the work of Mr. William R. Breyer, State Supervisor, Kentucky Writers' Project of the Works Projects Administration, in compiling this very complete history of the Louisville libraries.

It is a valuable contribution to the historical literature of the State as well as most entertaining reading of the early endeavors to give to the people of Louisville a library.

While rather startling in parts it will give to the present generation a factual picture of those early struggles which have culminated in the present system of libraries in Louisville and Jefferson County.

Mrs. W. A. Radford
Chairman of Publication
Committee of Library Board

PREFACE

The Louisville Free Public Library is the descendant, the grandson, so to speak, of the Public Library of Kentucky, whose launching was financed by a lottery. That library of seventy years ago flourished briefly before passing on its property to the Polytechnic Society of Kentucky; this organization, in time, gave way to the present institution.

The colorful stories surrounding the library's origin persuaded Harold F. Brigham, then librarian of the Louisville Free Public Library, that a history of the library movement in Louisville should be written and published. At his request the Writers' Project of the Work Projects Administration in Kentucky in 1940 began preparation of such a history.

It was written by the undersigned, with the collaboration of Edward L. Kinkade. Other members of the Writers' Project staff who assisted materially in assembling data for the book were Edward A. Jonas, Emmett V. Riggs, and Robert P. Arnold.

We wish to acknowledge with gratitude the interest and co-operation of the librarians of the Louisville Free Public Library which made completion of the book possible: Mr. Brigham, whose advice, suggestions, and criticism while

the manuscript was being written were of incalculable assistance, and his successor, Clarence R. Graham, who assumed responsibility for the book in its final stage, that of publication. The staff of the library, especially the department heads, was most helpful in furnishing information and locating necessary historical material.

William R. Breyer,
State Supervisor,
Kentucky Writers' Project.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION IX

PREFACE XI

CHAPTER I 1
Early Louisville Libraries

CHAPTER II 20
"Sic Transit Gloria——"

CHAPTER III 50
The Polytechnic Picks Up the Pieces

CHAPTER IV 79
The Louisville Free Public Library Arrives

CHAPTER V 100
The Free Public Library's Formative Years

CHAPTER VI 124
From Cabinet of Curiosities to Museum

CHAPTER VII 135
The War Years and the Twenties

CHAPTER VIII 156
The Troublous Thirties

CHAPTER IX 188
The Library at Work—1942

NOTES 221

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: Finances 237

APPENDIX B: Circulation 248

APPENDIX C: Officers and Trustees, 1902-1942 252

APPENDIX D: Biographical Sketches of the Librarians 257

APPENDIX E: The Library's Art Collection 262

BIBLIOGRAPHY 275

INDEX 279

ILLUSTRATIONS

MAIN BUILDING ..... FRONTISPIECE
AIR VIEW—MAIN BUILDING 90
LOBBY—MAIN BUILDING 108
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN BRANCH LIBRARIES 112
WESTERN BRANCH LIBRARIES 114
COLORED DEPARTMENT 118
CITY—COUNTY WORK 138
VIEWS OF THE 1937 FLOOD 160
CHILDRENS AND SCHOOL WORK 210

LIBRARIES AND LOTTERIES

Chapter One

EARLY LOUISVILLE LIBRARIES

Louisville, midway in the second decade of the nineteenth century, was a crowded settlement of some thirty-five hundred people. The first historian of the town, Dr. Henry McMurtrie, whose SKETCHES OF LOUISVILLE AND ITS ENVIRONS was published in 1819, relates that the community was growing so rapidly that many newcomers could not find shelter. An important factor in the rapid increase in population was the town's location on a large river, making it accessible to travelers from the east and a point of departure for western emigrants.(1)*

At this time, says McMurtrie, there were 670 dwelling houses,

> principally brick ones, some of which would suffer little by being compared with any of the most elegant private edifices of New York. It was calculated pretty generally that from two hundred and fifty to three hundred brick dwellings

---

*Notes, references, and sources are indicated by numerals. These refer to corresponding numbers, arranged by chapters, at the end of the book under the heading "Footnotes."

LIBRARY
U OF KY

would have been erected during the last summer (1818), but such was the scarcity of money that not more than twelve to fourteen were completed.(2)

Those early homes were built in Louisville without much regard for street boundaries. The fronts of some protruded into the streets, giving the thoroughfares a somewhat ragged appearance. Before 1806 anyone who wished could install a kiln in the street and use the clay soil to make bricks. In 1812 the streets received their official names; but it was not until 1821 that their straightening was begun when the trustees ordered the removal of houses standing on them.(3)

In accordance with a style of architecture popular in the early years of the century, many houses had an exterior flight of steps leading from the street up to the first floor, and basements, somewhat below street level, that served as kitchen and servants' quarters. A good example of this style of architecture remains (1942) in the old Grayson House, built in 1810, on the west side of Sixth Street near Walnut.

Until 1828 Louisville was administered by a trustee form of government. Near the close of the trustees' regime, according to McMurtrie, private residences were scattered among the business houses on all principal streets. Not until considerably later did they come to occupy sections of the city exclusively their own. Though most of the buildings were of two stories and built of bricks, a few of the original log cabins were still standing along the main thoroughfares. Besides the buildings of municipal

government, there were five churches, three banks, three public halls, and a theater. Of manufacturing establishments, there were a woolen mill, a cotton factory, two potteries, a steam gristmill, two iron foundries, a planing mill, three breweries, two lead factories, four rope walks, and fifteen brickyards.(4)

The primitive beginnings of the fire department date from 1807, in the form of a bucket brigade. The earliest fire department was financed by the imposition of a ten-dollar license fee on showmen for each exhibition. The first to pay it was Arnold and Company, exhibitors of the first elephant to be seen in Louisville and said to be the first imported to America. With increased revenues, better fire-fighting equipment was acquired: engines and suction pumps. The engines were drawn to fires by men and worked by hand.(5)

It was not until 1810 that there was a semblance of a police force. In that year the trustees, to safeguard against evil-doing in the darkness that blanketed the unlighted town, engaged two watchmen to patrol the town at night with lighted lanterns.(6)

Louisville's first newspaper was the FARMER'S LIBRARY, founded in 1801 by Samuel Vail. It was a folio sheet, nineteen by eleven inches, printed in long primer type on coarse paper made at Georgetown, Kentucky. The press and type with which it was printed had been lent by a Connecticut friend to Vail who transported this equipment over the mountains and down the Ohio. The FARMER'S LIBRARY continued publication until 1808 when Vail, tiring of journalism, enlisted in the United States Army.

A second paper, the WESTERN AMERICAN, was started in 1806 by F. Peniston, but suspended publication after only a few issues. Other papers that lasted longer were the LOUISVILLE GAZETTE, begun in 1808 by James Gray and David G. Rannals, the WESTERN COURIER, founded by Nicholas Clark, and the LOUISVILLE CORRESPONDENT, established by E. C. Barry, both in 1810. In 1818 Shadrach Penn issued the first edition of the PUBLIC ADVERTISER, which was to become one of the most famous newspapers in the country. Penn also published Dr. McMurtrie's SKETCHES.(7)

Few books were published in Louisville during the trustee period. Those that did come from local printers and binders numbered about forty and were for the most part political, legal, educational, religious, and scientific books. Exceptions were the SKETCHES and a volume of humorous verse, FESTOONS OF FANCY, by William Littel, published in 1814.

In 1798 the State Legislature appropriated to Jefferson County 6,000 acres to establish a public school, to be called Jefferson Seminary, in Louisville. Until that year there were several schools in the town, but all were under private proprietorship. Nothing was done by the trustees of the seminary, except to disagree among themselves and get various acts passed by the legislature, until 1813, when a tract of land of two and three-fourths acres was purchased on Eighth Street between Walnut and Green (now Liberty) Streets.

A brick building sixty feet long, twenty feet wide, and a story and a half in height was then erected. It had two large rooms on the ground

floor and four small rooms in the half-story above, and was completed in 1816. Dr. Mann Butler--educator, graduate in medicine and law, and historian, who in the same year became the leader of Louisville's first library enterprise --was engaged as principal at a salary of $600 a year. Tuition was $20 for six months, and there were between forty and fifty pupils.

After some vicissitudes, the institution, in 1845, became the Academic Department of the University of Louisville, and fifteen years later was re-named Male High School and removed from the University's jurisdiction. It retained its college status, however, and continued to give academic degrees until 1913.(8)

The following characterization found in Dr. McMurtrie's SKETCHES may serve to round out this picture of Louisville in the years just after the War of 1812:

> Commercial cities of newly settled countries, whose inhabitants are gathered from every corner of the earth, who have emigrated thither with but a single object in view, that of acquiring money, are stamped with no general character, except that of frugality, attention to business, and inordinate attachment to money. Absorbed in this great interest of adding dollar upon dollar, no time is devoted to literature or the acquirement of those graceful nothings which, of no value in themselves, still constitute one great charm of polished society...
>
> There is a circle, small 'tis true, but within whose magic round abounds every

> pleasure that wealth, regulated by taste or urbanity, can bestow. There the "red Heel" of Versailles may imagine himself in the emporium of fashion, and whilst leading beauty through the mazes of the dance, forget that he is in the wilds of America. The theatre, public and private balls, a sober game of whist, or the more scientific one of billiards, with an occasional reunion of friends around the festive board, constitute the principal amusement; and it is with pleasure I am able to assert, without fear of contradiction, that gambling forms no part of them. Whatever may have been the case formerly, there is hardly at the present day a vestige to be seen of this ridiculous and disgraceful practice; and if it exists at all, it is only to be found in the secret dens of midnight swindlers, within whose walls once to enter is dishonor, infamy, and ruin.(9)

It was in such a frontier metropolis that the first of a succession of abortive attempts was made, in 1816, to establish a library in Louisville. It was not Kentucky's first library, nor even one of the first ten in the State.

In 1796 some leading citizens of Lexington founded a library, the first west of the Allegheny Mountains, for the benefit of the students of Transylvania Seminary. As the Transylvania Library, it was housed at the seminary at first. In 1800, though, its proprietors, believing that it would be more generally useful if it were centrally located, removed it to

the town and, by legislative act, had it renamed the Lexington Library Association. In the first quarter-century after the change of name, it absorbed two similar enterprises, the Juvenile Library and the Lexington Athenaeum.(10) In 1902 the city of Lexington obtained a grant from Andrew Carnegie for construction of a public library building; whereupon, the Lexington Library Association transferred to the new Lexington Public Library all its books, furniture, and other possessions, and dissolved its organization.

Between 1796 and 1816 library associations were chartered successively at Georgetown, Danville, Lancaster, Paris, Newcastle, Shelbyville, Winchester, Washington, Versailles, Frankfort, and Mt. Sterling. None of these achieved permanence, however.(11)

Mann Butler, leader of the founders of Louisville's first library, must have ranked high among the men of superior intellect in the city in the first half of the nineteenth century. He was born in Baltimore in July, 1784, and was taken at the age of three to the home of his grandfather at Chelsea, near London. He remained in England until he was fourteen years old. Therefore he had the advantage of an education in his early years in an old and settled country, in much better schools than could be found in a country so recently emerged from pioneer status.

Back in the United States, he continued his education and was graduated at St. Mary's College in Georgetown, District of Columbia, then was graduated in medicine at the same college. But he conceived a great distaste for medical

practice and remained at St. Mary's to study law and acquire an LL. B. degree. He was admitted to the bar in Washington and Baltimore, and in March, 1806, removed to Lexington, Kentucky, where he practiced law for a short time. Lacking the eloquence that characterized Henry Clay and other attorneys of Lexington, he became discouraged and abandoned legal practice. He taught school successively at Versailles, Maysville, and Frankfort, and then was called to a professorship at Transylvania University.

Dr. Butler relinquished this post to become principal of the Jefferson Seminary in Louisville, and became known as an outstanding educator there before he left the city for St. Louis in 1845. In 1834 he published his HISTORY OF KENTUCKY from its earliest exploration and settlement to the close of the Northwestern Campaign in 1813. At the time of his tragic death in 1852, in a railway accident caused by the collapse of a railroad bridge, he had nearly completed a HISTORY OF THE VALLEY OF THE OHIO, being published monthly in the WESTERN JOURNAL AND CIVILIAN. Of this he left the manuscript, revised and almost ready for publication in book form; but during the War between the States it was lost.(12)

It was he who, with four others, founded Louisville's first library, the Louisville Library Company, in 1816. Dr. Butler's associates in this undertaking were Dr. William C. Galt, Brooke Hill, Hezekiah Hawley, and William Tompkins.

They took for their pattern the subscription library fathered by Benjamin Franklin in Philadelphia eighty-odd years before. In 1730 Frank-

lin suggested to the Junto, a group of kindred spirits interested in public welfare, that since their books were often referred to during their regular discussions, it might be convenient to bring all the books together in a common library. Then each would have the advantage of the other members' books. This arrangement lasted a year, during which Franklin witnessed the spectacle of books made common property treated as no man's property. It must have been disillusioning: if indifference was the rule among the club members, cultivated and educated men, what kind of treatment of books could be expected from the many on lower levels of culture, if they were to be given access to good reading?

But Franklin was not discouraged. He recognized that responsibility for the care of the property had been overlooked in planning the library. In any similar undertaking it must be provided for. It occurred to him that a library for subscribers was the answer. By the very condition of personal investment a lively and abiding interest and feeling of obligation could be counted on. The new project was launched with the payment of about ten dollars each by fifty underwriters, who pledged ten dollars more annually. By November, 1732, it was possible to dispatch a substantial sum to a London agent instructed to purchase and forward a carefully selected list of books. Eleven months later they arrived: GULLIVER'S TRAVELS, Milton's PRINCIPIA, the ILIAD and ODYSSEY, possibly in Pope's translation, the Magna Charta, a book on gardening, and Montaigne's essays--a list which should afford some notion of the intellectual climate of the time.(13)

This was the model from which the Louisville founders wrought. The Louisville Library Company was a joint stock association, with the right to issue as many shares as its directors might consider necessary and of any denomination they thought best. The directors could assess the shareholders, for the benefit of the library, any sum annually up to one-fifth the value of each shareholder's stock.(14)

Apparently when Dr. McMurtrie published his history of Louisville three years later this library had reached its prime, although there is evidence that it lingered on for several years more. In 1819 it contained five hundred volumes which were housed in the second story of the south wing of the Courthouse.

Beyond the fact that the collection included valuable historical volumes collected by Dr. Butler, and works on science obtained by Dr. McMurtrie, the nature of the books can only be a matter of surmise. Certainly, in those days, with books hard to procure, reading was a serious business; and fiction--reading matter for entertainment alone--must have taken a subordinate place.

The stewards of this library probably were influenced by the waves of revolutionary thought of the preceding half-century in Europe and America; it is likely that their precious store of books included some of the works of the eighteenth century French political philosophers, Adam Smith's WEALTH OF NATIONS, and some of Thomas Paine. Almost certainly there was an adequate representation of the Greek and Roman classics, of Shakespeare and his more important contemporaries. Of fiction, it is possible that the contemporary romancer, Walter Scott, was

represented, along with Swift's GULLIVER'S TRAVELS and the works of Richardson, Smollett, Sterne, Fielding, and Goldsmith.

But all this is mainly in the realm of speculation. In their passage through later library ventures, and with the disintegrating effects of time, all the five hundred volumes have long since disappeared: books that would be collectors' items now as well as books to which only a sentimental interest would attach. According to one chronicler, a few survived to the years of the Polytechnic Society of the last two decades of the nineteenth century. The library seems to have perished, as so many of the townspeople did, in the virulent fever epidemic of 1822. That catastrophe nearly depopulated Louisville; culture had to yield to more pressing problems after the epidemic passed.

But Dr. Butler was not so easily defeated. The Louisville City Directory of 1832 mentions, as "the only Society formed professedly for literary improvement," the Louisville Lyceum, instituted the year before with Dr. Butler, N. B. Buford, and George Keats, brother of the English poet, as curators. The Lyceum maintained quarters on Main Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets, holding meetings every Saturday night. "Its objects," the Directory goes on to say, "are simply to promote popular improvement, by the diffusion of useful knowledge; its means of executing these objects are 1st Written Essays; 2nd Oral Addresses; 3rd Discussions. A small library has been commenced by the donations of some gentlemen."(15)

Although Dr. Butler continued to reside in Louisville until 1845, his name does not appear

again in connection with the other library ventures of the Eighteen-thirties and forties. The first of these was the Mechanics' Institute of the City of Louisville, chartered in 1835 by Marcus Story, James S. Speed, William Inman, Ezekiel Breden, and J. S. Thompson. It was given, among other powers, authority to establish a circulating library. But Reuben T. Durrett, long a follower of early library affairs in Louisville, dismissed it as "no more than a hopeful project," and it is to be doubted that books ever circulated.(16)

Similarly shortlived was the "Kentucky Historical Society," founded in Louisville in 1838 by Chancellor George M. Bibb, Judge Henry Pirtle, Humphrey Marshall, Sr., George D. Prentice, and other prominent citizens. What books they brought together cannot be discovered. A few gravitated to the shelves of the Polytechnic Society; the others went astray, some perhaps sifting into private collections. But this Louisville historical society is memorable for one good deed in a careless world.

Among several valuable manuscripts it acquired was a letter dictated and signed by Gen. George Rogers Clark and addressed to his friend, George Mason, of Gunston Hall, Virginia. Dated "Falls of the Ohio, November 19, 1770," it told of the march from Louisville and the capture of the British strongholds at Kaskaskia, Vincennes, and Cahokia, which relieved the Kentucky settlements from the frequent incursions of the Indians. To safeguard this manuscript from perishing as others, notably the journal of Capt. Thomas Bullitt, had done, it was sent to Robert Clarke at Cincinnati for publication. Some

years later Clarke did publish it, in a book of 119 pages.(17) But this precaution proved unnecessary as a preservative measure; for the original manuscript was preserved, and descended to the Filson Club in Louisville which is now (1942) its owner.(18)

Two years after the founding of the Historical Society there was another attempt. The Louisville Franklin Lyceum, chartered in 1840, brought together a new list of representative citizens. There seems to have been as rapid a turnover in personnel of library companies as in the companies themselves; for with succeeding resurrections, even when the dates occur only two or three years apart, different names appear. This time they were James B. Redd, Daniel Lyon, James H. Owens, John L. Heming, Levi White, James Minter, John B. Bland, Abram Smith, and a Dr. Bayless. The title would indicate that its principal function was the sponsorship of lecture courses. It also had authority to add a circulating library to its facilities, and did obtain some of the remains of the older collections, but not in sufficient number, nor with enough additions from other sources, to give it permanence or much usefulness.(19)

Next, in 1842, came the Mercantile Library Association, with quarters on Fourth Street between Market and Main Streets. The account of its career suggests that it had a promising beginning. Its incorporators, as described in the 1882 HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES AND THEIR COUNTIES, were "gentlemen of energy and character, many of them still in the flush of youth." Proceeding with this energy, they collected $6,000 from the merchants of the city and, with-

in a year, without drawing upon the older collections, had acquired three thousand books, including seven hundred from the private library of Fortunatus Cosby.

The catalogue of the Mercantile Library gives the list of its officers and "proprietors": Simon S. Bucklin, Benjamin J. Adams, John N. Johnson, Edward Parmele, A. A. Gordon, James Lees, J. W. Brannon, Henry L. Cobb, Jacob Owen, B. P. Bakewell, and R. B. Tevis. The librarian was G. W. Noble.

Durrett made an analysis of the Mercantile Library catalogue, summarizing in numbers of books the subjects which the books covered. Under "Antiquities and Fine Arts" there were 30 works; commerce and commercial law, 38; geography, 222; voyages and travels, 166; general history, 128; local and "particular" history, 314; American biography, 115; works on America in general, 47; American States and colonies, 67; jurisprudence and politics, 275; classics and translations, 8; rhetoric and belles lettres, 271; fiction, 256; poetry and drama, 219; mechanics and the useful arts, 39; natural philosophy and mathematics, 32; natural history, 88; medicine, 12; moral and intellectual philosophy, 62; religion, 33; periodical literature, 299; miscellanea, 73; miscellaneous dictionaries, 34; bibliography, 16; addenda, 17, and a number of newspapers.(20)

Considering the flourish with which it began, the Mercantile Library did not last long. After a few years of prosperous and useful life, including winter lecture courses, it languished. Efforts to prolong the life of the venture were unavailing. An attempt was made to interest

the Chamber of Commerce; but business and professional men, a little while back so generous, now were cold and unsympathetic. There is record of legislative permission in 1847 to change the name of the defunct Mercantile Library Association to "the President, Directors, and Company of the Louisville Library, authorized to carry a capital stock of $25,000 in 1,000 shares of $25 each."(21)

Durrett relates that Thomas Anderson, William B. Belknap, Isaac Everett, and Grandison Spratt endeavored to place the shares in the enterprise, but with only partial success; and "it was not long before the books began to be a burden to the stockholders." Toward the close of 1849 a committee composed of Chapman Coleman, former member of the Mercantile Library Association, and James Traube sought a conference with representatives of the city government about what should be done with the library. The city was petitioned to erect a library building, sixty feet long and thirty feet wide, on the northeast corner of the Courthouse lot. Historically this is significant--it was the first agitation in Louisville of the idea that a library, like schools, should be a municipal responsibility.(22)

The city refused to put up a new building; but subsequent conferences led to its agreement, on July 1, 1850, to accept conveyance of the library and house it in the old Courthouse building at Sixth and Jefferson Streets, or in some other suitable building, and keep it open to shareholders, subscribers, and visitors on payment of reasonable assessments.

The city first appointed as directors of the

library Dr. Theodore S. Bell, a man of high attainments in medical science; the Rev. John H. Heywood, no less esteemed in his own field; Prof. Noble Butler, distinguished educator, and Thomas H. Shreve. The latter was succeeded the following year by W. D. Gallagher. The city paid the debts of the library, according to agreement, and supplied deficits in its operating expenses. It was a condition too happy to last long; the city wearied of its burden and transferred to the library, in 1853, all the stock in the Louisville and Frankfort Railroad which it had taken in lieu of taxes. When it refused to do more, the library died.(23)

There followed a lull of twelve years. In 1865 three incorporators--Littleton Cook, John Goodman, and Edward Fulton--hopefully started the "People's Library," but apparently made no progress in the three years that intervened before the "Louisville Library Association" was formed from its remains. In the same year, 1868, the new organization changed its name to "Library Association of Louisville." The incorporators were Dr. J. Lawrence Smith, R. M. Cunningham, George W. Caruth, C. G. Davison, J. Guthrie Coke, J. R. Buchanan, E. D. Cook, L. Bamberger, P. B. Scott, Samuel Russell, Boyd Winchester, H. V. Sanders, and Joseph Knowles. The charter was liberal, exempting $50,000 worth of property from taxation; but the organization did nothing to justify the breadth of its charter.

Three years more passed. Then, on April 8, 1871, the most successful of the private library societies was launched. It was called, again, the Louisville Library Association, and

had, at the outset, 217 members, ten of whom were designated at a general meeting to sign the articles of incorporation. These were the Rev. John H. Heywood, Alexander G. Booth, J. M. Wright, Louis N. Dembitz, Russell Houston, Dr. J. Lawrence Smith, W. B. Caldwell, I. M. St. John, W. H. Walker, and John H. Ward. Under the rules, each member was to contribute $30 in cash or twenty volumes acceptable to the directors, who must have had some difficulty avoiding duplications.

The library was located first in the second floor of the building at the northwest corner of Third and Walnut Streets, remaining there until January, 1876, when it was removed to the building at Fifth and Walnut Streets on the present (1942) site of the Kentucky Hotel. The first president was Alexander G. Booth, who remained in office until his death in October, 1876, when he was succeeded by Alexander P. Humphrey. He in turn was succeeded by William R. Belknap in January, 1880. Fellow-directors of the latter were Udolpho Snead, J. W. Holland, O. A. Wehle, A. V. Gude, John H. Ward, and J. M. Wright, with Robert Cochran as treasurer and James S. Pirtle as secretary.

In 1876 the directors were able to accumulate an endowment of $10,000 subscribed by members and others, the income from which was devoted thereafter to the library's operating expenses. Members paid $6.00 annual dues, subscribers $1.00 a quarter or $3.00 annually. On January 1, 1882, there were 97 active members, 173 subscribers, and 14 life members who paid no dues. In 1881 the library contained 8,136 books.

Support of the library dropped sharply after 1881. There were 500 subscribers in that year in contrast with the 173 recorded in the next. This drop coincided with an increase in mamber-ship of the competing Polytechnic Society, with its relatively more public library facilities (see Chapter III). Difficulties were aggravat-ed by the withdrawal of a $40-a-month income formerly paid by the Board of Education for the use of the library's facilities by teachers and students.(24)

Still another factor contributing to the li-brary's ultimate demise was the cheapening of books. It was the era of the "Seaside Library" and similar popular publications, offering standard works and current popular fiction at twenty-five cents a copy, much as Pocket Books, the Modern Library, and other reprint editions do now (1942) at the same or somewhat higher prices. These books were paper bound and were fairly well printed in double columns on paper of a slightly better grade than newsprint.

In 1885 there was a move to transfer the property of the Library Association to the Polytechnic Society. This failed because of a provision in the association's charter that it would lose its endowment if it should surrender its identity. Apparently the association did not survive long after abandonment of negotia-tions with the Polytechnic Society.

When the Young Men's Christian Association was formed in Louisville in 1867, such books as remained from the older and defunct libraries were given into its keeping. Although many volumes had been lost or destroyed during the war, enough were left to form the nucleus of a

small library. The association added about six hundred books, and by the time the Public Library of Kentucky (see Chapter II) was founded, nearly four thousand volumes had been collected. These were transferred to the Public Library of Kentucky. Subsequently the Y. M. C. A. accumulated a smaller collection of books for the use of its members and guests.(25)

Chapter Two

"SIC TRANSIT GLORIA"

America in the Eighteen-seventies was a nation in ferment, wracked with growing-pains. Homesteaders were spilling over from the east into the vastnesses of the prairies and the far west: such land as they were not carving into farm-homes the railroads, the timber and land companies, the mining corporations were appropriating, developing, exploiting.

Men's eyes were fixed on horizons not too distant and all those horizons were golden-tinted. Almost the entire store of America's energy was siphoned into channels of money-making, a pursuit to which the panic of the early seventies was only a temporary stumbling-block. Whatever was big was good. Dreams of grandeur needed only initiative and aggressiveness to make them come true. And these grandiose dreams were all, or nearly all, of money, of splendid enterprises that would make money.

Of such stuff was the dream of the Public Library of Kentucky.

A diligent analyst of Louisville library beginnings was Reuben T. Durrett, lawyer and historian. He was an authority on pioneer Kentucky lore, founder of the Filson Club, and the owner of a valuable library the bulk of which,

after his death, was sold to the University of Chicago. In his opinion the failures of the early library experiments, so numerous and so much alike, could be traced pretty generally to the fee system. As enthusiasm waned, paying members would drop off and the project would languish despite the single-minded devotion of a few. The end might be postponed--it was never far away. There would be debts for which nobody in particular seemed responsible, and a few assets to serve as reminders of high hopes dashed and as excuse for new ventures.(1)

Conditions were ripening for the advent of the FREE PUBLIC library. These conditions already had appeared in the industrial North. But the agricultural process of the South and the social scheme dependent thereon was slower, more conducive to leisure, to the development of institutions upon which the contemporaneous changes of the North would have appeared arbitrarily imposed. In the industrial areas inventions, machines that created things, hastened the economic process, and all the accompanying social elements had a corresponding acceleration. Educational matters received attention more speedily in legislatures. In an agricultural--and impoverished--South this situation did not obtain: hence the unconsidered epithets "backward" and "intolerant."

But by 1870 Louisville was industrialized sufficiently to give Durrett a glimpse of what was needed, however imperfect. With an historian's and a critic's eye he looked about him and perceived the reason for this long succession of failures. He saw among them not one PUBLIC library. A public library, he concluded,

was the answer: an institution where nothing would be charged for the use of books; where rich and poor alike could go for information and enjoyment.(2)

The instrument Durrett fashioned for the materialization of his vision was dazzlingly spectacular and the machinery for contriving it was, of necessity, elaborate; yet the device itself was simple and elementary in its popular appeal. That it became tainted subsequently with a suspicion of chicanery was a circumstance that did not rob the original idea of its hallmark of genius.

This time the library founders would not seek their support in driblets of funds uncertain in regularity and duration. Instead, they would achieve it in a single splendid stroke of financial generalship. The device would appeal at once to altruistic motives of public service and mercenary prospects of private gain. The orthodox laws of economics could be hurdled, and those of morality were flexible enough for such an enterprise--a lottery.

Now from earliest times the lottery had been a popular means of raising money and, for at least the first forty years of the Union, had been an eminently respectable means. To it churches, schools, libraries, roads, and other public and private institutions have owed their existence. Faneuil Hall in Boston, the "Cradle of Liberty," was financed by one; the wheel of fortune was used in Puritan New England to eliminate church debts, and the same method aided Yale, Harvard, and Princeton in their early days. George Washington was interested in the lottery which financed construction of

the bridge from Alexandria, Virginia, toward Manassas, which served the Union forces well in the War between the States. Thomas Jefferson intended to dispose of his library by lottery if the Federal government did not buy it. William Henry Harrison headed the first lottery of the Northwest Territory, that of 1807 for the benefit of Vincennes College. Henry Clay lent his name to the Grand Masonic Lodge lottery in Lexington in 1816.(3)

After the formation of the Union many States legalized lotteries. But because of the ease with which duplicity and fraud could be--and was--practiced in their administration, they fell into bad odor. They reached the peak of their popularity in the United States in the early Eighteen-thirties, when in nine States, 420 lottery drawings yielded $53,136,930, New York alone drawing $10,000,000. Then, in 1833, New York passed an act suppressing lotteries; the same year saw the beginning of a movement against them in Pennsylvania through an organized society whose activities were copied later in other states.

Kentucky inherited a statute against lotteries from Virginia; but the custom was to make a grant of special privilege to anyone who wanted it. The first year of statehood, 1792, saw the extension of such a grant to John Smith, Jasper Carsner, Martin Castle, and Jacob Kiser, representatives of the Dutch Presbyterian Society, to draw a lottery for raising $500 to build a church. When the movement to do away with lotteries began, Kentucky was lukewarm to it, though lotteries were chartered less frequently--or perhaps it would be more

accurate to say that lottery privileges were incorporated more adroitly into bills ostensibly for other purposes.

With few exceptions, lotteries in Kentucky were commendable and were sustained by public opinion as long as they were used only to raise funds for public purposes. But in the Eighteen-seventies, when the great New York lottery operators, Simmons and Dickerson, bought up franchises and operated them for private gain, the public began to see evil where before it had been overlooked. It saw franchises issued for school welfare, like the Frankfort grant, which had languished from the time of its birth in 1838 to its revival bv legislative act in 1869, used to roll a golden tide into private coffers. The amounts devoted to school purposes or distributed as prizes, the objects designated in the original grant, were only pittances while the bulk of the proceeds went to the operators.

Even so, the awakened moral sense of the people was not strong enough to offer a serious challenge to the lotteries. It remained for the outcome of the grant to the Public Library of Kentucky to precipitate widespread protest against them. In response, the legislature revoked every franchise known to be alive in the State and laid heavy penalties on lottery operation. The indifference of the courts made these laws dead letters. Finally, the State constitutional convention assailed the evil and inserted into the new constitution a clause prohibiting lottery grants absolutely. It became operative in 1892.(4)

So a lottery was settled upon as the means of raising money to found in Louisville a library that would rival the British Museum. But the repugnant word "lottery" was avoided in the act which, on March 16, 1871, incorporated the Public Library of Kentucky. The charter empowered the incorporators, or trustees, to hold "public literary, musical or dramatic entertainments, at which the incorporators may distribute by lot a portion of the proceeds arising from the sale of tickets of admission." In other words, they could hold super-Bank Nights, with the difference that the lucky ticket holders need not be present at the entertainments to collect their prizes.(5)

The trustees were limited to five such "concerts." And that was the only limitation, as far as the drawings were concerned. There was no regulation of the proportion that must be paid out in prizes; more important, the percentage of the proceeds to be retained for the library was not defined. There was, likewise, no designation of authority to whom a regular accounting of the funds obtained from the "gift concerts" must be made.

Other sections of the charter empowered the trustees to employ the personnel necessary to conduct the entertainments and drawings and to carry on the affairs of the library; to invest money received, to purchase "suitable grounds and buildings" in which to house the library; to publish a paper or journal for the benefit of the library, and to issue bonds up to 50 per cent of the capital stock. The treasurer of the corporation must be an incorporated bank of the city; and no money belonging to the library

could be withdrawn except upon order of the librarian, countersigned by the secretary, and indorsed by the president.(6)

There was also a clause which provided for the eventuality of the library's dissolution:

> Should the corporation hereby created at any time cease to keep a library for public use, as contemplated by this act, then the books, pamphlets, periodicals and papers which may have been given or loaned to the library shall be restored to those who gave or loaned them; and the books, pamphlets, periodicals, papers and property which may have been acquired otherwise than by gift or loan shall be equitably divided or sold, and the proceeds thereof equitably and equally divided among the stockholders according to the shares of stock held by each one.(7)

Under the charter of the Public Library of Kentucky its capital stock was fixed at $100,000 in shares of $10 each. However, no money ever was subscribed through sale of the stock and none raised from this source.

The bill of incorporation became law only because Gov. Preston H. Leslie failed to return it within the period fixed by the State constitution: it never received his signature.

At this point it may be well to take some notice of the incorporators of the Public Library of Kentucky.

Thomas E. Bramlette, after a stormy political and military career, was enduring the com-

parative calm of legal practice in Louisville. Before the war he had served, first as prosecuting attorney in Clinton County, next as judge in Adair County. With the outbreak of war he advocated preservation of the Union and served briefly as a colonel of Kentucky infantry before controversy over which unit he should command impelled him to resign his commission. President Lincoln then appointed him U. S. district attorney, and he embarked with vigor upon prosecution of Southern sympathizers for violation of war-time laws.

In 1863, with the Union army supervising the election, Bramlette was elected governor of Kentucky by an overwhelming majority. His administration began with emphatic support of the war; but in less than a year he was criticizing Lincoln bitterly, especially when the President ordered the enlistment of Negro troops. Also, the governor quarreled with Gen. Stephen G. Burbridge and obtained his removal as Federal commander in Kentucky. But when the President was assassinated, Bramlette recanted all his criticisms, appointed an official day of prayer and mourning, and, in a gesture designed to promote healing of the wounds of war, welcomed home returning Confederate soldiers and urged repeal of the laws against them. After leaving the governor's chair he was a candidate for the United States Senate, but failed of election.(8)

Walter N. Haldeman, co-proprietor of the COURIER-JOURNAL, was an intense and ardent "Southern Rights" man, who had openly declared his sentiments both orally and in his paper in terms which could not be misunderstood nor forgiven. Accordingly, when Louisville fell into

Union hands and his paper, then the COURIER, was ordered suppressed, Haldeman removed his family and newspaper farther south, publishing it first at Bowling Green, then in Nashville, ultimately wherever the fortunes of the Army of Tennessee permitted. The paper was always in attendance upon that army, as near the front as was compatible with safe and convenient publication, and always retained the name "LOUISVILLE COURIER."(9)

Henry Watterson, in 1871 the thirty-one-year-old editor of the COURIER-JOURNAL (the JOURNAL had merged with Haldeman's COURIER in November, 1868), had exhibited already those qualities which were to make him one of the foremost journalists in the era of personal journalism.

"Mike" W. Cluskey, Confederate soldier wounded at Shiloh, was the first editor of the Louisville LEDGER, a man exceptionally well informed in public affairs and a writer of uncommon ability and influence. George P. Doern, the son of one of Marshal Bluecher's veterans at Waterloo, was editor of Louisville's German-language newspaper, the ANZEIGER, a director of the German Insurance Company, and son-in-law of former Mayor Phil Tomppert. H. M. McCarty, correspondent of the COURIER-JOURNAL at Frankfort, and therefore in an excellent position to serve the library in liaison work with the State Legislature, completed the quintet of journalists on the board.(10)

J. S. Cain was clerk of the Jefferson Court of Common Pleas, and Benjamin Casseday was a writer of local and regional history. He became

editor of the weekly paper published by the Public Library of Kentucky.

Reuben T. Durrett already has been identified; but this appraisal of him by Casseday say be additionally illuminating:

> His (Durrett's) labor, like his mind, was diffusive, not concentrative. His work was not like the deep current of a mighty river that sweeps away all the obstacles in its course, but like the restless mountain stream that seeks here and there an egress for its waters, careless where it makes a bed so that a bed is made, and avoiding impediments by surrounding, not by overturning them...(11)

At all events, the incorporators were men whose attainments and standing in the community were such as to arouse and sustain the confidence of the public upon whose favorable response depended the success of the grand enterprise. And the response was forthcoming in stupendous volume.

Under the provisions of the charter the trustees contracted with Charles R. Peters, a San Francisco impresario, to stage the first grand "gift concert." Fifty-five per cent of the gross amount realized was to be distributed as prizes to lucky ticket holders. From the other 45 per cent the expenses of concert and drawing were first to be paid; the remainder was to be divided equally between Peters and the library.(12)

The drawing took place December 16, 1871:

35,000 tickets of the 100,000 issued had been sold at $10 each, and, in accordance with the agreement, 721 prizes totaling $192,500 were distributed. Of the rest of the proceeds, something over $105,000 was deducted for expenses, leaving a residue of $52,369.86, one-half of which, $26,184.93, formed the initial fund of the library.

After this first drawing, Peters withdrew from management of the concerts and his place was taken by former Governor Bramlette. A contract giving him authority to manage the concerts was signed between him and the Board of Trustees of the library April 17, 1872. In it was the "hundred-thousand-dollar clause" which proved to contain the seeds of the library's destruction. But the contract's provisions did not become known to the public for some time.

This clause provided that Bramlette, after each entertainment, would pay whatever prizes were offered,

> and then, after deducting from the balance of the proceeds on the sale of tickets the expense and outlay, pay to the party of the first part (the library) one-half of the profits of each entertainment that might be given, not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars for the first entertainment, and for each subsequent entertainment, (Bramlette) may, at the beginning, elect to pay the one-half of the profits, as explained heretofore, or one hundred thousand dollars for each of said entertainments.(13)

Although it was not so specifically provided for in the contract, the proportion of money set aside for prizes in the last four drawings was reduced from 55 to 50 per cent.

After the arrangement with Bramlette was effected, steps were taken to establish the library. Temporary quarters were rented in a four-story building on Fourth Street between Green (Liberty) and Walnut Streets; the books of the defunct libraries were collected and a few new ones purchased to form a collection totaling about eight thousand volumes; statues and other works of art were acquired and a room set aside for the display of the excellent collection on natural history donated (but later withdrawn) by Dr. C. C. Graham.(14)

The Public Library of Kentucky was thrown open to free use by the public on April 27, 1872, at a ceremony presided over by Mayor John G. Baxter. Ben Casseday read a poem and there were eloquent addresses by the future governor, J. Proctor Knott, and Durrett, the latter chronicling the history of library movements in Louisville, explaining why they had failed and why the present venture was bound to succeed.(15)

At the same time preparations were going forward for the second concert and drawing. Again 100,000 tickets were offered for sale at $10. Advertisements of the drawing, with especial stress on its nobility of aim, were placed in the New York newspapers--as was the case in subsequent drawings--regularly over the signatures of Bramlette and Durrett, president of the Board of Trustees. Publicity for the drawings ultimately spread over a sizable portion

of the literate world. The second drawing was held December 7, 1872. A sale of 75,000 tickets produced gross receipts of $750,000, of which half was returned as prizes. To the library went half the net profits, $76,211.39.(16)

It was now decided, on the expectation of the success of the lottery, to buy the building occupied by the library. Known then as the Central Market, it had been one of Louisville's earliest synagogues. It was considered necessary to obtain quarters that could be kept rented, since revenues from the building must constitute the future support of the library. From that standpoint the building's location, in the heart of the shopping district, was ideal. The ground floor contained eight stores, Festival Hall, the library rooms, space (later made into a gymnasium) for the museum, and a back room used as a carpentry shop for repairs. On the second floor were rooms suitable for lectures and social purposes. One end of this floor was occupied by the Y. M. C. A., the other, used by a conservatory of music until a short time before, was now vacant. Two fourth-floor wings were vacant also. The purchase price of this building was $210,000, considered fair for that time, and a payment on it was made from the proceeds of the second drawing.(17)

Harper's Weekly, one of the outstanding magazines of the Gilded Age, thus described the building in its issue of November 8, 1873:

> The Public Library Building...is one of the largest and handsomest edifices in Louisville. It...has a front of 168 feet

on that street (Fourth), and a depth of 200 feet. It is four stories high, and is a beautiful and imposing building of the renaissance style of architecture. The rez-de-chaussée is occupied by stores, the rent of which goes to the support of the library proper; and as this increases, arrangements are made to provide on the ground-floor for all the room which may be necessary for such increase.

The library was first opened to the public April 27, 1872, and its growth since that period is unexampled in the history of libraries. Already the library contains many thousand volumes, and possesses a museum and art-gallery, which are not equaled in the West, and hardly excelled in the country. This is the result of the labor and management of a few thoughtful men, who had long been residents of Louisville, and who were determined that their city, so favorably known for its many social attractions, should not be without the beneficent influence of a great public library.

...the Public Library, as it at present exists,... is the finest and most beautiful ornament in the city, and the pride and boast of the State. Here the people daily come by hundreds, and there is open to them all the lore of ancient and modern days. Literature, art and science are offered to all as freely as the air they breathe, or as the water from the native spring. No oppressive rules fetter the student or the more

> pleasure-loving reader. Polite attendants wait upon his wants, and cozy, comfortable rooms, carpeted, furnished and lighted, invite his presence.
>
> The fourth of the concerts in aid of the grand library is to take place in December under the same wise and honorable management as its predecessors.
>
> The trustees of the library also issue a weekly literary paper of a high character, eminently aesthetic in tone, and greatly admired by its patrons. In fine, the Public Library of Kentucky is the germ of one of the great libraries of the world.

Sometime in 1872 one Paul Allen Towne, educator and bibliophile, encountered a friend, B. B. Huntoon, in downtown Louisville. Their conversation turned to the gift concerts then in progress, and Towne remarked that he knew of no position he would rather hold than that of librarian of the proposed institution. In 1870 he had spent some time cataloguing the library of the Young Men's Association of Buffalo, New York. In the intervening year or two he had conducted teachers' institutes throughout Kentucky; he had engagements to hold similar institutes in the next few months.(18)

Exactly what transpired immediately after this meeting of the two men is not quite clear. Huntoon had no connection whatever with the Public Library of Kentucky; but it is likely that he passed Towne's remark on to Durrett. At all events, it is evident that Durrett and Towne,

during the winter of 1872-73, discussed the possibility of Towne's engagement as librarian of the Public Library of Kentucky. As evidence of this conclusion there are two letters which Towne later made public, written to him by Durrett and Walter N. Haldeman in March, 1873. These letters made reference to previous negotiations and answered inquiries Towne had put to the two trustees. In part Durrett's letter said:

> ...If I am permitted to advise, I would say, by all means take the place of librarian of the Public Library of Kentucky. It will be no ordinary place in a very short time. It will be a place that any one proud of being a librarian will be proud to occupy. I know more about the thing than any one living, and I think I see far enough into the future to understand the position of a librarian here in a few years to come. The only objection I have to your letter is the price named. What I spoke of to the trustees after my talk with you last fall was $1800. It would be better to begin with this sum. There will be no difficulty about increasing it, and no difficulty about making the place permanent. I would suggest $150 per month, or $35 per week for the first year. Think of it and write me if that will not do. I don't wish you to understand that I could not secure you the $2500, but mean to suggest the $1800 as better now for both under the circumstances to be dealt with.(19)

The Haldeman letter also assured Towne of the permanence of the position and urged him to accept it. Towne accepted the offer, and in a few days received word that he had been elected to the post unanimously.

Six years later Towne wrote for the LOUISVILLE MONTHLY, a magazine of which he was editor, a series of articles detailing the history of the Public Library of Kentucky and of the Polytechnic Society during the period of his connection with that organization (see f. n. 12. chapter II). In the articles this appears:

> ...I wish to emphasize here that the question of permanency was the most important one connected with the acceptance of the situation. The letters of Mr. Haldeman and Mr. Durrett settled that question in all respects save in the chances of success of the concerts. This element seemed then beyond danger, and subsequent events show that lack of success in the concerts was not the reason the library was abandoned at their close by the President of the Board of Trustees (Durrett). As once stated, I had not at that time read the charter, but the fact that it had been passed by a Kentucky legislature; that it had been scrutinized by the executive officer of the State; that the Board of Trustees was constituted of some of the most prominent and honorable men in Louisville; the numerous publications that had already been made and the solemn assurance to the whole civilized world that it...would be a

> great honor to the State, completely allayed all suspicions that it was a mere private speculation of a single individual...(20)

On May 1, 1873, Towne arrived in Louisville to begin his duties. Six years later he is recalling the optimism with which he viewed his new position:

> Probably no man ever entered upon a work more heartily than did the librarian upon his new duties. Visions of a British Museum in Kentucky flitted before him. The building that had been purchased was to be remodified without regard to expense, a vast museum to be begun which would eclipse anything of the kind known on the American continent. Fountains, statuary, aquaria, and a million of new books were to spring into existence through the magic power of one or two more concerts, and the endowment to be received from the last one would be sufficient to place the whole upon a basis as solid as the Bank of England! Such a future required that the librarian should not do much sleeping during the preparations for the grand international gathering that would be made to witness the gorgeous display of the treasures to be concentrated from all parts of the earth.(21)

Towne immediately set about bringing some order out of the confusion in which he found the

book collection. There were about ten thousand volumes, mainly the residue of the older libraries, placed at random in the shelves.

He began by taking the books from the shelves and classifying them as he placed them on the tables and floors of the library room, adopting the following classifications: theology, history, biography, poetry, reference books, fiction, fine arts, useful arts, government, general literature, and periodical literature. All defective books and incomplete magazine sets he put aside as unsuitable for cataloguing, though they were not thrown away. During the summer, Durrett went abroad with his family and purchased for the library, in London and Paris and in Germany, many more books, swelling the total to 31,000 and adding to Towne's labors when they were delivered in the fall.

Shortly after Towne began classifying the books, Durrett directed him to begin the work of cataloguing them, urging him to employ a large force on this work. Accordingly, ten women were engaged as rapidly as they could be instructed in the procedure to be followed. Towne describes the process by which the library catalogue was compiled:

> The books of a given classification having been arranged on the shelves, a gentleman was employed to place those on a given shelf upon some one of the ten tables. Each book had been previously examined by the librarian, and if in addition to the title-page the contents were to be taken, the book was so marked. The authors of anonymous books were writ-

ten on the title page, and everything done to make the catalogue accurate in all particulars. The model for the catalogue was that of the Young Men's Association of Buffalo, which the librarian had previously made, and both were made upon the method known as the "Dictionary Plan." This is the plan of the catalogue of the Public Library of Boston, and the plan upon which that of the British Museum is now being made. In many particulars, however, the Louisville catalogue is much more minute than that of any other library for which a catalogue has been printed. It contains, for instance, the names of all dramas in the library in alphabetical order under the word "Drama." All its pamphlets are catalogued as carefully as its books. Every person of whose life a sketch is found in the library has his name in its alphabetical place, and the book containing his life is referred to. The title of every essay in the library is alphabetically placed. The name of every subject of an engraving in the library is in the catalogue. The contents of all periodicals which have no index were carefully taken, as, for instance, Littell's Living Age, Blackwood's Magazine, etc., so that the catalogue is really an index of the periodical literature in the library....

...The books were numbered consecutively and the number placed on the title-page and upon a small tag pasted upon the back of the book. The title-

page was taken in full, including publisher's name, date and place of publication. Each title, contents, etc., were placed on tickets usual in making a catalogue, and at the close of each day's work these tickets were placed in boxes in the numerical order of the books.

This preliminary work lasted one full year, at the end of which all but two of the ladies were discharged. The librarian then read every ticket in the boxes and marked, either by underscoring a word or the back of the ticket, the cross-references to be made. In this way all books relating to any subjects whatever are collected under that subject. Where any title-page was defective the librarian compared it with the book itself to secure accuracy. The tickets, as fast as read and marked, were handed to the two ladies, who made the cross-references as directed, and finally arranged the tickets in alphabetical order. This work required about six months, when the catalogue was ready for printing, no transcribing of tickets being necessary. The librarian did not urge the publication of the catalogue, as he desired before doing so to have at least 20,000 more books added to the library, representing subjects that would have been noticeably absent had the catalogue been printed. The catalogue, as finished, would make a royal octavo volume of more than one thousand pages.(22)

The publication of the PUBLIC LIBRARY PAPER under Ben Casseday's editorship was begun soon after Towne became librarian. It was chiefly a medium of advertising for the gift concerts, but it also contained lists of books newly acquired.

On July 8, 1873, two months after Towne took office as librarian, the third gift concert was staged. Ticket sales yielded gross receipts of $1,000,000; half of this was paid out or earmarked as prizes, and the net profits were $244,000, of which the library received half. At this point Bramlette decided to avail himself of the "hundred-thousand-dollar clause" and accordingly notified the library board that its share of the proceeds from the last two drawings would be a flat $100,000 each instead of 50 per cent of the profits. His foresight in this matter was justified. The fourth ticket sale, the drawing for which was held March 31, 1874, grossed $2,250,000; the fifth, February 27, 1875, yielded a total of $1,900,000.(23)

THE GROSS RECEIPTS FROM THE FIVE CONCERTS WERE $6,250,000, ACCORDING TO TOWNE. THE LIBRARY'S SHARE WAS $424,396.32.(24)

Expenses of the concerts and lottery were extraordinarily large. The managers plunged heavily to insure large ticket sales, taking extensive advertising in large newspapers and magazines of wide circulation and employing "agents" of the lottery throughout the country. And much money was paid out in prizes. But undoubtedly the aggregate sum retained by the lottery promoters was greatly in excess of that paid the library. How much will never be known

--the financial records of the lottery never were made public.

One item of expense is hard to credit. This was the $50,000 reported to Towne as having been paid for the entertainment at the fifth drawing, a concert by "a band of musicians,... brought from Boston, giving concerts on their way."(25) In other words, the stipend did not include round trip transportation from Boston. Now the dollar bought a great deal more in 1875 than it does in 1942. And today an impresario with $50,000 to spend could schedule, on the same basis (one-night engagements in Louisville as part of extensive itineraries, half a dozen top-ranking musical and dramatic attractions--say, two of the best symphony orchestras(26), two vocal or instrumental soloists, and two good plays with first-rate Broadway casts. And have money enough left over to advertise his attractions lavishly.

It is more than probable that Towne's bias made him susceptible to acceptance of a piece of fiction issued by the lottery managers in the interests of publicity. They were too shrewd as business men to pay $50,000 for a concert and, since all money exclusive of the prizes and the $100,000 for the library was theirs anyway, they may be absolved of falsifying, for purposes of gain to themselves, the amount paid to the orchestra.

Even aside from the lottery manager's invocation of the "hundred-thousand-dollar clause," the library was entitled to a great deal of money it never received, Towne maintains. He recalls that Bramlette promised to pay over to the library all prize money unclaimed at the

end of six months and points out that this must have been a sizable sum. For example, in the fifth concert there were 19,000 prizes of $19 each. But each of these 19,000 tickets was divided into ten coupons, so that in the great majority of cases only $1.90 was due to each of many coupon-owners scattered widely throughout the world and never claimed. Not one penny of this, he says, was turned over to the library.(27)

> To be sure (Towne writes) there was no law in existence compelling the transfer of this sum to the public library fund, ...It was merely a promise to the public over the signature of Thos. E. Bramlette, which was never kept. Possibly it might have been kept had Governor Bramlette lived; but he died January 12, 1875, and the last concert was given February 27th of the same year. It is certain that this promise to the public was not considered legally or morally binding so far as Governor Bramlette's successors were concerned. Mr. (C. M.) Briggs was elected to take the place of Governor Bramlette, and on the death of Mr. Briggs (July 13, 1875), R. T. Durrett, the President of the Board of Trustees of the Public Library, was elected as his successor, who has never made any report whatever of the amount due the library from unpaid prizes.(28)

At another point in his chronicle Towne explains that Durrett was named to succeed Briggs

simply to wind up the affairs of the lottery enterprise, since all the drawings permitted under the charter already had been held.

Towne heard rumors of the "hundred-thousand-dollar clause" in the contract with Bramlette soon after he assumed his duties as librarian. He went at once to Walter N. Haldeman and Henry Watterson to discuss it. Apparently it was news to Watterson; for upon hearing that it was common report that Bramlette, "prompted by his associates" (said to number seventeen men), was on the point of taking advantage of this clause, he denounced Bramlette's proposed course as infamous. Haldeman took a more pacific view, arguing that the library might profit by settling for a $100,000 guarantee from each of the two remaining ticket sales instead of gambling on 50 per cent of the profits. Towne returned to his work convinced that if he could not rely on the two publishers to attend to the interests of the library, their oversight could not be remedied by any means in his power. Watterson's indignation was not soothed, though it took the somewhat negative form of absence from subsequent meetings of the Board of Trustees.(29)

Towne, in retrospect, has written that he was told "a hundred times" that the lottery plan was a fraud. He refused to believe it; his faith in the honesty of purpose of the men involved, his firm belief that they would take proper care of the library's interests, remained unshaken for nearly two years. At length, though, he was impelled to the conclusion that

it was one of the boldest and most suc-

> cessful schemes ever practiced upon a confiding public. However sincere its projector was in the conception of the idea he must unquestionably have changed his purpose after its astounding success developed. Private interests absorbed most of the money that was to have been used in establishing a public institution....The Legislature of Kentucky was deceived, as were all parties not entrusted with the real purpose of those who conceived this monstrous lottery.(30)

Towne's strictures were borne out to some degree by the outcome of a suit filed in January, 1877, in Chancery Court in Louisville. The complainants were nine residents of Jackson, Mississippi, who had formed a club for the purpose of investing $500 in tickets of the fifth lottery drawing. They received $104 in prizes. When suspicion over the lottery became widespread, as it did in less than two years, they sued for the recovery of their $500 plus the costs of litigation. The Mississippians named as defendants the Public Library of Kentucky, Mary G. Bramlette, administratrix of the estate of Thomas E. Bramlette; J. A. Briggs, executor of the will of Charles M. Briggs; R. T. Durrett, Joseph A. Nimes, James Mooney, Dillard Ricketts, and "certain other persons whose names are as yet unknown to the plaintiffs."(31)

The amended petition, dated January 23, 1877, set forth the articles of incorporation of the Public Library, with special reference to Article 7, wherein the right to present five entertainments was granted by the legislature, at

which entertainments portions of the proceeds arising from the sale of tickets of admission might be distributed to patrons by lot. It was contended that since "hundreds of thousands" of tickets were sold for an entertainment in a hall which had a seating capacity of only 2,000, a manifest fraud had been perpetrated on the public. It was contended further that since the library had no powers other than those granted in its charter, and since the stipulation that the proceeds go to the Public Library alone had been superseded, without legislative amendment, by the contract between Bramlette and the library trustees, with the result that most of the profits went to individuals, this phase of the charter lost its original sanction of legality.

> The plaintiffs say that at the time of the making of the aforesaid compact (between Bramlette and the trustees) it was fully agreed and understood by and between said Public Library of Kentucky and said Thomas E. Bramlette, Charles M. Briggs, R. T. Durrett, J. A. Nimes, J. S. Mooney, Dillard Ricketts, and certain other persons unknown to the plaintiffs that the remaining four entertainments and gift distributions authorized by the charter of said Corporation should be changed to a gigantic lottery, and conducted as such....It was further agreed at said time and between said persons that it should be represented, announced, and advertised throughout the United States, and many foreigh countries, that

> the said Lottery, as the same was then and there resolved on, had been authorized by the Legislature of the State of Kentucky, for the benefit of said Public Library of Kentucky, that advertisements and editorial announcements should be inserted and procured to be inserted, in large numbers of the newspapers of the United States and other Countries, and that printed handbills and posters should be distributed, and paid agents commissioned and sent out into the various States and Territories of the Union and into foreign countries, for the purpose of representing and announcing that said Lottery and drawings, as then and there resolved on, were legal and fully authorized by the laws of the State of Kentucky....(32)

The petition went on to accuse the defendant corporation and individuals of wrongfully and fraudulently receiving the reputed sum of more than $6,000,000 from the plaintiffs and other innocent persons in a similar situation, and appropriating it to their own use, "and divided and shared the money among themselves in proportions unknown to the plaintiffs, and still retain said money and refuse to give it up to the plaintiffs, and others who are legally entitled to the same, though often requested to do so."

The defendants (said the petition), acting in pretended pursuance of the charter of the Public Library of Kentucky,

jointly arranged four so-called musical entertainments...at each of which they jointly drew or caused to be drawn great Lottery drawings in violation of the laws of the State of Kentucky; at none of said drawings was a portion of the proceeds, arising from the sale of tickets of admission, distributed, or designed to be distributed, by lot to the patrons of literary, musical, or dramatic entertainments; but at each of said drawings immense sums of money were awarded by lot among all persons who held tickets in said Lottery.

. . . . . .

The plaintiffs say that by reason of the above facts and on account of the manifold other violations of the charter, each and every one of the drawings which took place at these so-called entertainments was an unlawful lottery and the sale of tickets therein unlawful and a fraud upon the charter and on the plaintiffs and on all ticket holders in said Lottery and by reason of the premises, the said Public Library of Kentucky and said Bramlette and his said associates, did unlawfully bet, game and wager against the plaintiffs and did so win from each of the plaintiffs more than Five Dollars within the same twenty-four hours....

The plaintiffs say that they were duped, mis-led and deceived by the representations of the said Public Library of

> Kentucky...in regard to the legality of said Lottery and the drawings thereof, and the authorization of the same by the laws of Kentucky, and that the plaintiffs bought tickets in said Lottery, and in and for each drawing thereof, relying entirely on said defendent corporation and said Bramlette, Briggs, Durrett, (et al). ...; and believing said representations to be true, and but for said representations and belief, the plaintiff would never have bought tickets in said Lottery, or in any of the drawings thereof ...said representations...were false, deceitful and intended to dupe, defraud and mislead the plaintiffs and all persons living in the State of Kentucky who might be induced to buy tickets in said Lottery and drawings...(33)

Their claims were upheld and judgment of about $1,000 was rendered--not against the conductors of the lottery but against the financially crippled Public Library of Kentucky, which had to pay the judgment.(34)

Chapter Three

THE POLYTECHNIC PICKS UP THE PIECES

On April 3, 1875, the Public Library of Kentucky, in Towne's words, was "abandoned to its fate." Such was the librarian's interpretation of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees so short a time as five weeks after the last gift concert. This resolution follows:

> RESOLVED, That for the purpose of reducing expenses and bringing outlay within the line of income, all previous action of the Board of Trustees employing persons and fixing their salaries, except the librarian in chief, elected March 22, 1875, be, and the same are hereby, repealed and annulled, to take effect April 30, 1875; and the librarian is hereby directed to take charge of the library building, inclusive of the halls, stores, and rooms for rent, and to rent the same and collect the rents as part of his future duties; and the librarian is further directed to employ such assistants at such salaries as he can conveniently pay out of the rents collected after deducting therefrom for taxes and insurance, about $8,000 per year, and the necessary

gas, water, fuel, periodical literature and the inevitable current repairs of the library building.(1)

There was good reason for this belated gesture to economy. As to the library's exact cash resources on that date, there is no record; but a month later its bank balance was $2,641.86. Slightly more than $2,000 was checked out May 22 to pay "for supporting the east wall of the library building"--this after $60,000 had been expended already on remodeling the structure--and $625 more went in two checks in June.

On June 19 the balance was $2.67. The Public Library of Kentucky, inland America's counterpart of the British Museum, was broke, its hoped-for endowment non-existent.(2)

Towne gives an approximate accounting of expenditures in the three years embracing the drawings and the establishment of the library. The larger items were: building and lot, $210,000; remodeling, $60,000; estimated cost of all books, $50,000; Gerard Troost mineral collection, $20,500; Canova statue of Hebe, $10,000; preparation of first-floor room after fifth concert for housing library, $8,000; library catalogue, $6,000; insurance, $14,000; publication of LIBRARY PAPER, $5,000. Total, $383,500. The rest, plus receipts from rentals in the building, was disbursed in salaries, upkeep and repairs, miscellaneous small expenditures, and showcases for the Troost collection.

As soon as he read the April 3 resolution, Towne could see that the Public Library of Kentucky was dying if not dead. The building had to produce a revenue of $8,000 a year in ex-

216818

cess of costs of maintaining the library, keeping the building in repair, and keeping Library and Festival Halls open. At that time four stores were vacant: even after outlay was cut to the lowest practicable point, income was still less than expenses.

Durrett, too, was pessimistic. "He did not hesitate to assure the librarian that he saw no way to put the library upon a paying basis," Towne says. "I doubt if another member of that board at all realized the desperate condition in which the library was placed."(3)

For several days Towne deliberated on what to do. He discarded two possible courses of action: one, to resign his position and allow the property to fall into the hands of the president, who claimed to own a controlling interest in the stock ("Had the librarian taken this course," Towne comments, "he would voluntarily have requested the Governor of the State to sentence him to the penitentiary for the rest of his life"); the other, to retain his position and as soon as practical agree to close the library, sell its possessions, and allow it to pass into oblivion. This he also conceived would be a criminal act.(4)

Towne devised a third plan of campaign, one that might achieve the desired goal of a free public library on a permanent foundation. This was to hold his position as librarian, claim on "all proper occasions" that the property belonged to the public and not to individuals, and try to organize a society that would be strong enough to receive the property, raise an endowment fund to support the library, and obtain a tax exemption from the State Legislature.

This course could be based on a "fatal flaw" Towne thought he discerned in the charter: the clause providing for dissolution of the Public Library of Kentucky by distribution of its assets among the stockholders, according to the proportion of stock they owned. To Towne's knowledge, confirmed by the statement of one of the trustees, Dr. C. C. Graham, no stock had ever been sold and no money paid in for any.

So Towne bent his efforts to keeping the library intact until a new society could be organized to take it over. The management of the theater fell into his hands when Will S. Hays, the manager, resigned because of the meagerness of his commissions on receipts from the hall.(5)

Towne was conscious of his lack of experience as a showman and aware also that the other theatres and halls in Louisville provided competition in the theatrical field too strong to be overcome. He decided to make an independent effort in another direction. At another library, possessing similar facilities, he had seen a course of ten lectures net $4,000. As an experiment, on his own initiative, he engaged in February, 1876, two well-known lecturers, R. A. Proctor, astronomer, for three lectures, and Paul Du Chaillu, the explorer, for two. The library barely broke even on the lectures, Proctor and Du Chaillu receiving their customary fees of $600 and $300 respectively.(6)

Nevertheless, Towne persevered. One of his purposes in promoting the lectures was the diversion of the hall into educational channels as far as possible. Despite the financial failure of the first experiment, therefore, the li-

brarian engaged a Professor Pepper, inventor and lecturer at the Polytechnic Institute in London, for a series of lectures. Two Louisville men of science, Dr. J. Lawrence Smith and Dr. Charles F. Carpenter, had heard Professor Pepper in London and vouched for his ability. With 50 per cent of gross receipts going to the library, Professor Pepper's three or four lectures were the only ones given in the hall which made money for the library.(7)

Before he left Louisville, Professor Pepper told Towne that his scientific apparatus, including one of the largest and best lantern-slide projectors then in use, had been attached by his creditors in Chicago. The apparatus had cost $8,000 and could be bought for $500. Towne, continuing to act on his own initiative, bought it for the library. It arrived in "most wonderfully disordered condition"; but soon after its receipt another scientific lecturer, Prof. Thomas W. Tobin, came to the city to lecture at the Louisville Exposition. He had known Professor Pepper in London, was familiar with the apparatus, and was delighted to find it in Louisville. He readily consented to repair it so it could be used to illustrate a series of lectures.(8)

Several learned Louisvillians were invited to prepare lectures that could be illustrated by the chemical and physical apparatus and on the projection machine, and in all, thirteen lectures were given by Dr. Thomas E. Jenkins, Dr. Theodore S. Bell, William J. Davis, and Dr. Emory A. Grant. The most strenuous efforts were made to insure the success of the series. The newspapers were liberal with publicity,

factories and shops were visited to urge attendance upon the employees, and great pains taken and considerable financial outlay made to enhance the effectiveness of the lectures.

But they also were failures. At one, given by Dr. Bell, a hundred university students came in on passes issued by the lecturer himself; the cash receipts were $2.75. Towne had spent about six hundred dollars of his own money, the apparatus was not paid for, and Professor Tobin had received no compensation beyond his board and lodging in Towne's home. He was rewarded, however, with a professorship at Central University, in Richmond, Kentucky.(9)

In the summer of 1876 Towne came to the conclusion that he should delay no longer in attempting to organize a society that would be broad enough in its scope to receive the library property and strong enough to raise a fund for future operation of the library. He realized that no existing society's aims were general enough to perform the necessary functions; and it was desirable that the new organization be made up of the personnel of all existing groups, for only in this way could dissension among them be avoided. Conversations with other residents of the city strengthened his conviction that the library property should be owned by the city and the State.

Accordingly, in December, 1876, he invited a number of leading citizens of Louisville to meet in the library to organize a literary and scientific society that would seem to them to meet the requirements. Among those invited to the meeting were Dr. Theodore S. Bell, Dr. F.

M. Byington, William J. Davis, Dr. J. Lawrence Smith, Dr. Thomas E. Jenkins, Prof. Noble Butler, John Williamson, Andrew MacDonald, Dr. Emory A. Grant, S. G. Stevens, G. L. Marchand, Timothy Needham, and Prof. Jason W. Chenault.(10)

Towne had prepared for the meeting by drafting a constitution, modeled after the rules of the Maitland Club of Scotland, to be submitted to the meeting after its temporary organization. These rules were adopted almost as soon as they were read, without prior reference to a committee. The apparatus of the London Polytechnic Institute was in the same room and suggested the name: the Polytechnic Society of Kentucky. The organization effected, the librarian, assisted especially by Dr. Byington and Dr. Jenkins, worked zealously to increase the membership, and soon this totaled 160.

The members were divided by a committee into five academies, each headed by a president, vice-president, and secretary, the academies covering literature, sciences, art, philosophy, and technology. During the remainder of the winter and the spring of 1876-77 one or another of the academies met every night in the library building. The apparatus was placed at the society's disposal and no charge was ever made for its use or any of the building's facilities.

First officers of the society were Dr. Theodore S. Bell, president; Prof. Jason W. Chenault, vice-president; Dr. Thomas E. Jenkins, secretary, and Andrew MacDonald, treasurer. Comprising the Executive Council were the officers and Prof. Noble Butler, S. G. Stevens, William J. Davis, Prof. C. Leo Mees, and Dr. J.

Lawrence Smith. Officers of the academies were: Literature--Prof. Noble Butler, president; Dr. Emory A. Grant, vice-president, and Bernard Shipp, secretary; Sciences--William J. Davis, president; Edward D. Blake, vice-president, and Alexander Griswold, secretary; Art--Prof. Louis Hast, president; Carl C. Brenner, vice-president, and C. G. Rosenplaenter, secretary; Philosophy--Bennett H. Young, president; R. M. Kelley, vice-president, and Dr. Thomas P. Grant, secretary; Technology--J. D. O'Leary, president; William W. Drummond, vice-president, and John Duncan, secretary.(11)

Dr. Bell was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Public Library of Kentucky; and Towne urged him to accept the presidency of the Polytechnic Society in the belief that this would facilitate transfer of the library property to the new organization. In his speech of acceptance Dr. Bell congratulated the charter members on the formation of a literary society and expressed the opinion that, should it become strong enough, it undoubtedly could take over the property of the library.

Until it could obtain a charter, empowering it to operate a library, the society had to exist merely as a literary and scientific organization. In the fall of 1877, in anticipation of the convening of the legislature in December, Towne asked J. W. Mavity, an attorney member of the society, to draft a charter. Mavity, since he had business of his own in Frankfort, also served on the society's committee appointed to go to the capital and present the case for the charter properly. It was introduced in the

Senate and passed that body without opposition.(12)

There ensued then a comedy of parliamentary errors that came near to proving tragedy for the Polytechnic Society.

While the charter was in committee of the House of Representatives, a member of the lower house read it and found that it contained a clause exempting from taxation whatever property the society might obtain. He also found the name of Mayor Charles D. Jacob among the petitioners in the body of the charter. This legislator wrote a letter to the COURIER-JOURNAL, calling attention to these facts; the letter was published, and Mayor Jacob, upon seeing it, at once telegraphed to the chairman of the committee holding the bill, disavowing all knowledge of the charter.(13)

The inclusion of Mayor Jacob's name without his authorization was the result entirely of oversight and not an attempt to "put something over." The names listed in the charter when it was first drafted had included those of several persons who were not yet members of the society but who, it was believed, were certain to join as soon as they were solicited. Professor Butler, a friend of Mayor Jacob, had agreed to invite him to become a member, but apparently delayed doing so until the matter slipped his mind.(14)

Upon receipt of Mayor Jacob's telegram, the chairman of the House committee promptly threw out the tax-exempting clause and released the bill for consideration on the floor. It was then passed by the House as amended and returned to the Senate for amendment and final

passage. Towne and Mavity wrote to the chairman of the Senate committee to which the bill had been re-referred, asking him to suspend action on it until someone could come to Frankfort and correct the false impression about the bill.(15)

Towne then called upon Mayor Jacob and explained the situation in detail: how the library was in imminent danger of being sold and dispersed, that no society could draw income enough from the building to do more than pay operating expenses and buy a few books a year, and that the property was to belong at last to the whole public, which could, under such circumstances, have no wish for its taxation. Mayor Jacob was sympathetic toward the new move to save the library, but explained that he could not even appear to favor any measure that would lessen the city's revenues.(16)

Mavity returned to Frankfort, but soon reported that nothing could be done for the exempting clause, and no committee of the Polytechnic Society could now be induced to resume the work yet to be done in Frankfort. So the matter rested there until adjournment of the legislature impended, without passage of the bill in any form. As a last resort Towne volunteered to go to Frankfort and attempt to have the bill passed as originally drafted. He immediately encountered new and unforeseen trouble.

He discovered that "someone had interested himself" (the identity of that "someone" is not now known) in having the bill further amended in the Senate to empower the attorney-general of the State to undertake an investigation of

the disposition of the six-and-a-quarter-million dollars raised in the lottery. Towne appeared before the Senate committee and argued that it was undesirable to open an investigation of the whereabouts of the money, since probably neither the Public Library trustees nor the Polytechnic Society council would consent to the transfer of the property with this condition attached.(17)

On behalf of the "someone," Bennett H. Young, attorney, was conducting the fight for passage of the investigation amendment and, inexplicably, was opposing the tax-exemption clause. A telegram to him from Walter N. Haldeman, urging him to desist from an activity so unfavorable to the cause of the library, induced him to abandon his efforts.(18)

Before going to Frankfort, Towne had been informed erroneously that it would be necessary for the Senate to restore the tax-exemption clause to the bill. It was an error that worked to the advantage of the Polytechnic Society. With the doings of Young no longer a problem, Towne began a struggle for the exempting clause that engendered furious controversy in the Senate and caused that body to forget to reconsider the tax-exempting clause already in the bill. The new clause lost by one vote in the final roll call. With the waters thus muddied, the House of Representatives, on the assurance of one of its Louisville members, who ironically enough, opposed the exempting clause, that it was no longer in the charter, passed the bill as it had been originally and was most recently passed by the Senate.(19) Gov. James B. McCreary signed it April 10, 1878.(20)

THE POLYTECHNIC PICKS UP THE PIECES

Towne returned to Louisville disheartened and certain that he had lost. Not until he read the final bill again did he discover that he had accidentally gained his point.

On April 8 the legislature had passed an enabling act permitting the Public Library of Kentucky to transfer all its property "of every kind and character" to the Polytechnic Society.(21) The way was clear for the Polytechnic to take over the library.

Meanwhile, Towne had run afoul of more of the library's financial troubles. In December, 1877, with all the library rooms but one rented, it seemed to the librarian that the transfer of the property could be achieved with all running expenses (including his own salary) paid and a small balance left. But he reckoned too optimistically.

His first setback was the discovery that on December 7, in Chancery Court, the City of Louisville had been adjudged owner of the grounds and premises of the Public Library of Kentucky in default of tax payments. Towne, therefore, was forbidden to collect any further rents or other revenues, and was required to deliver the property to Henry M. Lane for the city. Towne overcame this difficulty by persuading Lane to wait until the proposed transfer of the library could be effected, when the Polytechnic Society would pay the back taxes without delay.(22)

Then, on December 20, the Jefferson County sheriff served garnishments on all the tenants of the building for back State taxes. To solve this difficulty Towne made an agreement with

the Commonwealth attorney to deliver to that official the monthly bills for rental collections until the taxes should be paid. This was done regularly until June 1, 1878, when collections had aggregated $1,690, nearly the whole amount of the taxes due. By this time careful attention to the revenue-producing possibilities of the library's hall had yielded enough income to reduce the library's operating deficit to $1,600 including back salaries of the librarian and other employees.(23)

There were other obligations totaling more than $75,000; but of this, $60,000 was in bonds that would not mature until September, 1882, and that was offset by a $60,000 note to the Public Library of Walter N. Haldeman. Interest on the bonds were likewise balanced by interest on the Haldeman note. There was another Haldeman note of $20,000 due June 22, 1878, that was accounted an asset of the library. The Haldeman obligations were secured by a third mortgage on the COURIER-JOURNAL Building and stock in the newspaper.(24)

Judge Bland Ballard and R. M. Kelly were assigned by the Polytechnic Society to examine the entire financial situation and report to the society as soon as possible. Their report recommended that the property be accepted on the strength of the society's ability to sell the statue of Hebe and collect the $20,000 Haldeman note, in which case the pressing debts of the library could be paid, with a margin left for other purposes.(25)

Some time was consumed by the negotiations for the transfer, due first to the fact that Durrett, at a meeting of the Polytechnic coun-

cil subsequent to the one devoted to the Ballard-Kelly report, increased his estimate of the amount of money necessary to pay pressing debts of the library from $20,000 to $30,450.28. The additional amount included $5,000 in fees purportedly due attorneys for service to the Public Library of Kentucky in the lottery suit. This matter was settled to the satisfaction of the Polytechnic council when the fee claims were withdrawn. Another delay was occasioned by an investigation of the library's title to its real estate. The title was found defective in several minor particulars, but Young and Mavity were able to correct these defects. Finally, an inquiry was held on prior claims on the COURIER-JOURNAL Building, which were found to be $155,000, and on the actual value of stock in the newspaper, which proved to be only 50 per cent of par value, the basis on which it was posted as security for the Haldeman loans.(26)

All this delay may explain the otherwise inexplicable action of Durrett in offering the library property to the University of Louisville while the negotiations with the Polytechnic Society were still in progress. The university declined the offer when it learned the gift horse was saddled with a $25,000-to-$30,000 debt.

Finally, on May 22, 1878, the deed of transfer was signed, with no guarantee that the debts would be paid beyond the word of the Polytechnic Society, and the career of the Public Library of Kentucky came to an end.(27)

Almost immediately a coldness sprang up be-

tween the council of the society and Towne--or rather, on the part of the council against Towne. The finance committee, under the chairmanship of J. D. O'Leary, seemed to get nowhere toward discharge of the obligations; Towne's recollections, published a year later, indicate that he was persistent in bringing these disagreeable realities to the attention of the officials. Also, he continuously opposed the council's evident plans with respect to the $20,000 Haldeman note. Its policy apparently was based upon collection of the note and on the sale of the statue of Hebe. The statue never found a purchaser, although it was displayed at the Louisville Exposition for this purpose. It still (1942) stands in the Louisville Free Public Library.

Seemingly, although Haldeman had shown no intention of evading his obligations, the society thought only in terms of a lawsuit against the publisher. Towne was unalterably opposed to litigation; he argued that disaster was certain to follow such a course; that it would do the society no good if its already slender cash resources were to be sapped by court costs. At this point he was indiscreet enough to confide his criticism and fears in a letter to George W. Rank, curator of the Kentucky Historical Society. Rank allowed the letter to be published in a Lexington newspaper--and the Polytechnic Society council adopted a resolution rebuking Towne, calling his disclosures erroneous, and declaring that its executive committee, alone in possession of all the facts, was not at all anxious about finances.(28)

Although Towne's account of the Public Li-

brary and Polytechnic Society and of his part in their history indicates a strong tendency toward a martyr-complex, there is no doubt that a systematic campaign of petty persecution was carried on against him by the Polytechnic Society in the latter half of 1878. Whatever the reason for it, the motive was clear: his ouster.

First, the committee criticized his haphazard management of the halls, without acknowledging that the pressure of his other duties might be responsible. Likewise, his handling of the store rents was so unsatisfactory, from the council's hypercritical point of view, that they were taken out of his hands and made the responsibility of the treasurer, Andrew MacDonald.

Then the librarian was censured, in a star-chamber session of the council's dignitaries, for renting Festival Hall for the drawing of a small lottery. His absolution in this instance was easy: the council, with a reticence by this time chronic, had omitted to inform him of its recent adoption of a resolution against lotteries.

Next, the society adopted a resolution requiring a bond of the librarian. Towne promptly offered the name of Haldeman as his surety. The council could not refuse because of Haldeman's local eminence; it could not accept, for that would place it in the potentially embarrassing position of having accepted the name of a man it might sue. So this matter was allowed to drop. Then Towne was offered a trip to New York, on some pretext. Suspecting that a suit would be instituted against Haldeman in his absence, he refused the proffered vacation.

At last he was ordered to surrender to the treasurer of the society the safe in his office and the card-index to his catalogue, which he considered of great value. Instead of complying meekly, Towne hurriedly obtained a restraining order against this move. Whereupon, on December 13, 1878, he was discharged for insubordination.

So ended Paul Allen Towne's connection with the library in Louisville: a position that was to be pleasant, permanent, and comparable to the post of head of the British Museum, a position to the holder of which salary increases would accrue without difficulty.(29)

There are perceptible slight clues to the eagerness of the Polytechnic to be rid of Towne, apart from probable irritation at his tendency to nag and at other defects of personality aggravated by five years of worry over the library's welfare. Here and there in the early minutes of the society are intimations of dissatisfaction with his management of Library and Festival Halls. Also, it is rather clear that Dr. Bell became persuaded that Towne's part in the Public Library debacle was not innocent; that his ignorance of the financial conduct of the Public Library was not due to timidity in the presence of the great, but to deliberate indifference. According to Basil W. Duke, Dr. Bell was "a rather visionary man, and no amount of practical contradiction, no opposing fact could shake his confidence in a theory once adopted." So negligence, or worse, by Towne evidently became an IDEE FIXE with Dr. Bell.

Towne seems to have written his series of articles in the LOUISVILLE MONTHLY with a dou-

ble end in view: first, to paint himself as the hero-martyr of the effort to save the library and to answer criticism of his role either implied or explicit; second, to fix the blame for the failure elsewhere.

As accusations, if they can be credited--and the case he makes out is strong--the articles are illuminating. It is an important point in their favor that they were never answered, except with an Olympian silence, by those at whom the accusations were directed: men of enough wealth or influence or both to command the resources for reply either in the press or in the law courts.

But as self-exculpation, the articles appear superfluous. There is no evidence (outside the minds of Dr. Bell and his handful of supporters of like opinion, who were not really in a position to know) that Towne's part in the Public Library fiasco was other than that of an overworked and innocent victim of glowing promises unfulfilled. No public stigma of wrongdoing or incompetence clung to him; a few years later he joined the staff of the Astor Library in New York, predecessor of the New York Public Library.

On the other hand, neither did public esteem of Reuben T. Durrett, whom Towne especially singles out for condemnation, decline. He continued to enjoy the respect and affection of his fellow-citizens, founded the celebrated Filson Club in 1884, and turned his home and library at Brook and Chestnut Streets into a mecca for visiting bibliophiles and historians. One of the latter was Theodore Roosevelt, who

made use of the Durrett Library in collecting material for THE WINNING OF THE WEST.(30)

Towne was replaced as librarian by W. L. Hickman; after a short incumbency he was succeeded by Annie V. Pollard.(31)

The Polytechnic's lackadaisical attitude toward its debts brought it a lawsuit in the fall of 1878. The Farmers' and Drovers' Insurance Company brought suit in Chancery Court September 14 to satisfy its claim of $1,543.53, asking that the property, with its asset of the Haldeman obligations, be "marshaled, administered and sold" to discharge the long-standing obligations against it, and that pending such action a receiver be appointed to collect the rents and profits of the building to be applied toward liquidation of the notes.(32)

Clearly the situation was beyond the powers of the present administration. Something was required other than a suit against Walter N. Haldeman, which probably had been held back through the influence of Bennett H. Young. He had a greater appreciation than the Polytechnic council of Haldeman's difficulties, the roots of which were apparently in the prior claims, larger than those of the Polytechnic Society, against the COURIER-JOURNAL.

A new plan took shape, through the persuasive powers of Dr. Emory A. Grant, which bore fruit in the addition of twenty-seven new members of high standing to the society, on the one hand, and the connections and legal efforts of Bennett H. Young on the other. This plan, presented at a called meeting of the council held January 11, 1879, and attended by Haldeman,

involved the resignation of the members of the incumbent council (except Dr. Thomas E. Jenkins, the secretary), at discreet intervals of time, and the formation of a new council. It embraced an offer by

> seven gentlemen...to assume and pay off the pressing indebtedness and save the property for the society on condition that its management should be intrusted to them for five years. The proposition was accepted. The officers resigned and these gentlemen were elected to fill the vacancies thus created.(33)

The seven new councilmen were Dr. Stuart Robinson, president; Dr. Emory A. Grant, W. T. Grant, George W. Swearingen, Edward Wilder, John H. Leathers, and Bennett H. Young. They were joined a little later by an eighth, Nathan Bloom, who shared in assuming the debts of the society. A face-saving resolution of thanks was tendered the old council for its "efforts in saving the library."

The pressing debts were paid; the Chancery suit was withdrawn, and a more favorable interest rate was obtained on the bonded indebtedness. In time the Haldeman obligations were satisfied.(34)

Free for the time being from financial worries, the new council turned to a much-needed improvement of the property. The library and museum occupied low rooms with flat shed-roofs on either side of the theater, Festival Hall. Their floors almost flush with the ground, these rooms were so damp, poorly ventilated and

lighted as to discourage all but the hardiest patrons. Many of the books were mouldy and falling to pieces, and all were threatened with ruin.

The conditions of the building were now remedied. All the partitions were torn out, necessitating the rebuilding of part of the theater walls. New dressing rooms, a lecture room, science rooms, and a well-equipped library room were completed.

But in spite of these evidences of stability and future usefulness, public distrust did not at first subside. Few persons applied for membership. It seemed as if all the council could do was preserve the property--the building, books, and art works--as the nucleus of a great free circulating library that would arise when the time became propitious.

Yet, in the hope of attracting new members, the society continued its improvements. Books were repaired, important items were added to the collection, and an accession catalogue was prepared. The best scientific, literary, and professional magazines, as well as leading newspapers from all parts of the country, were obtained. Greater facilities were provided for the public in the free reading room and the books were made available for withdrawal to members of the society, responsible resident subscribers, and out-of-town visitors who were willing to deposit the value of the book desired and pay a small fee for its use. As a result of these significant changes the membership gradually increased.(35)

In the fall of 1880 the society launched a course of free Monday night scientific lectures,

graphically illustrated by such of the society's chemical apparatus as demonstrated the properties of water, the laws governing flowing liquids, and the specific gravities of various gases. Because all places of amusement in the city were offering competing attractions on the night of the first lecture, it was poorly attended. But subsequent audiences overflowed the lecture hall, some of the lectures attracting such widespread attention that they were published in both American and European journals.

In a short time this work of the society had aroused such interest that another lecture series on Friday afternoons was inaugurated, this one exclusively for women members of the society and girl students in private schools of the city. About 150 women attended: the work both supplemented courses in college and reached persons outside colleges.

Prof. T. W. Tobin, already familiar to Louisville audiences through his lectures at the Exposition and his work for the Public Library of Kentucky, was brought from Central University and engaged as lecturer at an annual salary of $1,500. A brilliant and versatile Englishman, he was credited with being one of the few lecturers in the country who could make science interesting to lay audiences. He was frequently asked to fill engagements in New Orleans, St. Louis, and Chicago. His lectures in Louisville were attended in such numbers that it was necessary on Monday nights to use the larger of the two library halls. He died in 1883, and the consequent loss to the society was acknowledged in its minutes.

The Polytechnic Society seems to have reached its zenith in the early and middle Eighteen-eighties. Membership rose from 426 in 1882 to 715 two years later; thereafter, it declined steadily. The work of the academies fell off early, only the Academy of Debate, formed after the others, and the Academy of Art continuing to receive popular support. The former attracted large and appreciative audiences to its sessions, held twice a month for debates on scientific, religious, political, and philosophical subjects.(36)

The membership of the Academy of Art also was active. Under its auspices a drawing class was organized November 1, 1882, with an enrollment of seventy students and an average attendance of forty at classes held Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and nights. Beginning with the most elementary work, the students were put "through drawing from the flat, cast and still life, in pencil and India ink, etc., to painting in oil and water colors." The course also embraced wood carving, "artistic monogramming," medieval lettering, decorative design, mechanical drawing, architectural drawing, the anatomy of the human figure, racial characteristics, and facial expressions, with illustrated talks on prehistoric, ancient, and modern art. In favorable weather a sketching class spent a day each week in outdoor work. In the special decorative class the studies included "modelling in clay, wax, etc., tapestry painting, 'lustra' plaster-cast making, brass hammering, underglazed pottery painting, etching metals, and general textile fabricating."(37)

The library, in 1883, contained 32,029 vol-

umes, to which 7,851 were added in 1884. Of the number in the earlier year, fiction outnumbered the rest by more than two to one, accounting for 21,775 volumes. The distribution of the remainder was as follows: history, travel, and adventure, 3,193; art, drama, and poetry, 1,330; science, 520; literature, philosophy, and education, 504; medicine, 116; religion, 235; reference books, 1,158; bound magazines, 1,026; miscellaneous, 1,887. Despite the preponderance of fiction, regarded not so many years before as frivolous reading, "the class of works read, and the constantly increasing patronage of the library exhibit a highly satisfactory degree of progress in the accomplishment of the aims of the management to encourage the pursuit of knowledge," a report of the library committee of the society at that time said.(39)

The library was open from nine o'clock in the morning to ten o'clock at night daily except Sundays and holidays. Sunday opening was being agitated. Dr. Emory A. Grant, who had succeeded to the secretaryship on the death of Dr. Thomas E. Jenkins, was directed to inquire of other libraries about the benefits, if any, to be derived from Sunday opening. The circular letter's tone implied the hope that such benefits were not enough to justify depriving librarians and assistants of their one day of rest.(39) Nevertheless, Sunday opening was adopted ultimately.

The public was invited to enter the library without ceremony, and was assured of a cordial reception. But patrons were requested by printed signs not to talk to the librarian or

each other, nor to go behind the cases and counters unless members of the society. To obtain a book the reader must fill out a request card and hand it to the librarian, who would take the book from the shelf. All books had to be returned and checked against the request cards before departure of the reader from the room.

Members might draw books from the library on presentation of membership card; others, on depositing the full value of a book, might take it out at the rate of ten cents a week. Rule 4 provided that "any person known to be a reputable citizen of Louisville may, on payment of one dollar, draw books from the library for a period of three months, and on payment of three dollars a like privilege may be granted for the space of one year. All payments, including renewals, must be made before any book can be taken from the Library." Rule 5 levied a fine of five cents a day after two weeks' expiration up to the full value of the book, and all privileges of the library were forfeited until dues were paid.(40)

There were fines for defacing or injuring, "turning down leaves, and other such damage, in the discretion of the librarian," from which it is evident that returned books underwent a rigid examination. All books had to be returned fourteen days after their withdrawal, but any except fiction might be renewed.

In contrast with the openness of the present-day library, with the freedom it confers upon the user, "the fountain of learning had an iron cage around it" at the Polytechnic, to quote from a letter recalling the older libra-

ry, written to the COURIER-JOURNAL by the late Fannie Casseday Duncan, younger sister of Ben Casseday (see Chapter II). In this "nice and well-behaved library," Mrs. Duncan went on to recall, books were protected from handling by being kept behind iron bars, and their nature had to be guessed from their titles. There was only one librarian, perched on a high stool behind a grating, and another man who went about unbarring shelves and handing books to patrons with so grim and forbidding an attitude that it deterred them from rejecting a book, should it prove on examination to be one they did not particularly want to read.(41)

Smoking was forbidden, of course. Newspapermen, properly identified, were given the freedom of all rooms and enjoyed all privileges, in recognition of their value to the society in the matter of publicity.

The building was heated with coal and coke, burned in stoves. Light was supplied by gas (until electric lights were installed in March, 1893) and the minutes of the society are sprinkled with complaints at its waste and suggestions for its conservation. For example, in later years, actors in the performances for which the society rented Festival Hall were requested never to leave the gas burning in their dressing rooms. When disregard of this plea led to instructions to the janitor to enforce the rule, much petty friction resulted.

The 1884 report of Bennett H. Young, who had succeeded to the presidency three years before on the death of Dr. Robinson, commented on the "most pleasing impression" the display of the library's facilities had made upon strangers in

Louisville. This evidently referred to the Polytechnic's policy of extending hospitality to out-of-town associations of educational, professional, or commercial nature. Among those accepting such invitations were Professor Ridpath and the senior class of Asbury University in Indiana, the Underwriters Association of the Northwest, the Kentucky Dental Association, which voted to make the Polytechnic Society quarters its permanent meeting place, and the Kentucky Millers' Association, to which Professor Tobin delivered a lecture on "Flour and Mill Explosions," accompanied by illustrative experiments. This was published later in American and European scientific journals.

Reorganization of the Polytechnic Society had averted financial collapse. But the struggle for economic self-sufficiency continued. The society encountered disappointment in 1885 when the negotiations to absorb the Louisville Library Association--and its $9,000 endowment--fell through. The theater should have brought in about $10,000 a year; but even assuming a great public interest in the drama, booking agents were none too enthusiastic about engaging the library hall, for insurance inspectors constantly warned that it was a serious fire hazard. Oddly enough, the society expected the theatrical bookers to bear the expense of equipping the theater with outside fire escapes.

The Polytechnic obviously desired less to spend money on safeguards for the building than to move into a fireproof structure. Resolutions were introduced frequently favoring erection of

a building in which the society's treasures could be housed more safely. In 1889 negotiations were actually in progress between the Polytechnic and the Commercial Club for joint construction of a great auditorium, suitable even for national conventions. The plan got nowhere. It is not certain whether failure resulted from the death of John Mason Brown, of the Commercial Club's committee, or from that organization's fear of future discord over the Polytechnic's jealousy for keeping its identity intact. Such an attitude was a forecast of the policy pursued by the Polytechnic a decade and more later in its relations with the Louisville Free Public Library, despite previous statements of intentions to the contrary.(42)

There was a tendency to dabble in real estate. About 1891 a committee headed by Bishop Thomas Underwood Dudley attempted unsuccessfully to buy the old Post Office Building at Third and Liberty Streets (since November, 1912, the home of the COURIER-JOURNAL and TIMES). In 1898 the society did buy a lot on the south side of Chestnut between Third and Fourth Streets, for $24,000, with some intention of building on it. It was disposed of later at a negligible profit to the Grand Lodge of Masons. That order used it for a theater and office building known then as the Masonic Theater.(43) It is now (1942) the site of the Strand Theater.

Membership waned and new members were obtained with difficulty. Often a quorum could not be assembled for meetings. The society could never do more than make ends meet, so that, as matters stood, there was no chance of extending its public usefulness, as had been

hoped in the beginning. The executive committee itself went on record as being dissatisfied with results over the years, but suggested a remedy:

> If the liberality, generosity and public spirit of Louisville would come to the rescue and double the income of the Society, either by voluntary gift or by a small tax, then the Committee would be enabled to largely increase the number of volumes in the Library, and to establish what is so essential for every great city --a library from which every citizen... can take books to his home, and thus place within the reach of every man, woman and child in the whole city the opportunity to read, and also to cultivate in every member of society that branch of knowledge which shall be most attractive to the taste of each individual.(44)

The committee said also that the library's management "has always held the property and their places ready for the use of such citizens of Louisville as might be able to perform these public services more effectively."(45) This willingness to surrender the management of the library to others was not long after to be put to the test.

Chapter Four

THE LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY ARRIVES

The time-spirit of America in the quarter-century after 1890--especially in the first fifteen years of the new century--was a paradoxical fusion of unbounded zest for the production, distribution, and acquisition of material things and equally aggressive altruistic yearning for a socially better world. The war with Spain was a product of these two impulses. The era saw on the one hand the continued rise of the big industrial combinations, on the other the trust-busting activities of the Roosevelt-Taft administrations; on the one hand Henry Ford, "Taylorism," and mass production, on the other the militant idealism of Woodrow Wilson's New Freedom, the Insurgents in Congress, and the liberal writers and artists in Greenwich Village.(1)

Typifying this spirit of the age in both its aspects was that man who, at the turn of the century, was the wealthiest private individual in the world and was to become, for his time, the greatest philanthropic giver in the world. Thirty-two years before, as a rising young industrialist of Pittsburgh Andrew Carnegie set down this memorandum embodying his philosophy of riches and of living:

Thirty-three and an income of $50,000

> per annum! By this time two years I can so arrange all my business as to secure at least $50,000 per annum. Beyond this never earn--make no effort to increase fortune, but spend the surplus each year for benevolent purposes. Cast aside business forever, except for others. Settle in Oxford and get a thorough education, making the acquaintance of literary men--this will take three years' active work--pay especial attention to speaking in public. Settle then in London and purchase a controlling interest in some newspaper or live review and give the general management of it attention, taking a part in public matters, especially those connected with...education and improvement of the poorer classes. Man must have an idol--the amassing of wealth is one of the worst species of idolatry--no idol more debasing than the worship of money. Whatever I engage in I must push inordinately; therefore should I be careful to choose that life which will be the most elevating in its character. To continue much longer overwhelmed by business cares and with most of my thoughts wholly upon the way to make more money in the shortest possible time, must degrade me beyond hope of permanent recovery.(2)

But the high-minded aims noted down for his own guidance by Andrew Carnegie were sidetracked for more than thirty years. Some inner acquisitive urge, stronger than that other desire for the scholarly and philanthropic life, drove him

on to the amassing of more and more riches. In 1901, though, wearied by a half-century of bondage to ever-increasing responsibilities and possessions, Carnegie sold his holdings to the United States Steel Corporation, newly organized for the express purpose of buying out the Pittsburgh ironmaster. The Carnegie Steel Company received bonds and stocks in the new corporation to a value of a little more than $492,000,000, of which the greater part went to Carnegie himself. It was estimated that his fortune amounted to $250,000,000.(3)

Carnegie retired; and after a short vacation in Europe began to carry out the program he had set for himself in 1889 when he wrote, in the North American Review:

> This, then, is held to be the duty of the man of wealth: To set an example of modest, unostentatious living, shunning display or extravagance; to provide moderately for the legitimate wants of those dependent upon him; and after doing so, to consider all surplus revenues that come to him simply as trust funds, which he is called upon to administer...in the manner which, in his judgment, is best calculated to provide the most beneficial results for the community--the man of wealth thus becoming the mere trustee and agent for his poorer brethren.(4)

He began a career of open-handed, unstinted, yet judicious giving, which culminated in 1911 with the foundation of his largest philanthropic agency, the Carnegie Corporation of New

York, created with an endowment of $125,000,000. It was established

> for the purpose of receiving and maintaining a fund or funds and applying the income thereof to promote the advancement and diffusion of knowledge and understanding among the people of the United States by aiding technical schools, institutions of higher learning, libraries, scientific research, hero funds, useful publications, and by such other means as shall from time to time be found appropriate.(5)

Only the income of the Carnegie Corporation can be expended; the principal must remain intact. But that income may be diverted to whatever cause or agency the trustees at a given time may consider worthy. In his will Carnegie left the bulk of his remaining fortune to this corporation.

In 1881 Carnegie, not yet vastly rich, gave a library to Allegheny City, Pennsylvania. When he was a working boy in Pittsburgh he had benefited from the generosity of a Colonel Anderson, who threw open his own library of several hundred books in Allegheny City to the needy youth of the town. Carnegie remembered this. Years later he wrote, "My own personal experience may have led me to value a free library beyond all other forms of beneficence....I resolved, if ever wealth came to me, that it should be used to establish free libraries, that other poor boys might receive opportuni-

ties similar to those for which we were indebted to that noble man."(6)

After Carnegie gave his first library to Allegheny City, he was flooded with requests for similar gifts from all parts of the world. He granted them to communities in English-speaking countries subject to certain conditions and in accordance with a technique developed through experience and found satisfactory. Carnegie would give the building and fixtures provided the community furnish the site and pay the cost of operation. At first local architects in small cities, with more ambition than experience or taste, designed ornately decorated structures with too little thought to provision of interior space. This drawback Carnegie corrected by having his own designer prepare standard general specifications.

By 1926, seven years after Carnegie's death, the philanthropist and his fortune had supplied $38,256,864.71 for 1,539 library buildings in the United States. Buildings in other countries brought the total Carnegie expenditures for this purpose to $60,364,808.75.(7)

Partly as a result of the Carnegie benefactions, free libraries, in the Eighteen-nineties, were coming to be regarded as a public need and as much a part of public education as schools and universities. Support through taxation gained an increasing number of advocates; individuals were proclaiming and organizations agitating its desirability.

One such organization was the Polytechnic Society of Louisville. On the basis of its past record, entirely free from politics, it

proposed itself as the vehicle of transition to a free, tax-supported library. On February 2, 1898, the Polytechnic instructed its president, Bennett H. Young, and Alfred S. Brandeis to prepare an act empowering the city of Louisville to levy a tax toward the support of a free circulating library, appropriating $100 for expenses that efforts toward passage of the bill would entail. By March Young had secured passage by the legislature of an amendment to the city charter permitting the municipal authorities to extend such aid to a library.(8)

But more than eighteen months went by without the accomplishment of anything more than discussion, although such discussion did keep the idea of a free public library alive. In October, 1899, the society sought a contract with the city, providing for a levy of two cents per hundred dollars of assessed valuation, the money to be turned over to the Polytechnic for maintenance of a free circulating library. If a five-year trial proved the experiment successful, the Polytechnic Society, as soon as the necessary legislation could be enacted, would transfer all its property to the city of Louisville for a free public library forever, or as long as the city continued the two-cent tax levy for its support. The control and management of the library, free from politics, must be vested in a board of thirteen members, six chosen by the city and seven by the Polytechnic from the ranks of its membership.(9)

To become effective, the agreement had to have the approval of the General Council of the city. But to that body the situation was not simple. Political complexities were involved

in any newfangled tax proposal, so the Polytechnic's offer rested in a state of suspension.(10)

Meanwhile, W. T. Grant, the Polytechnic's treasurer and a leading member of the Scottish Society of Louisville, had made overtures to Andrew Carnegie for a grant of funds for a library building. He was given to understand, directly or indirectly, that at the proper time and through authorized (municipal) channels, an offer of $125,000 would be forthcoming. Young, apprised by Grant of the message from Carnegie, got in touch with Mayor Charles F. Grainger.(11) But the mayor did not make the offer officially known until December, 1901, although it became public property as long before that as two years--at a meeting held in Library Hall December 8, 1899, at which the Commercial Club and the Scottish Society were represented.(12)

There were reasons for Mayor Grainger's two-year silence. In the first place, the Carnegie offer then was informal, not official. Also, some members of the Louisville General Council were doubtful whether the $125,000 promised by Carnegie was sufficient.

Then too, at the time of the meeting in December, 1899, there was no legislation which would enable the city to comply with Carnegie's strict prerequisite of tax support to a gift for a library. The statute obtained the year before by Young applied specifically to the Polytechnic Society and therefore was too narrow. And before Mayor Grainger could seek the necessary legislation in the legislative session of 1899-1900, the dispute over the governorship and the consequent assassination of Gov.-

elect William Goebel, on January 30, 1900, precipitated such political turmoil within the State that an attempt to get the law passed was not expedient.(13)

The objection to the size of Carnegie's promised gift was removed by the Scottish Society, at Grant's promptings. A committee of the society made an exhaustive survey of the problem, decided that $125,000 was inadequate for the purpose, and fixed on $300,000 as the sum necessary. This information was communicated to Carnegie; and in a prompt reply the philanthropist informally promised this amount provided the customary stipulations, including formal application by the municipal authorities, were met.(14)

Mayor Grainger's official recognition of the Carnegie offer took the form of a communication to the Louisville General Council December 23, 1901. It suggested that a committee from the council be appointed to take up the question of a public library, procure what information was necessary, and map out such plans as would be requisite to acquire the library. The council acceded to his suggestion and named a library committee consisting of Nathan M. Uri as chairman, the mayor himself, J. J. Fitzgerald, Alvah L. Terry, and Samuel S. Blitz.(15)

Early in 1902 things began to happen.

On January 7 a delegation of ten members of the Scottish Society called upon Mayor Grainger and submitted to him the correspondence with Carnegie. They were David P. Bennett, president of the society; Basil W. Duke, Judge Thomas R. Gordon, Helm Bruce, Prof. Francis R. Beattie, David H. Wilson, Robert C. Kinkead,

James Davidson, Frank C. Nunnemacher, and James C. Moffet.(16) That same afternoon a group composed of a Scottish Society committee and the library committee of the General Council met in the mayor's office and framed a formal letter of application to Carnegie.

This letter failed to specify the amount sought from the philanthropist. It did mention that the bill to be introduced in the State Legislature would enable the city to collect from $25,000 to $50,000 annually. Carnegie's secretary, James P. Bertram, replied January 18: "If Louisville pledges itself by resolution of council to support library at cost of twenty-five thousand dollars a year, and provides a suitable site, Mr. Carnegie will be glad to give two hundred and fifty thousand dollars for a free public library building."

As a result of this oversight, the city ran short of funds before the new library building was equipped. Carnegie, applied to for an additional $50,000, refused;(17) but granted the library $200,000 to finance the construction of eight branch libraries.

On January 21 the General Council adopted a resolution to be forwarded with the library measure to Jefferson County's delegation in the legislature, requesting introduction and passage of the bill. On March 25 Mayor Grainger was able to communicate to Carnegie the cheering news that four days earlier Gov. J. C. W. Beckham had signed an act "providing for the establishment and maintenance of free public libraries in cities of the first class." The mayor's letter quoted that section of the act which provided that "the General Council (of

the municipality) shall annually, in its levy ordinance, cause to be levied and collected a tax of not less than 2½ cents, nor more than 4 cents, on each $100 worth of property assessed for taxation for city purposes" for the support of a library. The Mayor pointed out that the last assessment of property in Louisville had aggregated $127,000,000 and would yield, at 2½ cents, an annual income of about $31,000.

A week later the council adopted a resolution pledging the city's support of a free public library to the extent of at least $25,000 a year and promising also to provide a suitable site.

The mayor then launched the Louisville Free Public Library and named its Board of Trustees. The trustees held their first meeting April 18, 1903. They were: Mayor Grainger, as president ex-officio; Bishop Thomas Underwood Dudley, the Rev. E. L. Powell, Robert W. Brown, Prof. Reuben Post Halleck, Arthur G. Langham, Arthur M. Rutledge, Dr. J. A. Ouchterlony, Owen Tyler, Paul Caine, Nathan M. Uri, and John Stites. Bishop Dudley and Caine died shortly thereafter; they were replaced by the Rev. E. Y. Mullins and Donald Macpherson. Stites was chosen treasurer of the library. He was vice-president of the Louisville Trust Company and an outstanding member of the Polytechnic Society council who was to become a warm advocate of consolidation of the Polytechnic and the Louisville Free Public Library.

While the City Fathers had been laying the groundwork for the new institution, the Polytechnic Society also had been active. Evidently expecting to be the library that was to

emerge from the Carnegie gift, on February 20, 1902, it had its charter amended to change its name to "Louisville Public Library." (In the interests of clarity, and to avoid confusion with the "Louisville Free Public Library," the elder organization will be referred to hereafter, as before, by its original name). And in the preceding twelvemonth it had finally perfected arrangements to erect a new fireproof building on its site on Fourth Street. Mason Maury, architect, supplied plans of the new structure for a fee of $5,000; the Polytechnic removed temporarily to a building around the corner on Walnut Street; the old Public Library of Kentucky Building was razed and the new edifice on the same site finished in the spring of 1903.(18)

Arrangements already had been made to lease part of the building to the Kaufman-Straus Company, then manufacturers of clothing, for $21,999,96 a year. On the upper floors the library, reading rooms, and museum were housed until 1908, when they were moved into the new Louisville Free Public Library building (see Chapter V), in 1942 still the quarters of the library.

For a time the Louisville Free Public Library hardly existed except on paper. Its trustees met first in one office, then another; for a short time it was housed in an office building on Fourth Street between Walnut and Chestnut Streets, with a stenographer to carry on its routine business and a few hundred books to give substance to its pretensions as a library. Finally it was offered space in the

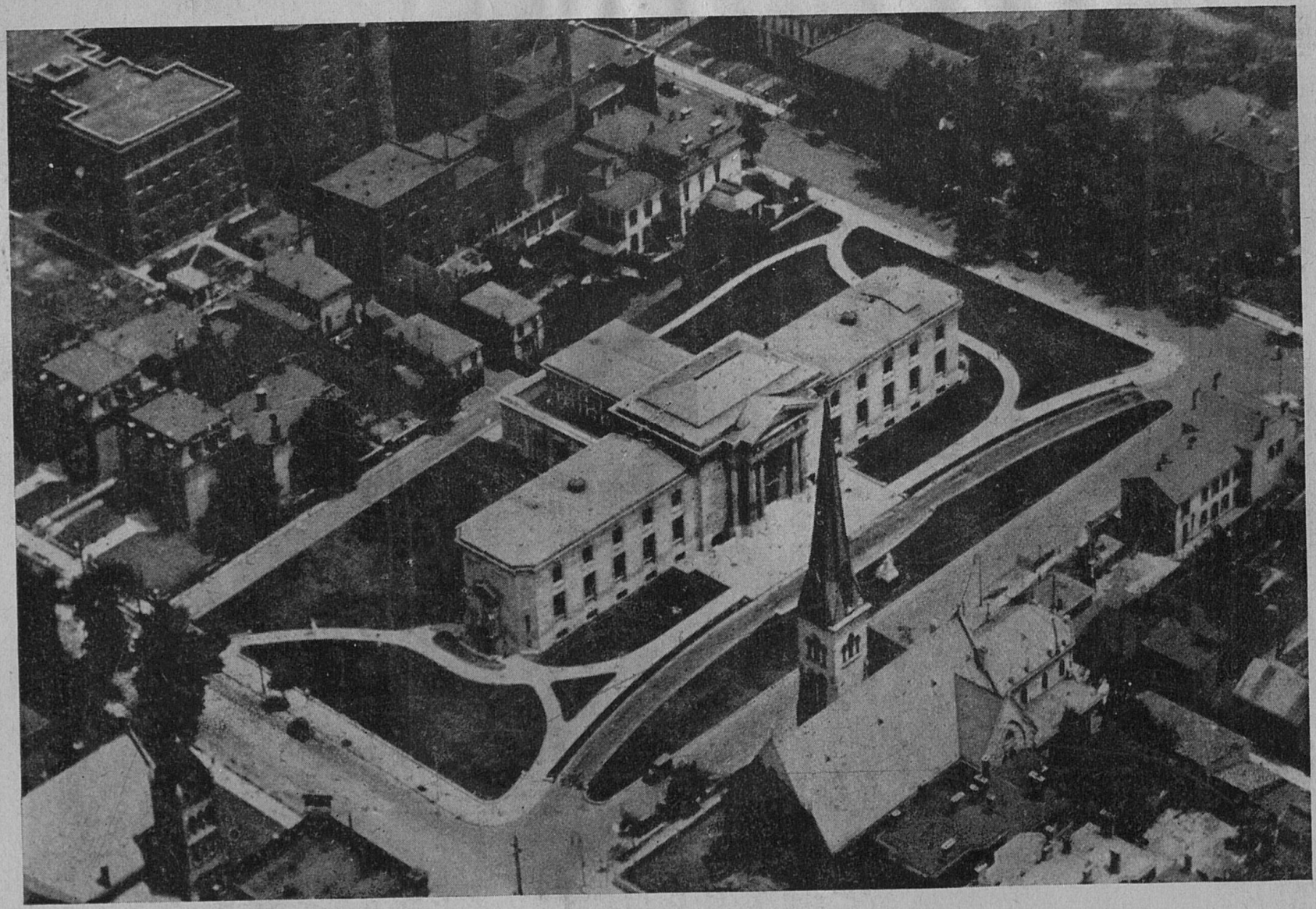
building of the Polytechnic Society, and this it accepted.

Before it could receive the $250,000 from Carnegie the City of Louisville had to provide a suitable site, free of encumbrance, for the building. Next, it must raise, through taxation or otherwise, 10 per cent of the gift annually for maintenance and purchase of books.

The immediate problem was to find a lot in every way adequate. Locations on Broadway were proposed but rejected; because that popular thoroughfare already had numerous buildings belonging to tax-exempt institutions. The lot at Third and York Streets finally decided upon gave rise to much unfavorable discussion, for it was low land in swampy, unattractive surroundings. But in May, 1903, "the splendid property on York Street"--247 feet on Third, 217 on Fourth, and fronting 420 on York--was acquired, at a cost of $110,225.52. Of this sum $16,905 was subscribed by sixty-seven business firms and individuals. The remainder was to be drawn from the fund accruing from taxes which, in three years, reached a total of $104,927.76, as shown in the following table:

1902, from a one-cent levy	$11,855.06
1903, from a four-cent levy	$47,971.09
1904, from a four-cent levy	$45,101.61
TOTAL	$104,927.76(19)

In the ensuing competition five Louisville firms of architects and five outside the city submitted plans for the building. Tachau and Pilcher, a New York firm with Louisville connections, was the winner of the competition.



AIR VIEW—MAIN BUILDING

VIA AURELIA - LIVORNO

By this time the Free Public Library, with its negligible possessions, was occupying space in the new Polytechnic Society-Kaufman-Straus Building on Fourth Street, and this arrangement continued for more than a year: two organizations, one private, the other public, with practically identical objectives, housed in the same building. They were in a fair way to become rivals. The sensible and practical solution was a merger. The Free Public Library had--or rather, was expected to have in the near future--the building, and the Polytechnic Society the resources to fill it.

But within the Polytechnic Society were two factions whose viewpoints were hard to reconcile. The more liberal group, headed by Bennett H. Young, president, and John Stites, vice-president and treasurer, would have consented to unconditional consolidation. The other group, headed by Robert C. Kinkead and Thomas B. Crutcher, wanted to preserve the identity of the old organization. The influence of the Kinkead-Crutcher faction was dominant in the contract drafted in a called meeting of the Executive Council of the Polytechnic Society (or "Louisville Public Library") and setting forth terms of a merger with the Louisville Free Public Library.(20)

After a statement to the effect that the Free Public Library was engaged in erecting a spacious library building, promising a situation likely to develop into intolerable rivalry which it was most desirable to avert, the Polytechnic Society proposed to transfer, by way of a ninety-nine-year lease to become effective in September, 1904, the "building on Fourth Street

valued at $400,000, plus 60,000 volumes, the museum collections, painting and sculpture," the portable properties to be kept with the books and property of the Louisville Free Public Library.

The Polytechnic Society imposed several conditions by which it sought to preserve itself while at the same time accepting absorption into the Free Public Library. Among these were:

> That comfortable rooms should be furnished to the members of the Louisville Public Library, for assembly or reading rooms, the Louisville Free Public Library agreeing to pay yearly $300 for the maintenance of such rooms.
>
> That the Executive Council of the Louisville Public Library have the right to appoint, subject to approval of the Louisville Free Public Library, an assistant librarian, and cataloguer, their duties to be prescribed by the board of directors of the Louisville Free Public Library and approved by the Executive Council (of the Polytechnic Society).
>
> That the Louisville Public Library maintain title to and interest in all books and other properties which might be placed in charge of the Louisville Free Public Library, these to bear the stamp of the Louisville Public Library, and be kept in good repair, and if lost to be replaced on demand of the Executive Council. It was also agreed that the Louisville Free Public Library should insure all properties against loss by fire and

replace any lost or damaged articles.

That the Louisville Free Public Library assume all expenses of carrying out the contract.

That each year the Executive Council of the Louisville Public Library should present to the mayor four names from which should be selected one trustee to serve on the board of directors of the Louisville Free Public Library, thus giving the Louisville Public Library representation on this board at all times.

That full and complete accommodations, comfortably furnished, be provided for the use of the members of the Louisville Public Library, and equipped with reference books, current newspapers, and periodicals.

That title to real estate or other property designated for use of the Louisville Free Public Library remain with the Louisville Public Library, and be used (by the Free Public Library) only as provided.

That the real estate of the Louisville Public Library could be sold or transferred, but the proceeds must be re-invested either in real estate or books, any books so purchased to be marked with the seal of the Louisville Public Library.(21)

The contract was accepted by the Louisville Free Public Library without demur; State and city legislation was sought and obtained with

no particular difficulty, and the merger became effective November 1, 1904.

The Polytechnic Society fought doggedly for its life for more than eight years thereafter--for more than four years after occupancy of the new building in July, 1908. The merger proved to be a futile effort to mix oil and water, to fuse a gentlemen's club (however liberal the terms of eligibility to membership) and an institution quite literally serving the general public. It just would not work.

Factionalism within the Polytechnic continued. One group--the Young-Stites group--favored the sale and transfer of all the property of the older organization to the trustees of the Free Public Library--the building on Fourth Street, books, artistic and scientific collections, and the like--together with surrender of a voice in the library's affairs.

The other faction set as a condition of surrender of possession the "modernization" of the management of the Free Public Library, a demand a little difficult to comprehend, since the librarian at this time, William F. Yust, was experienced and professionally trained. This faction emphasized the reluctance of the library trustees to throw open their monthly meetings, their apparent desire to shut the public out. It charged that the Troost collection and other museum treasures were being neglected, and that the clause in the contract requiring that Polytechnic members be provided with adequate accommodations had been disregarded.

The struggle within the Polytechnic Society came to a head at the annual election of officers in April, 1909. Although Young, who was

on the side favoring surrender of control, was re-elected president, as he had been for many years, his adherent, John Stites, vice-president, was defeated by Judge Walter P. Lincoln. The faction favoring retention of title in the property and perpetuation of the "Louisville Public Library" won the day, but it was an empty victory.(22) In the end Stites, or rather, what he advocated, was the winner.

In 1912 the issue was fought out and settled in the courts. On the claim that payment of rent had been made to the wrong parties an escheat suit was brought to determine which of the two bodies was landlord to the Kaufman-Straus Company. In Chancery Court escheat--that is, reversion of the property to its original proprietor--was denied, whereupon the Polytechnic took the case to the Court of Appeals.

There, in a ruling on January 8, 1913, Judge Shackelford Miller reviewed events from 1871, tracing the ups and downs of the library enterprise through lottery and changes of ownership and names. He ruled that although no formal transfer of property from the Polytechnic Society to the Louisville Free Public Library had taken place in 1904, none was necessary--he cited several cases that established precedent on this point--as long as the intent, stated in sufficiently clear language, was present. Since the Free Public Library's succession by common consent to all its rights and privileges was an accomplished fact, it would be manifestly unjust, Judge Miller held, to allow the Polytechnic Society to resume legal title to the property. As a matter of fact, and of general knowledge, the Polytechnic Society might be

said to exist on paper only. It now performed no duty for which it was created; it held meetings pro forma, and paid a secretary $40 a year for "merely nominal services."

Ordinarily this lapse of reason for tenure and actual use of its property would cause it to escheat to the State; but its functions had been taken over by the Free Public Library, and this institution, Judge Miller decided, could demand an accounting of those rents that had been collected by the Polytechnic, just as the beneficiary of a trust can demand an accounting of the trustee. In fact, that was the existing relationship. The Polytechnic was held to be the trustee of a public trust, the beneficiary of which was the Free Public Library. And when a trustee for the public use surrenders its work, it should surrender also the means given it to perform that work.

Nor was this all. The members of the Polytechnic Society were declared to be entitled to no more privileges than the public in the use of the facilities of the library. The exclusive use of quarters by members and the $300 annual expenditure by the library for their upkeep constituted a special privilege. And it was illegal for any part of a trust to be used for the extra benefit of the trustee once his administration is ended, Judge Miller held.

He therefore denied escheat and pronounced the Free Public Library eligible to receive a deed to the property of the Polytechnic Society,(23) the value of which was estimated then at about $750,000.

Credit for the victory was generally conceded to John Stites, who had fought for fourteen

years to bring about what Judge Miller's decision accomplished. In a newspaper interview he expressed gratification and ventured the observation that the Polytechnic Society "has long since outlived its usefulness."(24)

At once doubts were raised about the standing of four library trustees, appointed by Mayor William O. Head and his predecessors as representatives of the Polytechnic Society on the board. They were the Rev. C. R. Hemphill, John J. Davis, G. S. Whittingham, and Alfred S. Brandeis, whose terms were to expire at yearly intervals. The question was whether they were appointees of the mayor on his own initiative or were named to satisfy an agreement with a body now declared to be non-existent.

Dr. Hemphill expressed his opinion to a COURIER-JOURNAL reporter that the members appointed from the Polytechnic Society should not be considered as holding office in violation of the meaning of the law, that the court decision should not operate retroactively.

Brandeis was of the opinion that the 1904 contract was an out-and-out transfer and conveyance of real and personal property. In such case the Polytechnic was a mere retrospection, with "no apology for existing" and the privileges it had been enjoying were un-American and perhaps illegal. He said that if his resignation would serve any good end, he would resign. But he expressed skepticism that the Polytechnic's approval of his membership on the board affected that membership's validity. He was disposed to claim the benefit of the doubt and hold on: "It seems absurd to talk of resignation." At the next meeting of the Polytechnic

Society he would make a motion to turn over the entire property to the Free Public Library. That would enable the library board to carry out many plans for extending and improving the work of the library, plans that had been delayed until the results of the litigation could be ascertained.

The issue of the continuance of the four as trustees bulked large chiefly because it meant, on the surface, continuation of the Polytechnic Society which, in turn, might mean further trouble over the property. The TIMES of January 10, 1913, observed that since the Polytechnic, with a membership that had dwindled to only thirty-seven, had no more than a survival standing, the duty of these four trustees was plain: to resign. The HERALD of the same date declared that this course was the "only graceful and dignified" one they could pursue, both for their own good repute and the best interests of the library and the city. The COURIER-JOURNAL pointed out that Young was now on the Free Public Library board, implying that this was the handwriting on the wall for the Polytechnic Society.

Brandeis reconsidered his stand and resigned. He died March 5, 1913, about a month before his term as trustee was to have expired. The other three trustees rode out the storm, which abated when it became obvious that there would be no further quibbling over transfer of the property. Davis retired from the Board of Trustees at the end of his term in 1914. Whittingham was still a member in 1915, and Dr. Hemphill received reappointments to the board regularly until his death in 1932.

On January 9, 1913, Young announced that at the next meeting of the Polytechnic Society the property would be relinquished formally, and that this probably would be the Polytechnic's last meeting. Four months later, on May 13, the library board received the deed to the Kaufman-Straus Building. A free public library, on a sound financial foundation, was at last a reality in Louisville.

Chapter Five

THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S FORMATIVE YEARS

The foregoing chapter detailed the legislative, financial, and judicial processes which brought the Louisville Free Public Library into being, embracing the eleven years between its creation by Mayor Charles F. Grainger in 1902 and the demise of the Polytechnic Society in 1913. The present chapter, covering approximately the same period of time, will concern itself with the establishment of the library in its physical and administrative aspects and will relate also the library's expansion in those early years.

In 1903 the Louisville Free Public Library had an executive organization--the Board of Trustees--, the promise of funds for a new building, and prospective revenues for its operation. All it lacked was the library itself, a plan by which it should be operated, and a librarian to put that plan into effect. These three deficiencies were to be supplied, in reverse order, in the next few years.

The choice of a librarian fell upon Anderson H. Hopkins, a graduate of the University of Michigan who had held the position of assistant librarian of that university. Since 1895 he had been connected with the John Crerar Library in Chicago. There he made so brilliant a record

that library experts recommended him with unstinted praise to the Louisville committee that went to the convention of the American Library Association at Niagara Falls in 1902 to seek a librarian.(1)

Hopkins came to Louisville in September, 1903.(2) At that time the library still had only legal entity. It was Hopkins' task not only to mould flesh upon the skeleton but to construct the skeleton itself, against the time when the new Carnegie building should be ready for occupancy: to plan the use of the building, organize the library's departments, select the personnel to staff them, and direct the selection and purchase of books.

He first outlined the form and arrangement the new building should take to house a modern library properly, formulated the statement of needs to be presented to the architects, and advised with the Board of Trustees on selection of the architects. "The advice of Mr. Hopkins has been highly valued and largely followed," the minutes of the Board of Trustees record. "He has done for us faithful work, and has brought to his work the equipment of an expert."(3)

Hopkins selected and recommended to the board such valuable members of the staff as Harriet B. Gooch, Marilla W. Freeman, and May Wood Wigginton, making a special trip to Portland, Oregon, to induce Miss Gooch, formerly of Louisville, to return to her home city and take charge of the Catalogue and Classification Department. Hopkins also served as the agent of the Board of Trustees in carrying on the negotiations with Andrew Carnegie's representa-

tive through which the library obtained from the philanthropist the additional $200,000 subsidy for branch library buildings.(4)

The merger of the Polytechnic Society with the Louisville Free Public Library in November, 1904, brought some sixty thousand volumes into the new institution's custody, and entailed considerable reorganization. Hopkins thereupon directed the drafting of plans for $10,000 worth of alterations in the Polytechnic Society quarters, to provide for the various departments of a modern free library, including delivery and return desks, Reference and Children's Rooms in front; stack space, open shelves, and study alcoves in the center; administrative offices, order and cataloguing rooms, bindery, and storage room for the museum in the rear. Two rooms were reserved for the Polytechnic Society and the Chess Club. While alterations were in progress the library was closed to the public.

That much had been accomplished when Hopkins was tendered an offer of the position of librarian of Pittsburgh's Carnegie Library. He accepted and resigned his Louisville position, the resignation to become effective January 1, 1905. He was succeeded by William F. Yust, assistant inspector of libraries of New York State, who became librarian in Louisville on January 4, 1905.

In late February, 1905, Yust went to Albany, New York, to consult with Melvil Dewey and W. R. Eastman, authorities on library planning, about plans for the Louisville library building. While there he became ill and his return was delayed. His letter of March 4 assured the board that by March 15 he expected to have a

capable assistant to act for him until his recovery should be complete. The man he had in mind was James I. Wyer, Jr., of Lincoln, Nebraska, who would be engaged at Yust's own expense. Wyer would be in no sense a substitute, the librarian explained, but would act with Yust and for the library under Yust's personal direction.

Later in the month the librarian was authorized to engage Wyer; and the board's minutes four months later indicate that Yust and his deputy were meticulous in keeping the trustees informed of progress on the remodeling operations and plans for the new library. An entry of July 27 records that "J. I. Wyer, assistant to Librarian Yust, presented an exhaustive and interesting paper on conditions and prospects of the Louisville Free Public Library....The thanks of the Board were unanimously extended to Mr. Wyer for his interest and for the valuable assistance rendered in promoting library plans and purposes." Apparently Wyer's services ended soon after this date.

It is possible now only to generalize about the roles each of the three men, Hopkins, Yust, and Wyer, took in the creation of the new library. Nor is preciseness in the matter of much moment, except for purposes of allotting credit where it is due.

Undoubtedly much of the groundwork was laid by Hopkins; and equally undoubtedly, much was added to this foundation by Yust. Also, Yust was responsible for making the new library a functioning organism, with the collaboration of Wyer during a crucial four months or longer. And Yust's layout of the new library building,

as finally executed, was just the reverse of Hopkins' original arrangement.

Probably the plan of departmental organization was chiefly Hopkins', since he had already engaged key members of the library staff before his departure. But some of this may have been Yust's and Wyer's work also, since the plan was not approved by the Board of Trustees until April 20, 1905, nearly four months after Yust came to Louisville and a month after Wyer's arrival. This plan provided for the following departments:

1. Order and Accession Department, which would attend to the mechanics of ordering and receiving books and other printed matter. It would have charge also of binding and repairing books. George T. Settle was named head of the department

2. Catalogue and Classification Department, which would receive books from the Order and Accession Department, record and classify them, and turn them over to the curator of shelves in the Circulation Department ready for use. Miss Gooch was the first head of this department.

3. Circulation Department, which was given charge of the circulation of books from the main stack room and open shelves. To this department were assigned all loan-desk assistants and the curator of shelves, who was responsible for the shelf arrangement of books in all departments, for directing the work of pages employed

to find books for patrons and return books to the shelves, and for recommending books for rebinding. In order that the library might be reopened as soon as possible, Miss Freeman, head of the Reference Department, was placed in temporary charge of the Circulation Department also. Annie V. Pollard shortly thereafter became regular head of Circulation.

4. Reference Department, which would have charge of all reference books of the central library and branches. Its head would be in charge of the Reference and Reading Room at the central library and would direct work with study groups and schools.

5. Children's librarian, who would be in charge of the Children's Rooms at the central library and all branches, and would select the books for these rooms. Adeline B. Zachert was named to this position soon thereafter, and after a short time children's work was elevated to the status of a full department.

6. Assistant librarian, whose duties were prescribed as follows; to have charge of all office and desk supplies, furniture, fixtures, and all other things in use in the library except reading matter; to have charge of staff schedules: hours of work and vacations; to be responsible for the petty cash account, receiving from the Circulation Department at the close of each day money collected in fines and privileges, and paying those small bills that it was unnecessary to

put through the regular finance routine. Miss Pollard was named to this position.

7. Superintendent of branches. Filling this post was considered at the April 20 meeting of the board but action was deferred. The office never was filled. Throughout the Free Public Library's career branches have been supervised from the office of the chief librarian.(5)

While organization work was proceeding, Miss Gooch was coping valiantly with the mammoth task of cataloguing. She was confronted with sixty thousand volumes of the Polytechnic Library, arranged according to an obsolete classification, catalogued according to outmoded standards, many not catalogued at all. And $15,000 worth of new books were arriving at the same time. Of Miss Gooch's six assistants, four had never before heard of a card catalogue and only one previously had formal training for this highly technical phase of library work.

Cataloguing of the Polytechnic collection required several years to complete. But four months after the library was closed for remodeling enough books were catalogued to permit its reopening. This took place May 5, 1905, with appropriate exercises. An informal reception was held for the public by the trustees and the library staff.

Conveniences were now offered and liberties permitted which were withheld under earlier regimes. Library users now could enter the Open Shelf Room, select the books they wanted, and take them from the shelves without appealing to an attendant. Books were arranged in systema-

tic order. The Reference Room contained 4,319 books and 230 current magazines and newspapers, and came to be used freely by business and professional men.

Use of these quarters by the Louisville Free Public Library continued for a little more than three years. The contract for construction of the new building had been awarded to the John Pierce Company of Chicago, and work was begun August 15, 1905. It was supposed to be finished in eighteem months; but a strike in the building trades delayed its completion for a full year.

The cornerstone of the Free Public Library was laid the afternoon of May 8, 1906, by former Mayor Charles F. Grainger, who, as first president of the Board of Trustees, was accorded the honor of wielding the trowel. The principal address was delivered by Congressman Swagar Sherley; the Rev. E. Y. Mullins and the Rev. T. M. Hawes pronounced invocation and benediction respectively, and music was furnished by the First Regiment Band.

As a token of gratitude to Carnegie for his generosity, the library purchased a portrait of the philanthropist by Aurelius Revenaugh, Louisville artist. The price paid the artist's widow was $250. The painting now (1942) hangs in the Reference Room of the central library.

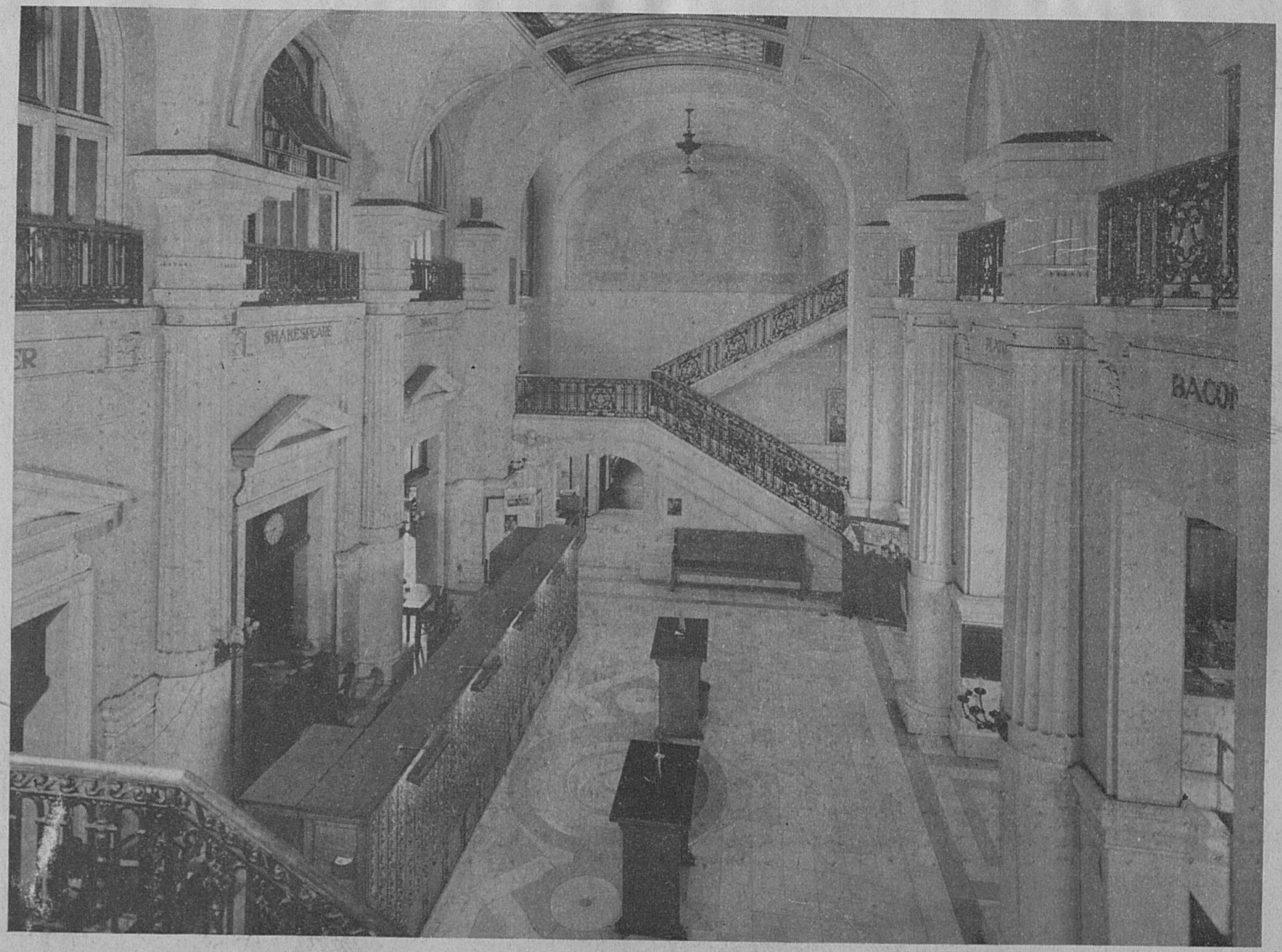
When the building was completed, more than two weeks were required to move the 125,000 books and magazines, the pictures and statuary, museum exhibits, furniture, and records. This work was directed by George T. Settle, who planned it so that it would require a minimum of time and confusion. Books were packed in boxes numbered to correspond to the shelves in

the new library, being placed in the boxes in the order in which they would be placed on the shelves.

Because of the city's oversight in its original application to Carnegie, money was lacking to furnish and equip the building. Funds for this were provided by another mortgage on the Polytechnic Society's building.

At last the great day came--July 24, 1908. On the evening of that day the handsome new building was filled with throngs of delighted people. Children were excluded from this grand opening; their program was held the next day. At the ceremonies for adults Bennett H. Young recounted the history of the library's fortunes good and ill; Alonzo T. MacDonald, secretary of the Commercial Club, spoke on "The Library and Its Relation to Business," and the librarian spoke on "The New Building," in the absence of Owen Tyler, to whom the subject had been assigned. The Rev. E. Y. Mullins discussed the services a library could render a city, and the Rev. Charles R. Hemphill delivered the invocation. Mayor James F. Grinstead presided. As a newspaper report of the exercises pointed out, it was the realization of Mann Butler's dream of 1816, the culmination of the thirteenth effort to establish a library in Louisville.(6)

The building the visitors saw that night was a dignified gray limestone edifice designed in the classic style of Louis XVI.(7) The building is T-shaped, the crossbar of the T constituting the front or main part of the building which faces south, extends 274 feet east and west, and runs north to a depth of 42 feet.



LOBBY—MAIN BUILDING

Типография Ивана Хлебникова

The central rear section extends north 77 feet from the main part of the building with an east-west width of 74 feet. The building covers less than one-sixth of the site of about 2 1/4 acres; and this fact was noted by Yust at the time of the opening as an advantageous provision for possible future expansion. The building has two stories and a basement and a third story over the central section. The roof is of copper, and construction is fireproof throughout.

The entrance, with its stately, fluted columns, elaborately carved frieze, commanding pediment, and broad steps, has attracted much favorable attention, and its picture now (1942) is used on the library's gift book plate.

Since the library's opening the public rooms always have been in the front or main part of the building. In the rear section are the tiers of book stacks, with administration rooms around them on the first floor and in the basement.

The lobby, in 1908 also called the "delivery room," was the only room in which special architectural and decorative effects were carried out. Like the building's exterior, it was designed in Louis XVI style. Just inside the vestibule entrance, under the balcony-corridor which runs along the south side of the second floor, was a corridor connecting the Reference and Open Shelf Rooms. Beyond the pillars supporting the balcony is the lobby itself, rising two stories and covered with a four-centered vault, the center of which has an opalescent dome light with an ornamental border.

The vault is supported by engaged fluted

columns of Doric style. Piercing its north and south sides are five semi-circular penetrations which provide outlook upon the room from the upper stack tiers and from the second floor balcony-corridor. The arches of the pediments rising from the capitals unite in a series of graceful curves with the arched dome. The floor is in marble sectile, and the walls, piers, and columns are faced with marble to a height of more than six feet. The walls were finished in an ivory tone.

In 1908 the marble-fronted main desk, where books were charged and returned, stretched all the way across the rear of the lobby, in front of the stacks, and the card catalogue occupied space behind it at its eastern end. Later the catalogue was moved to the alcove under the eastern stairway, just off the Reference Room. After the flood of 1937, the long desk, approximately where the catalogue now (1942) stands, was removed; and the corridor space on each side of the entrance was utilized for the charging and return desks (see Chapter VIII).

At each end of the lobby is a wide, marble stairway of two flights to the second floor, with ornamental iron railings designed from the Nancy prototypes. On the walls above the lower landing on each side are murals, painted on canvas, depicting allegorical figures which symbolize commerce and industry, education, science, art, literature, and history.

The Open Shelf and Reference Rooms flanked the lobby on west and east, in 1908 as at the present time. Their walls were finished in olive gray green with ivory ceilings, and ample wall space was available in both rooms for a

number of the paintings which had been purchased by the Public Library of Kentucky or have been given to the present library and its predecessor organizations from time to time. Turnstiles regulated the flow of traffic into and out of the Open Shelf Room.

The Canova statue of Hebe and the Venus de Medici by Joel T. Hart, Kentucky sculptor, stood in the second floor corridor at the head of the two stairways.

On the second floor, the large room at the far end of the east wing, now the Kentucky Room, was called the Art Room and was used both for exhibits of paintings--the first one was held, under the auspices of the Louisville Art Association, at the time of the building's opening--and also to house the library's collection of art books. Study rooms and the quarters of the Polytechnic Society at first occupied the remainder of this wing.

The west wing of the second floor, as in 1942, contained the Children's Room, unsurpassed in attractiveness and completeness of equipment. The furniture--tables and chairs of graduated sizes--was especially designed for its purpose. The low bookshelves were surmounted by hinged bulletin boards covered with pictures, and were broken at intervals by comfortable window seats. Adjoining the Children's Room was a smaller room for the use of teachers. Like the two floors above it, the basement had a corridor connecting its two wings. Occupying the west wing were an auditorium with a seating capacity of 250 and a sloping concrete floor, with a dressing room and cloak room adjoining it; a janitor's room, and stor-

age space for cleaning equipment. The east wing contained a room used in 1908 as a newspaper reading room, and a large room at the end for housing the properties of the museum.

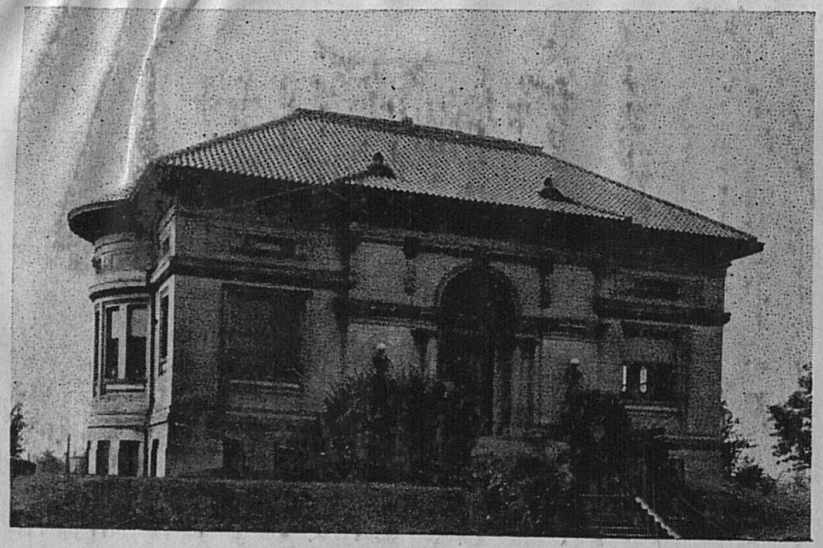
Surrounding the basement stacks in the rear section were the bindery room, a space for receipt and shipment of books, space for supplies and other storage, and staff rooms. Just above these, surrounding the stacks on the first floor, were the librarian's office, the other administration offices, and the Order and Cataloguing Departments.

In the center of the front part of the basement the fan room was and still is located. Since the building's completion both electric current and heat have been obtained from a neighboring apartment house, the Weissinger-Gaulbert. Steam heat, direct radiation, and circulation by exhaust is used in the rear wing; the main part of the building has indirect radiation: the fresh air, after passing through air washing apparatus which was installed when the building was constructed, is driven over the heating coils to the various rooms by the large fan in the center of the basement.

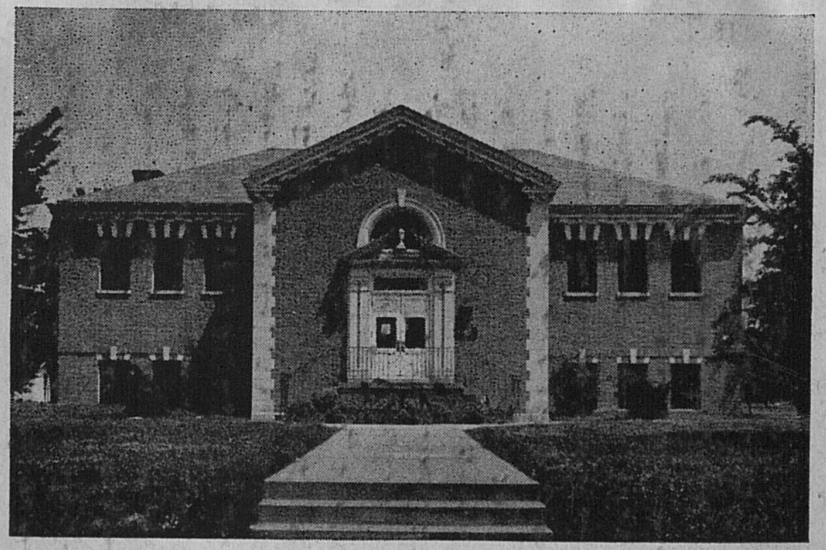
The building was equipped with furniture of white oak, plain and dignified in design, and finished in a shade of brown to match the woodwork. The floors of the public reading rooms were covered with a cork carpet, finished with two coats of varnish.

The trees and shrubs which surround the building were included in the landscape sketch in the original plan, but it was not until after the First World War that the trees now

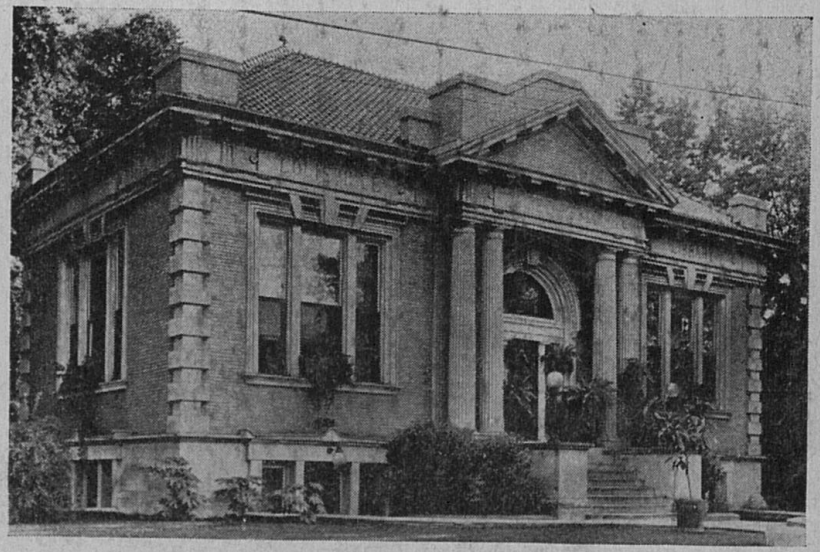
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN BRANCH LIBRARIES



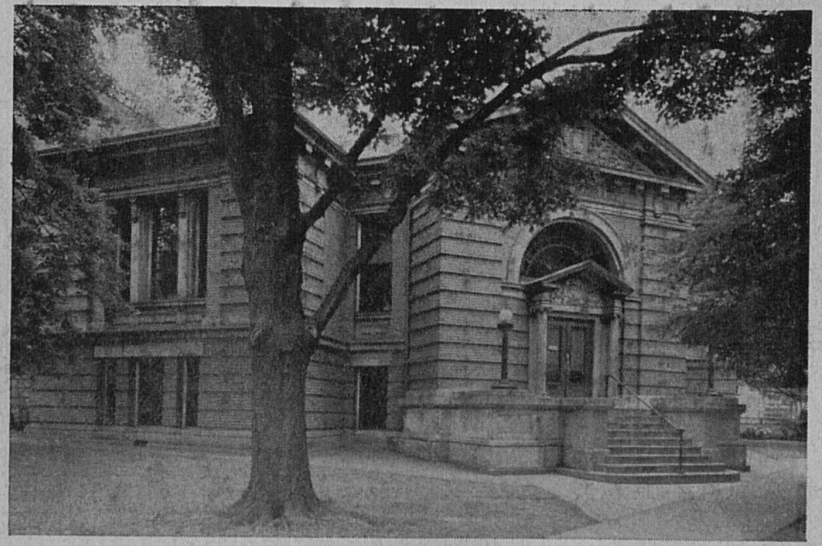
Shelby Park



Iroquois



Crescent Hill



Highland

(1942) on the grounds were planted (see Chapter VII).

While broad general policies of the library were being formulated and were crystallizing, and while construction of the building was going forward, specific problems of administration and service were being solved as they arose and expansion was taking place in several directions.

The most important expansion took the form of establishment of branch libraries. By the time Judge Shackelford Miller's decision, in January, 1913, gave the Free Public Library undisputed ownership of the Polytechnic's property there were four branches for white users and one for Negroes in new buildings, five of the eight provided for by the Carnegie grant of $200,000 for branch library buildings. Another white branch, Portland, chronologically the second of the library's branches to be established, was functioning in temporary quarters (see Chapter VII).

In 1901, nearly a year before the organization of the Free Public Library, Mary B. Pratt established a small circulating library for residents of the Highlands, in the eastern part of the city. With only sixty-six books at first, installed in an abandoned car barn at Highland and Baxter Avenues, the branch grew steadily and in a short time had 2,000 volumes. In 1905, after more than $500 was spent for equipment, the branch was moved to a vacant store across the street. Soon afterward, arrangements were made with the Free Public Li-

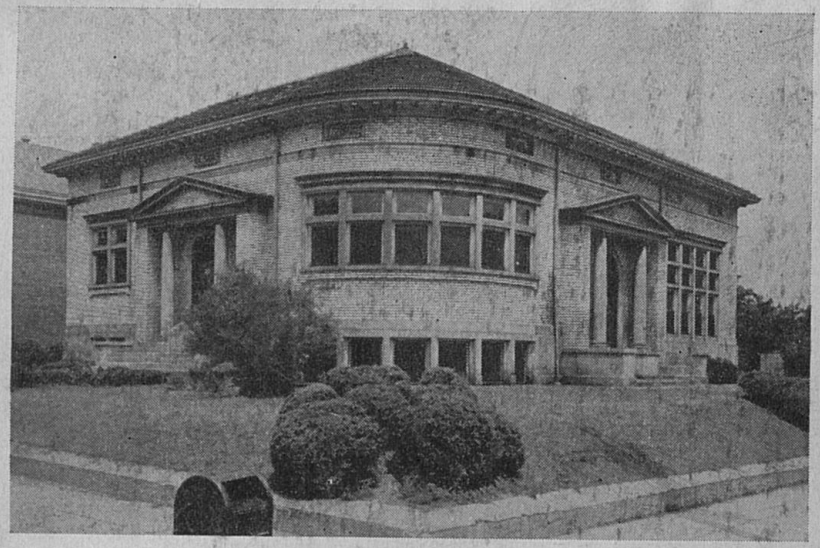
brary for a new branch building, the first to be paid for out of the Carnegie grant.

Steps were taken to raise money for the purchase of a site. By 1906 $4,000 was pledged and a lot acquired at Highland Avenue and New Broadway, now (1942) Cherokee Road. On this site a building costing $29,312.87 was erected. Highland was the first public library branch south of the Ohio River; and, as a matter of fact, its new building was in use before the Louisville library's central building was opened. Opening ceremonies at Highland were held February 8, 1908. Participating were Mayor Grinstead, the poet Madison Cawein, former Lt.-Gov. E. J. McDermott, and the Rev. T. M. Hawes. Andrew Carnegie, invited to attend, sent this message to the librarian: "Thanks for your invitation. Though absent in body shall be with you in spirit. Am strong in the faith that Louisville will reap a rich reward from her generous public library policy."(8)

Miss Pratt continued as librarian until 1931, when she was succeeded by Florinne C. Kammerer. Mrs. Marion W. Stoner is the present librarian of the Highland Branch, having succeeded Miss Kammerer in 1939.

Unlike the residents of the Highlands, the people of Crescent Hill did not possess temporary accommodations. They came forward with an excellent lot, 100 by 191 feet, at Frankfort and Birchwood Avenues, and presented it to the library trustees with an urgent plea for a satisfactory building. The trustees responded with a splendid structure costing $26,214.96, and September 29, 1908, saw its formal opening. A feature of this branch is an auditorium, much

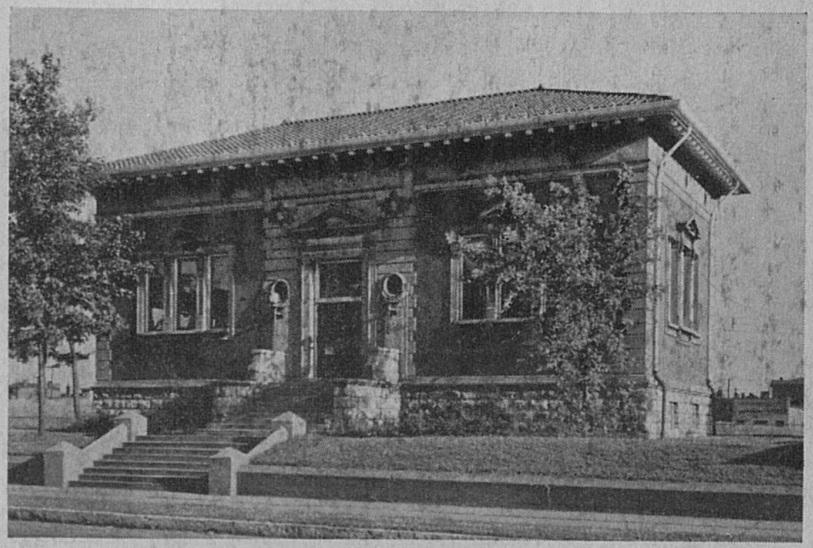
WESTERN BRANCH LIBRARIES



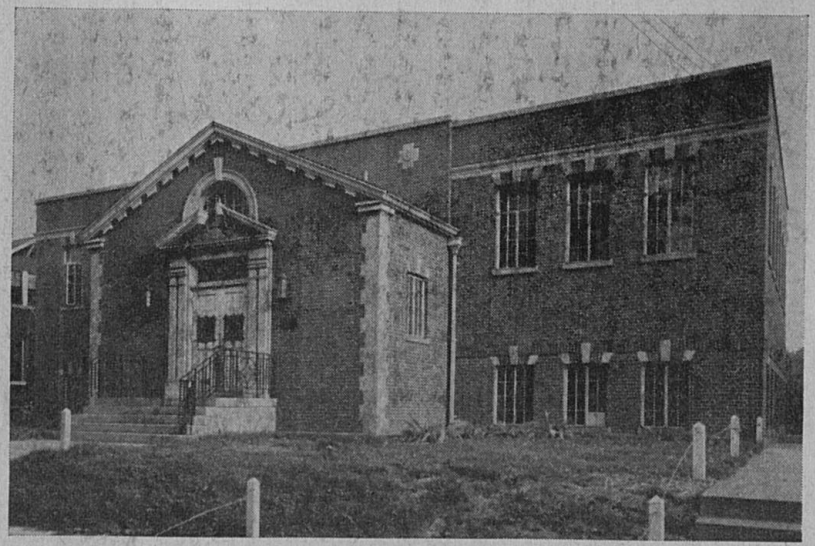
Portland



Parkland



Jefferson



Shawnee

in demand in its earlier years, though less extensively used after the Crescent Hill Woman's Club opened its new building on Grinstead Drive.(9)

Helen Lanius was librarian of the Crescent Hill Branch in its first few months. She was succeeded by Sallie Berryman, who remained for thirty years. Her retirement January 8, 1939, was noted in a bulletin of the Crescent Hill Woman's Club with a tribute of affection and esteem. Marguerite Terrell became librarian at Crescent Hill upon Miss Berryman's retirement.

In 1922 the Crescent Hill Branch acquired a plot of land adjoining the building, and on it a modest memorial was erected to the men of Crescent Hill who gave their lives in the First World War. It bears the names of Howard J. Dohrmann, Edward Lee Garrett, Harvey P. Lawrence, Cordie C. Long, James Marshall, and Fred Wagenest. The memorial, a columnar shaft surmounted by a bronze sundial, carries around the dial the words "We Live in Deeds of Years."

To the Parkland Progressive Club, of which Olof Anderson was secretary, goes credit for the movement which resulted in the establishment of the Parkland Branch. In July, 1905, this organization presented the library trustees with a lot 100 by 120 feet at Virginia Avenue and Twenty-eighth Street. There a building was erected at a cost of $20,808.95. The cornerstone was laid September 20, 1907; and although some delay in construction resulted from strikes in the building trades, the structure was finished by October 15, 1908, when the dedicatory services were held. The first li-

brarian at this branch was Jessie M. Taylor. Laura Jefferis succeeded her in 1925.(10)

The branch at Hancock and Oak Streets, first known as Germantown and later as Shelby Park, occupies a site which in an earlier day was the city's circus grounds. This site was made available by a decision of the city's General Council to close the Hancock-and-Oak street intersection. To this some objections arose, causing considerable delay. Finally spokesmen for the community made complaint, pointing out that the Crescent Hill Branch was opened two years before, although the Shelby site had been granted by the city a year earlier. Difficulties were then ironed out and the new branch, a beautiful stone building costing $24,520.95 was dedicated March 27, 1911.(11) The German newspaper, the ANZEIGER, brought out a special edition celebrating the occasion. Loraine Norris, 1911-24; Marguerite Terrell, 1924-39, and Margaret Gilligan, 1939- , have been the Shelby Park Branch's librarians.

The Louisville library was a pioneer in work among Negroes. The city not only was the first in the South to establish a branch library exclusively for Negroes, but for a time was the only city maintaining two such branch libraries.

Library work with Negroes had its beginnings in Louisville in 1905, when a makeshift branch was opened in a private residence at 1125 West Chestnut Street with 1,400 carefully selected books. Probably no branch in the city received more attention from the central library and its staff. The problems were unusual, in some respects perhaps unique. At that time there were

almost no Negro college graduates or college students in Louisville; many of the older Negroes could not read and write. The librarians, therefore, were faced with the task of developing a Negro reading public.

The work began with chief emphasis on service to children. The younger were assembled in groups for story-telling, while reading and debating clubs were formed to appeal to those in the higher school grades. These story-telling and debating clubs attained State-wide prominence. Story-telling contests, sponsored by Joseph S. Cotter, Negro educator and poet, were annual affairs of importance to the Negro community for many years, the finals each year being held before the Kentucky Negro Education Association. After the competitions in 1917, the winners appeared and told their stories before the convention of the American Library Assoiation, held that year in Louisville.

The Negro branch soon outgrew its temporary quarters, and a lot, 69 by 120 feet, at Tenth and Chestnut Streets, was purchased in the spring of 1906. There a handsome building was erected at a cost of $30,935.33, to become the permanent Western Colored Branch. Its facilities included an auditorium and two well-equipped classrooms. Gala dedicatory exercises were held October 29, 1908. From the beginning this branch and the Eastern Colored Branch have been staffed with Negro personnel.(12)

The Eastern Colored Branch was begun in 1912 when the site at Hancock and Lampton Streets was acquired. Here a building was erected at a cost of $19,250.81, and opening exercises were held January 28, 1914.(13) This was the last

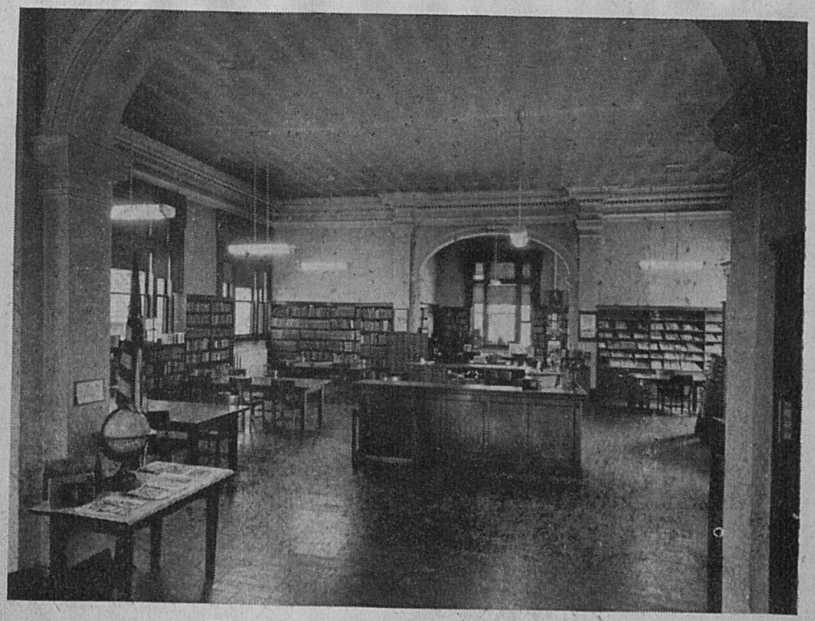
of the eight branch libraries provided for by the $200,000 Carnegie grant, the sixth and seventh, Jefferson and Portland, having been completed the year before (see Chapter VII).

Thomas F. Blue, librarian of the first Negro branch library, took charge of both after the second building was opened. In 1919 the work of these branches was reorganized as the Colored Department of the library, with Blue as head of the department and eight assistants under him.(14) He was succeeded in 1935, after his death, by Mrs. Rachel Harris as head of the department. She also serves (1942) as librarian of the Western Colored Branch. Mrs. Harris, 1914-18; Elizabeth I. Finney, 1919-31, and Mrs. Lillie Price, 1932- , have been the librarians at the Eastern Colored Branch.

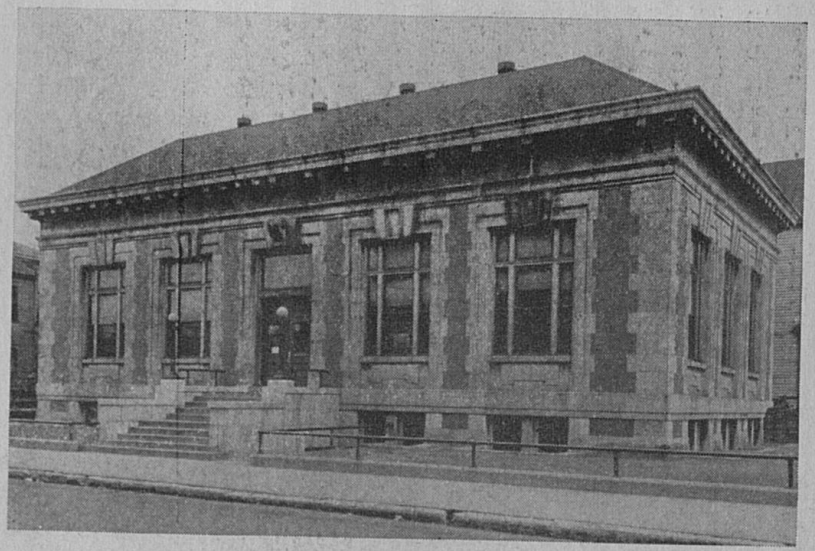
When the western branch for Negroes was established, its location was near the center of Louisville's principal Negro population. As the years passed, most of these families moved farther west. The business district which was centered around Tenth and Chestnut Streets moved north and east to Sixth and Walnut. The branch suffered somewhat from these changes, but the proximity to it of two of the largest Negro schools and the new housing project, Beecher Terrace, has been beneficial. Beecher Terrace has brought to the district a large number of persons who constitute a good reading public, and the branch has felt this influence. The opening of the Municipal College in 1931 brought about an increase in the number of adult borrowers of non-fiction, and this has been gratifying to the progressive and hard-working staff.(15)



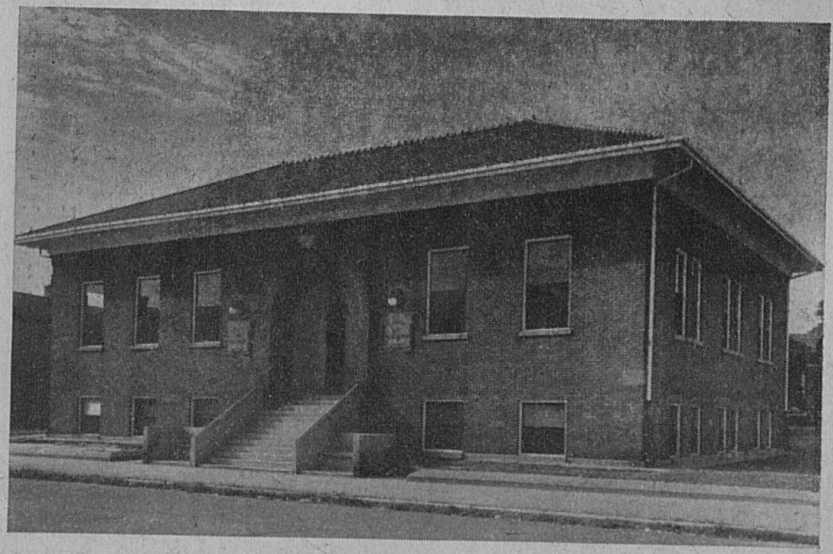
Parkland Sub-branch



Western Branch—Interior



Western Branch



Eastern Branch

The Western Colored Branch serves as the main library for Negroes, is open seven days a week, and is the center for most of the reference reading by the Negro population. From this branch the Negro elementary schools, both city and county, are supplied with classroom collections. All the resources of the Reference Department of the main library have been available to Negro readers. In the past, when the reference facilities of the Western Colored Branch have proved inadequate, two courses have been followed. Either the materials desired have been sent to the Negro branch or, if the materials were too much in demand or too rare to risk transportation, Negro readers have been provided a place to work at the main library. In 1942, in answer to a petition of Negroes for more liberal service, the Board of Trustees voted to grant Negro readers full access to the shelves of the main Reference Department, continuing to maintain separate seating accommodations for them.

As was the case with its work among Negroes, the Free Public Library's work with the public schools began early. In 1906 the children's Department began systematic co-operation with the schools, embracing, first, consultation with teachers on matters relating to the use of the library by children, and second, installation of book collections in classrooms.

To each schoolroom was sent a collection of twenty-five books, to be retained there until a lag in interest indicated it was time for them to be changed. A pupil was permitted to take a book home for a week. In the first six months

the plan was in operation, 4,916 books were thus circulated. By 1912 there were 213 classroom collections. A consolidation of schools in 1917 greatly reduced the number of schools and hence the number of classroom collections. But this decrease was offset in the same year when the library, under an arrangement with the Jefferson County Fiscal Court, began furnishing classroom collections to all county schools from the first to the ninth grades (see Chapter VII).

With the establishment of branches, subbranches, and stations in school neighborhoods it has been possible to discontinue classroom service to many of the city schools. There are now (1942) within the city only eleven schools, three of them Catholic parochial schools, so distant from branches that the central library still supplies them with books. The schoolroom service always has been under the jurisdiction of the Children's Department, and books furnished to classrooms are chiefly for recreational reading. Similarly, the Children's Department supplies diversional reading matter to the Children's Center, at 316 East Chestnut Street, and to the Kosair Crippled Children's Hospital on Eastern Parkway.(16)

Naturally the establishment of the library and its expansion through these first ten years called for increases in personnel that could not be accommodated solely by the staff of the old Polytechnic library. Since there was no medium for training library assistants in Louisville, instruction in library techniques at

the library itself seemed to be the answer to the problem.

In 1905-06 regular instruction in library work was given to a class of twenty. Altogether, twenty-eight one-hour meetings were held then. Subjects covered were organization, book selection and buying, cataloguing, and reference work. The course was repeated for another class of about the same size in 1906-07, and in this year the feasibility of an entrance examination for library trainees was first given consideration.

The Board of Trustees in March, 1909, adopted regulations for admission to library service: a high school education or its equivalent, fair knowledge of books, good health, courteous manners, neatness of appearance and work, accuracy, reliability, general intelligence, and good judgment. The more general qualifications were to be tested by apprentice work and training in the library after the examination. In June, 1909, twenty-six persons took the first entrance examination, which covered general information, literature, and history. Ten received passing grades.

Arrangements were made to hold a training class for these applicants for three months in the fall and winter. Instruction was given, first, in the general aims and objectives of the library, its place in the community, and its duties to the public; and second, in the principal processes and functions of each library department.

In the Order and Accession Department the trainees learned the procedure followed in ordering books, how they were handled when they

arrived at the library, what records were made of printed matter received, and how books are bound and repaired. In the Catalogue Department they were taught a few of the essentials of cataloguing: how to make author, title, and subject cards, the main principles of the decimal classification system. In the Circulation Department they learned the methods of getting books to readers quickly and making correct records of loans. In the Reference Department they had to become familiar with the reference works only occasionally in demand by the public as well as those frequently used. In the Children's Department selection of juvenile books, relationships between the library and the schools, and methods of dealing with the library's youngest patrons were discussed.

The classes were given regularly until 1919, suspended for two years, then resumed for another ten years. They were abandoned permanently in April, 1931.(17)

Similar work was offered to Negro library trainees. Early in the history of the Negro branches, apprentice classes were conducted with the assistance of department heads from the main library. At this time there were no facilities in the South for training Negro librarians, and several cities sent persons to Louisville for training. Other out-of-town services were requested of the Louisville library: Roanoke and Lynchburg, Virginia, asked for assistance in establishing Negro branches, and a Louisville library assistant spent two months in each of these cities, advising on organization of the service and on selection and cataloguing of books.

The American Library Association recognized Louisville's progress in library work among Negroes when it invited Blue to speak at the Conference Round Table of the A. L. A. in Detroit in 1922.(18) The Louisville Colored Department also was called upon to furnish lecturers for the Library Conference held at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, in 1927, at the Morehouse-Spellman Summer Library Course in Atlanta in 1930, and at the dedication of the Fisk University Library in Nashville in 1931.

Chapter Six

FROM CABINET OF CURIOSITIES TO MUSEUM

In an earlier day a "cabinet of curiosities" was considered an essential and integral part of a library. This seems to have been based upon the assumption that library users naturally would want to inspect the tangible and visual evidences of what they had read about in scientific and historical books. Thus, the libraries of the nineteenth century usually included in their accouterments as many exhibits as they could accumulate of handiwork and household objects of the past, mummies, ancient weapons, coins and medallions, and specimens of insects, birds, animals, and minerals.

Like the Louisville library itself, the museum which is housed in its basement has evolved to its present position from origins in the days of the Public Library of Kentucky. From time to time cultural leaders of Louisville have expressed their hopes that a museum of natural history would be established some day in the city. It still (1942) has no such museum in its broadest, all-inclusive sense, housed in its own building; yet the museum in the library is an excellent substitute. For this, credit was due originally to the foresight of several men who were leaders in the Free Public Library's predecessor institutions

and more recently to the scientific knowledge and organizational ability of Lucien Beckner. It is a worthy nucleus of the Louisville Museum that may some day come into being.

The museum had its beginnings in 1872. In that year Dr. J. Lawrence Smith, a local scientist of the first rank and an active intellectual force in the Public Library of Kentucky and, later, the Polytechnic Society, acquired for the Public Library of Kentucky the major portion, 16,000 pieces, of the Gerard Troost Collection, which is the nucleus of the Louisville museum's valuable collection of minerals. The price paid to the Troost heirs was $20,500.(1)

Dr. Troost was a celebrated Dutch mineralogist with a varied and somewhat adventurous background. In 1809 Louis Bonaparte, then king of Holland, sent him on a scientific expedition to Java. The party did not reach its destination, because its ship was captured by the British. Subsequently Dr. Troost came to America and arrived eventually in Nashville, where he became State geologist of Tennessee.

While in Nashville he built up the largest collection of minerals in the United States. With the portion acquired by the library in Louisville, and greatly enhancing its value, came a two-volume catalogue, believed to be in Dr. Troost's own handwriting, in which each specimen is numbered and described to the last detail. The most valuable specimen is a large green malachite, appraised at $4,500 and said to have been exhibited on one occasion at the court of Catherine the Great of Russia. There is also a piece of golden amber from the Baltic: when it is examined under the microscope, flies

centuries old may be seen embedded in the amber.

In 1881 James B. Bowles tendered to the Polytechnic Society, on behalf of Mrs. Octavia Bullitt Shreve, as a memorial to her late daughter, the accomplished Octavia Allen Shreve, "articles of artistic merit, sketches made by her, together with hundreds of specimens of mineralogy, conchology, botany, and so forth, secured by her in various states domestic and foreign." Handsome cabinets accompanied the gift, with the modest proviso that the whole be entitled the "Octavia Allen Shreve Memorial" and the expressed hope that the donor would be permitted to add to the gift from time to time.(2)

Upon the merger of the Polytechnic Society and the Free Public Library, the collections were relegated to an obscure and dingy room in the Polytechnic Building. This lack of regard provoked criticism from members of the Polytechnic Society and other influential citizens.

They were particularly annoyed by the virtual concealment from public gaze of one of the museum's most highly prized items. This was a genuine Egyptian mummy which had been sent to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in 1904 as an exhibit of the Egyptian government. At the close of the exposition it was purchased from the government of Egypt by S. Thruston Ballard of Louisville, later (1919-23) lieutenant-governor of Kentucky, for $10,000 and presented by him to the museum in the library.

The mummy, most popular of all the museum's exhibits, was believed at first to be that of Thothmes II, Pharaoh of Egypt circa 1500 B. C. It later was ascertained, through correspon-

dence with Dr. James H. Breasted, director of the Haskell Oriental Museum of the University of Chicago, who examined a transcript of the hieroglyphics on the mummy's case, that the remains were neither masculine nor royal, but those of Then-Hotep, a lady of some rank.(3)

When the new building at Third and York Streets was occupied in 1908, the museum's effects were placed in the basement room at the end of the east wing. These accommodations were an improvement over those the museum had just vacated, but the exhibits were still somewhat crowded.

In July, 1911, the Jefferson Institute of Arts and Sciences was founded, with quarters in the Cochran House in Cherokee Park.(4) For a time collectors of the city made this organization the beneficiary of their gifts. Notable among these was a large collection of birds, birds' eggs, and butterflies acquired by R. C. Ballard Thruston, brother of S. Thruston Ballard, from W. N. Souther, a collector of Groton, Massachusetts, whom Thruston met while both were vacationing in Florida. Other important gifts to the Jefferson Institute were Thruston's collection of Egyptian and Roman relics, the Brent Altsheler collection of mammals, and the Peter-Escott collection of fossil corals and shells from the Silurian and Devonian strata exposed at the Falls of the Ohio.

But the Jefferson Institute's location was inaccessible to the public, and there was not much justification for the existence of two museums in the city. Therefore, soon after George T. Settle became librarian of the Free Public Library, negotiations between Thruston,

as spokesman for the Institute, and officials of the library resulted in the merger of the institute collections with those at the library, the combined collections to be housed in the latter institution.(5)

In 1914 Settle installed, in the east wing of the second floor of the library, the Civics Room, making this the quarters for current newspapers as well as for a variety of materials on municipal subjects. The removal of the newspaper reading room from its original location in the basement made additional space there available for the museum, which now had an area 40 by 90 feet, more adequate for its exhibits.

These include an infinite variety of zoological and other specimens. Many mounted birds make brilliant color along the museum walls. Particularly valued possessions are two native Kentucky passenger pigeons, birds now extinct; and there is also a rare South Carolina parrakeet. There are many animals of both native and foreign origin, mounted and presented to the Jefferson Institute by Brent Altsheler.

Cabinets contain Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Chinese, and Japanese relics, works of the sculpter, painter, gold- and silversmith, potter, weaver, and lacemaker. The armory ranges from ancient and medieval clubs, bows and arrows, battle-axes, daggers, swords, cutlasses, and suits of mail to modern firearms, including the hunting rifle said to have been used by Daniel Boone. The native Indian collection is extensive: flints, arrowheads, and knives, parchments, beads and feather work, articles of clothing, peace pipes, and numerous specimens of pottery.

Within the glass cases many rare old newspapers preserve information of their eras about the early history of Kentucky and of the United States.

Among individual items in the museum are a sword and sash worn by Kit Carson, the frontier scout; a sword and belt worn by General Chambers in the War of 1812; a sword and belt worn by Colonel Milam at the Battle of the Alamo; a spinning wheel made by Isaac Goodnight; a section of a tree with "D. Boone" carved upon it; brass and steel cuirasses; a crossbow used in the Middle Ages with the crank used for drawing the string; a gun found on the battlefield of Perryville in 1862; a facsimile of the Rosetta Stone; a life-size sitting plaster statue of Stephen C. Foster by Joseph L. Roop and a plaster cast of the Venus of Melos; the mounted jaws of a man-eating shark; two mounted Florida alligators, and mounted specimens of tarpon and other deep sea fish.

From the later years of the Polytechnic Society Susan B. Shane served as curator of the museum. She became a familiar figure after pointing out, to two generations of visitors, the wonders of the collections and guarding the museum's possessions zealously from over-inquisitive children who failed to heed the "touch not" signs that hang over or under perishable and fragile articles. Miss Shane, after nearly forty-four years of faithful and untiring service, retired early in 1942.

A policy of modernizing the museum was begun in 1933 when the library Board of Trustees accepted the offer of Lucien Beckner, scientist and authority on Kentucky history, to undertake

this work. Many items were without names, some unknown. Beckner immediately began the exhaustive work of scientific identification, classification, and arrangement. At times he was assisted by volunteer local nature lovers, who worked without remuneration in off hours. Albert Mirus undertook the work of taxidermy. Evelyn Schneider, Floyd S. Carpenter, and Burt Monroe shouldered the task of identifying and organizing the great collection of 2,500 bird skins bequeathed to the museum by their collector, Charles W. Beckham, brother of the late governor and United States Senator, J. C. W. Beckham. The late Fred P. Weygold and Morris Kleinman did much in restoring skins and furs.(6)

Considerable improvements had been effected in most departments of the museum when the flood of January, 1937, descended and ruined all that Beckner had accomplished. Again he was called in, this time to undertake the almost superhuman task of restoring the museum from the tragic wreckage wrought by the flood (see Chapter VIII). In February, 1938, the work of restoration was made a part of the Statewide Museum Project of the Works Progress Administration under Beckner as supervisor.

The museum comprises, besides the individual objects listed above, about 3,000 birds and bird skins; 500 birds' eggs; 15,000 mineral specimens; 4,000 fossil species; 5,000 modern sea shell species; 500 modern fresh water shell species; 500 modern land shell species; 1,500 butterflies and moths; 300 bugs; 1,500 marine invertebrate animals; 200 zoological objects; 1,500 botanical specimens; 200 art objects; 200

historical objects; 1,500 Indian relics; 200 Egyptian objects; 10 Mesopotamian objects; 200 Greek and Roman objects; 200 arms and equipment; 500 polished agates and marbles; 150 pioneer and early Kentucky objects; 100 Chinese and Japanese objects; 50 Central and South American objects.

Also 40 dioramas and architectural models; 20 Colonial bills; 20 Confederate bills; 100 coins and medallions; 15 pieces of statuary; 24 replicas of flags of the United States; 143 Mexican objects; 41 Northwest Coast Indian objects; 31 Southwestern Indian objects; 41 Plains Indian objects; 31 Eastern Indian objects; 55 Western Indian basketry objects; 15 meteorites; 85 big game heads and horns; 2 miniature replicas of Kentucky forts, and 1 miniature replica of a fluorspar mine.

Through the years the library has been the recipient of paintings and statuary; and formerly art exhibits were held rather frequently on the second floor of the library building, where an art gallery was equipped and maintained to show the work of local, nationally known, and foreign artists. After the opening of the Speed Memorial Museum, art museum on the campus of the University of Louisville, officials of the library, recognizing the library's lack of facilities for cleaning its paintings and otherwise keeping them in perfect condition, accepted the Speed Museum's offer to do this work, and the paintings were taken there. They were in storage in that museum when the flood engulfed them, doing serious, and in some in-

stances, irreparable damage. Recently all have been returned to the library and some have been restored.

Among the paintings on which restoration work was necessary was the valuable collection of pictures, fifteen in all, comprising the Bernheim collection. These were first sent to the library on loan by Mr. and Mrs. Isaac W. Bernheim and, several years later, were presented to the library as a permanent gift. After the flood Bernheim generously offered to pay the expenses of restoring and re-framing the entire collection of fifteen. When this work was completed the library hung the pictures in a special location in the second floor corridor and designated this space the I. W. Bernheim Gallery.

One of the other paintings is the portrait of Sallie Ward Downs, presented in 1925 by her granddaughter, Mrs. Ruth Hunt, then residing in France. It was painted by George Peter Alexander Healy, who called his subject "the most beautiful woman who ever lived." Mrs. Downs was the reigning beauty of Louisville between 1850 and 1880, was accomplished in art and music, and set fashions in Louisville society for a generation. She once rode her horse up the steps of the Galt House and into the lobby--similar stories in history and fiction have been chronicled of so many other famous belles and blades, in Louisville and elsewhere, that the exploit would seem to have been a custom rather than a departure therefrom--; introduced the use of opera glasses in Louisville theater boxes, and in a day when cosmetics were all but

taboo, she applied them--with restraint and artistry, of course.(7)

More mysterious is the story attaching to the painting "The Head of Christ," by Giorgio Vasari, sixteenth century Italian master. It was acquired by Mrs. Frances Ann Thruston Ballard, the mother of R. C. Ballard Thruston, in the late Eighteen-sixties or early seventies from an Italian family named DeGarmo. The husband and father, Jacob DeGarmo, would disappear from Louisville for months at a time, leaving his wife and children to be supported by the philanthropic women of Mrs. Ballard's church, to whom the needy families of the parish were apportioned. The DeGarmos were one of the families cared for by Mrs. Ballard.

On his homecomings DeGarmo would bring with him gifts of gold and antiques of great value. The source of these treasures never was discovered by Louisville acquaintances of the family. On one of his trips home he brought with him the Vasari painting. The sad expression on the face so haunted Mrs. Ballard that she offered to buy it. After the final disappearance of DeGarmo, and the subsequent death of his wife, one of the sons consented to sell it to Mrs. Ballard for $350. It was presented to the library by Thruston shortly after the First World War.(8)

Vasari was a friend of Cardinal Caraffa, later Pope Paul IV. A younger contemporary of Michelangelo, he was among those greatly responsible for the completion of St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome.

For some time before 1931 the whereabouts of Sidney Gorham, painter and owner of "Morning"

and "The Man Who Would Be King," were a mystery to the library trustees. Gorham had been on the art staff of the COURIER-JOURNAL for some time, then satisfied a long-cherished ambition to study at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, and subsequently was a portrait painter in New York for a year.

About 1910 he came to the library and offered the two oil paintings for exhibit. They were recorded in the art catalogue with the caption "Lent by Artist." For years they hung in the Open Shelf Room with never a word from their owner.

Then, one day in 1930, a library attendant recalled that a few years before, a man strolling through the Open Shelf Room stopped and exclaimed, "Those are my paintings!" He inquired for the librarian, but that official was not in the library at the time, and the man left without any further message or claim to his paintings.(9) In March, 1931, Gorham wrote a letter to the COURIER-JOURNAL, revealing that he was and for some time previously had been an artist on the staff of the European edition of the CHICAGO TRIBUNE. published in Paris. Phrased somewhat facetiously, the letter contained no reference to the two pictures lent the library, and they are still (1942) in the library's possession.

Chapter Seven

THE WAR YEARS AND THE TWENTIES

The library weathered its last two serious controversies in 1911-12. The more important, which concerned the possession and control of the Polytechnic Society's property, already has been detailed (see Chapter IV). The other related to the choice of a successor to William F. Yust, librarian.

Yust tendered his resignation to the Board of Trustees in April, 1911, although he continued to serve the library for several months thereafter. He had found the necessity of serving two masters--the Polytechnic Society being the second--irksome, and considered the current bickering between the two organizations detrimental to the library's welfare.(1) It is probable that there were other differences, too. So Yust welcomed the opportunity to return to New York State to launch the new library at Rochester.

The argument over his successor lasted eighteen months and waxed acrimonious. During the interregnum Annie V. Pollard served as acting librarian. There were two schools of thought about the type of man the new librarian should be. One, to which John Stites was an outspoken adherent, advocated selection of a professionally trained librarian. The other faction was

determined that the position should go to a local man, regardless of his professional training.(2) The candidates of the two factions were, respectively, C. E. Rush of St. Joseph, Missouri, and George T. Settle, for seven years head of the Order and Accession Department of the Louisville library, who had done yeoman service in directing the moving of the books from the Kaufman-Straus Building to the new building in 1908.

The election of the new librarian finally was held on November 5, 1912, just a day after the presidential election which settled that larger controversy between Old Guard and Bull Moose Republicans by the defeat of both. The race for librarian was close. Finally Bennett H. Young, who had carefully avoided letting it be known how he would vote, forsook Stites, his old ally in the Polytechnic fight, to break a tie and vote for Settle.(3)

Despite his lack of academic training, Settle became widely known for his progressive administration. During its eighteen-year course, annual circulation at the library increased from 776,654 in 1912-13 to 1,794,461 in 1929-30, achieving its all-time high, 1,973,019, in 1930-31,(4) in most of which period, after Settle's death, the institution was without a librarian. The first half of his administration saw the completion of three new branch library buildings, the organization of the Extension Department, the extension of library service to residents of Jefferson County outside the city, and the pioneering service, extraordinarily broad in scope, to Army men during the First World War. In the second half of the Settle

regime another new branch was added to the library system and four sub-branches and numerous stations were opened.

Without neglecting library facilities in the arts and other subjects purely cultural, Settle gave considerable attention to the practical needs of business and industry. In the first week of his administration he instituted the Reference Department's telephone service, whereby seekers of isolated bits of information could obtain it readily by calling the department. It placed at the disposal of Louisville men of affairs the means of procuring data they needed at no more cost than the effort of using the telephone.(5)

The first matter requiring the new librarian's attention was that of staff reorganization. Four of the five departments were without official leadership. Only Reference was so supplied: in 1910 Caroline Q. Fullerton had become head of this department upon the resignation of Marilla W. Freeman to take a similar position in the Public Library of Newark, New Jersey.

Two of the vacancies had occurred during the interregnum, resulting from the resignations of Harriet B. Gooch and Adeline B. Zachert. Miss Gooch, head of the Catalogue Department, to whom had fallen the titanic task of cataloguing the sixty-thousand-volume Polytechnic collection, left to become instructor in the Pratt Institute Library School in Brooklyn. Her chief assistant in the department, May Wood Wigginton, was named by Settle to succeed her. As successor to Miss Zachert, head of the Children's Department, whom Yust had invited to become one of his chief

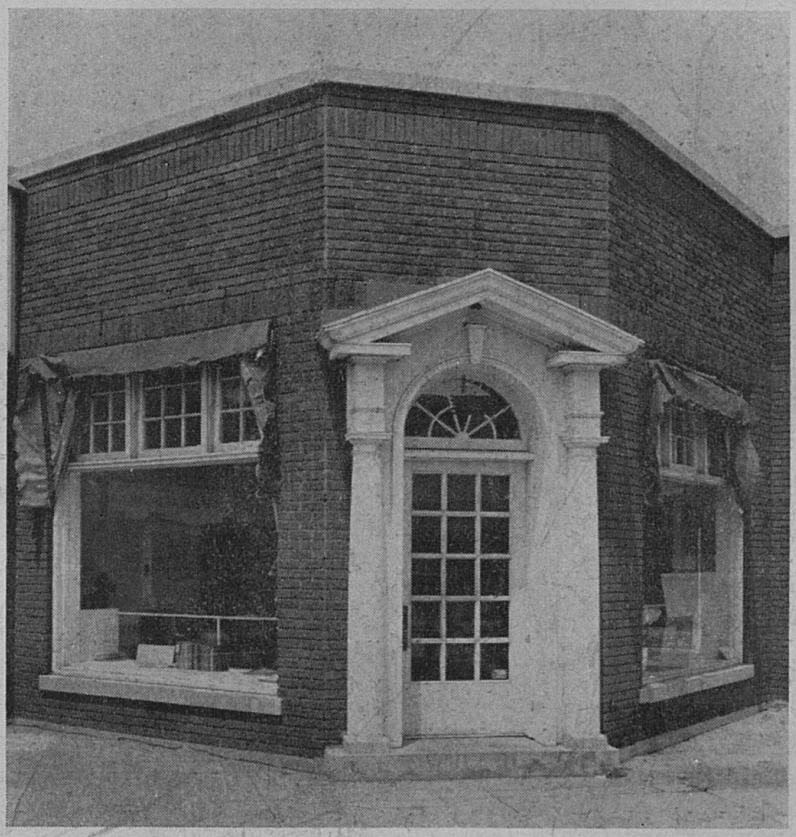
aides in the new Rochester library, Settle appointed Bernice W. Bell, senior assistant in the department.

The third resignation was Miss Pollard's. The reason popularly assigned was disappointment over the imminent demise of the Polytechnic Society, which she had served as librarian for a quarter-century before the merger of 1904. But her age and the exhausting responsibilities of the past year or more as acting librarian must have been equally a factor. Her title as assistant librarian was allowed to lapse. To succeed her as head of the Circulation Department, Settle chose Jennie M. Flexner, who was to achieve great distinction in her field, first in Louisville and then in New York (see Chapter IX).

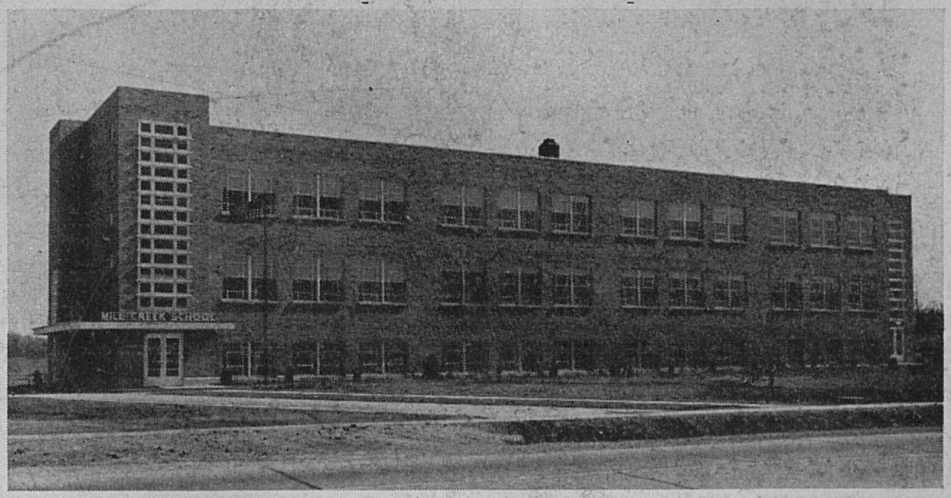
For two years after Settle vacated the post of head of the Order and Accession Department to become librarian, this position was filled by Bertha L. Guntermann with the title of senior assistant. She became titular head of the department in March, 1915.(6)

In March, 1913, the Extension Department was established officially as a full department of the library system, although it had functioned without departmental status for a little more than six years. It was an outgrowth of a need observed by Miss Zachert. In her report for the year ending in August, 1906, Miss Zachert emphasized the fact that hundreds of children were being deprived of library privileges by the distance of their homes from the main library and branches either existing or planned, or by lack of carfare to library buildings.

CITY - COUNTY WORK



City - County part-time branch



Typical County school for class-room collections

This situation was remedied by the establishment of seven library stations: at Baxter Square, Twelfth and Liberty Streets; Boone Square, Nineteenth and Rowan Streets; Triangle Park, near Third and Brandeis Streets; Point Kindergarten, Adams and Van Buren Streets; the Sylvia Avenue School, the Louisville Settlement House, and the Colored Mission at Roselane and Hancock Streets. These stations were so successful that in the next year, 1907-08, the service was extended to adults. Delmont Station, 1573 Story Avenue, was the first to circulate both juvenile and adult books.

After the organization of the Extension Department, with Jennie O. Cochran as head, new stations were placed in department stores, factories, and wherever the demand was sufficient. In 1913-14, the first full year in which the department functioned, fifty-four stations were in operation and 81,656 volumes were circulated.(7)

A few weeks before the Extension Department was organized, the new librarian gave hearty approval to a suggestion that the library establish a station at the Jefferson County Jail. Provision of reading matter for the prisoners was the idea of Mrs. Chester Mayer, member of the visiting board at the penal institution and the wife of a library trustee.

Miss Pollard gave considerable time to a study of the most desirable literature for the purpose. From the Open Shelf Room she chose 150 books, mostly light fiction, that were soon to be discarded by the library and therefore need not be returned. A hundred were taken to the men's quarters in the jail and fifty to the

women's. The books were constantly switched and replaced; soon the circulation reached 2,000.(8) Only about three-fourths of the prisoners could read; and it became a common occurrence, when the inmates were at leisure in the open places of the jail, for those who were illiterate to gather around one with education who would read to them.

Library discards are still (1942) sent to the jail, where the chaplain attends to their distribution.

The Extension Department, as well as the classroom service supervised by the Children's Department, was given added impetus in 1917, when the Fiscal Court of Jefferson County appropriated $5,000 to extend library privileges to residents of the county outside the city. These included establishment of stations at strategic points in the county, classroom service in county schools, and extension of the use of city library facilities to county residents.(9)

In the first six months of 1917 ten stations were opened in the county and twenty-nine collections of books were placed in fourteen county schools. By 1921, when the county's appropriation was increased to $10,000, there were 150 centers for the circulation of books to adults and children, and this figure increased to 232 centers in the next ten years. The annual reports for that period did not distinguish between classroom collections and stations which also served adults.(10)

During the depression year of 1932 the county subsidy was reduced drastically, with the result that many residents of the county were

deprived temporarily of library service. The protests that ensued impelled the Fiscal Court to restore the greater part of the allotment in 1933, when $750 a month was alloted for library service.(11)

In 1939 Florinne C. Kammerer, new head of the Extension Department, embarked upon an intensive program of consolidation of stations. This resulted in a drastic reduction in the number of stations, but a corresponding strengthening of those remaining. Now (1942) there are nine white and two Negro stations in the county outside the city of Louisville.

The library in 1941-42 received $9,000 from the Fiscal Court, with the assurance that the appropriation for 1942-43 would be increased to $11,000 to meet the demands of a rapidly increasing suburban population.

Two new branch library buildings, the sixth and seventh to be financed out of the $200,000 Carnegie grant, were completed and opened in the year after Settle became librarian. A third, the Eastern Colored Branch, was finished in 1914 (see Chapter V).

The establishment of the Jefferson Branch was brought about through the co-operation of more individuals than any other branch in the city. The people of this section had a leader in their efforts, Mrs. John H. Miller. At her instance a meeting was called April 24, 1911. As head of the Madison Street Parent-Teachers Association, she brought together representatives of all schools in the district and submitted a definite plan for securing a branch library. The territory to be served was specifically set forth: the area between Tenth

and Twenty-sixth Streets on the east and west, Rowan Street and Broadway on the north and south.

Two years before, plans had been disrupted by failure to agree on a site; so this time it was agreed that a suitable location should be obtained first. Early in August a lot on Jefferson Street between Seventeenth and Eighteenth Streets, owned by the city, was suggested to the library board. This was a section, 120 by 120 feet, of the old city cemetery property. The site was satisfactory to the Board of Trustees, and in September an open-air meeting was held by the West End Library Association, at which a scheme was launched to provide funds for its purchase.

The ground was theoretically divided into tiny plots to be sold for $1.25 each. William F. Yust, still serving as librarian, bought the first. His purchase was followed by a gift of $250 from Samuel Ouerbacker, philanthropically-minded business man. Prominent citizens took part, children became interested, and on September 11 a house-to-house canvass was started. The press lent its assistance with group photographs and feature stories, and the names of the leaders were publicized. Besides Mrs. Miller, these included Mrs. Minnie Drewry, Mrs. E. N. Hagan, Mrs. J. H. Acy, Mrs. Charles Crowder, and Mrs. Edgar D. E. Neff. Finally, on November 11, 1911, the deed to the property was presented to the board. The branch was built at a cost of $21,161.96, and was opened March 10, 1913. Minnie Dearing Miller was its first librarian, and she was succeeded in 1920 by Alma

St. Clair. In 1933 Helen Cooper became librarian.(12)

In the Portland section a branch library had been opened in 1905 in temporary quarters, with about 1,400 books supplied by the central library. For the greater part of the ensuing eight years its quarters were in Lewis Hall on North Twenty-sixth Street. Negotiations were begun to obtain a site for a permanent building, but disagreement arose over the location. Some residents of the section wanted the library placed as near the old location as possible, while others insisted on a location farther west. The controversy increased in bitterness to a point at which each faction attempted to obtain its own branch library. Realizing that the quarrel was doing the project much harm, the leaders finally restored harmony and settled on the site at Western Parkway and Thirty-third Street.

A building that cost $22,918 was erected here and opened to the public October 24, 1913. This branch closed for a short time in the winter of 1918 because of the wartime coal shortage, and the flood of 1937 forced its closing again, for almost three weeks. Jennie O. Cochran served as librarian from 1905 to 1912; and the librarian at the time of occupancy of the new building was Ada Sievers, who held the position for about a year, in 1913-14. Acting librarians who served briefly in 1912-13 and 1914-15 were Hall Warren and Anna Giles Greenaway. The present (1942) librarian is Elizabeth S. Woodson, who has served continuously since 1915.(13)

In 1914 the library acquired the first of the two imposing statues which stand on its lawn, that of George Denison Prentice. The seated figure of Prentice had long occupied a niche over the entrance of the old COURIER-JOURNAL Building. A year or two after the newspaper moved to its present location at Third and Liberty Streets, the statue was offered to the library by Bruce Haldeman on behalf of the COURIER-JOURNAL and TIMES.

Prentice had been an elder contemporary of Walter N. Haldeman and a leader in Kentucky journalism and letters before Haldeman and Henry Watterson; therefore, it seemed natural that his statue should be associated with a library. Watterson's address at the presentation ceremonies June 25, 1914, made this point, and it was further stressed by Mayor John H. Buschemeyer, who accepted the gift in the name of the city, and by Bennett H. Young, who presided.(14)

Library work in high schools began in 1915, in co-operation with the City Board of Education. The Free Public Library undertook the organization of libraries in the senior high schools, ordering the books and cataloguing them, and supplying the librarians. This latter service was a financial burden to the library, and after a time the Board of Education assumed the obligation of the librarians' salaries, while the library continued to perform the work of administration and cataloguing. The cost of purchase of books was defrayed out of school funds. Librarians at the served schools were Mary Brown Humphrey at Girls' High School;

Edna J. Grauman at Male High School; Jessie M. Taylor at du Pont Manual Training High School; Emma J. Shriner at Louisville Normal School, and, beginning in 1924, Margaret Frazier at Atherton High School.

At the time the library at Girls' High School was started, an inspection disclosed that the school, then at Fifth and Hill Streets, could spare no room for a library. The only space available was on the auditorium stage, and it was decided to put the library there. At first the arrangement seemed strange and awkward, but after two years the book collection, which had come to be known as "the Library on the Stage," was a vital part of the school's resources. Expansion forced it into a small gray portable building connected with the school by a covered walkway. It became so well patronized that the librarian ultimately needed two full-time assistants.

Services to the high schools were continued until the advent of Harold F. Brigham as librarian in 1931. Soon after he began his duties and after a thorough study of this and other matters, Brigham decided that cataloguing for the high schools should be discontinued and the expense eliminated. He convinced the library board of the wisdom of this move, and for the last decade the high school libraries have been entirely independent of the Free Public Library.(15)

In 1915 the library experienced its first and only fire. A blaze in the Highland Branch caused damage that cost $500 to repair.(16)

Perhaps the outstanding and certainly the

most colorful event of Settle's administration was the library's participation in war work in 1917-18.(17)

Soon after the entry of the United States into the First World War in April, 1917, the American Library Association became one of the seven organizations which undertook to provide recreation and other morale-maintaining facilities to service men both in cantonments in this country and in the field overseas. The Library Association was designated by the War Department to raise funds to erect library buildings and furnish books, magazines, and newspapers in the army camps. To perform this work the A. L. A. formed the National Library War Council. Its working procedure was two-fold: to raise a fund of $1,000,000 and to supplement this money by soliciting gifts of books from the public.

The national council designated field directors, and these in turn named State directors to take charge of the work in their own territories. George. T. Settle was appointed State director for Kentucky by Herbert Ehler, field director for the States of Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Kentucky's quota of the national fund, $5,000, was raised without difficulty through the efforts of the staff of the Louisville library.

But its work did not stop with participation in the national campaign for funds. The drive for books swamped the library with thousands of volumes. On June 18, 1917, Settle placed about a thousand books at the State Fair Grounds, where the First Kentucky Regiment, just returned from the Mexican Border, was encamped.

This may have been the first collection of books sent to an army camp by a public library; for the meeting of the American Library Association in Louisville, which inaugurated the A. L. A.'s camp library program on a nation-wide scale, was not held until June 21-27. These books remained at the temporary quarters of the First Kentucky until August 15.

On September 8 a collection of between two and three hundred books was taken to the first Y. M. C. A. building at Camp Taylor near Louisville. This included fiction, books on military science and aviation, and textbooks on French, physics, and mathematics. As soon as the second Y. M. C. A. building at the camp was finished, the library sent another collection of books there. By November 12, 1917, the library had placed about three thousand volumes in six Y. M. C. A. and two Knights of Columbus buildings, and had other collections ready for the Y. M. C. A. and K. C. auditorium, the base hospital, officers' quarters, and telephone exchange. Each book bore the A. L. A. label "Soldiers' and Sailors' Camp Library." Each week some five hundred magazines, half of them less than two weeks old, were sent to the camp from the central library in Louisville.

Many of the soldiers had been accustomed to library service; others were encountering it for the first time. Books most in demand were novels of romantic adventure, sea stories, and detective fiction. Novels that had a touch of home made a strong appeal to the soldiers: those identified by titles with specific States, like Tarkington's GENTLEMAN FROM INDIANA, were eagerly seized upon by men from those States.

In addition to maintaining stations at Camp Taylor, the Board of Trustees of the library extended to all service men the privileges of the main library and branches. No indorsement was required: officers and their wives and enlisted men were given cards upon application. The library asked applicants to record name, company, regiment, division of the service, and, if below the rank of captain, the name of immediate superior officer. A section of the Open Shelf Room, plainly in view of the entrance, was given over to war books. It was constantly used and expanded. In the Reference Room, under the heading of "Military Information," was gathered all material available issued by the War Department: manuals, books on tactics, and textbooks.

Under the supervision of Settle an A. L. A. camp library building was erected at Camp Taylor. It was as large as any of the Y. M. C. A. buildings, in appearance was equal to any building at the camp, and had an ideal location, on Poplar Level Road which ran through the center of the camp, across the road from the camp post office and the large amphitheater then under construction also. By the time the library building was complete, Camp Taylor had a population, by its nature fluctuating in size, as large as a city of 50,000 to 75,000. The library was opened January 22, 1918. Settle formally turned it over to Gen. Wilber E. Wilder, and Bennett H. Young also represented the Free Public Library. Philo C. Dix and E. J. McDermott were representatives of the Y. M. C. A. and the Knights of Columbus at the exercises, and letters of congratulation from Gov.

A. O. Stanley and Mayor George W. Smith were read.

Gradually the central library withdrew its books from the camp as they were replaced by books of the A. L. A., but privileges extended to men in uniform and their families were continued until demobilization. At one time there were more than sixty thousand volumes at the camp. These included 2,333 at West Point and 2,050 at Camp Knox. Newspapers from all over the United States were on file. The mechanical work on the books was done by the Order Department of the Louisville library, and May Wood Wigginton was in charge of classifying and cataloguing. Assisting Settle at Camp Taylor were Raymond J. McCoy of the Cincinnati Public Library and George L. Lewis of the Athenaeum Library, Westfield, Massachusetts.

Social historians have chronicled the Nineteen-twenties in their national aspects as a turbulent, chaotic era of restlessness, sensationalism, and trivial excitement. They were quite the reverse for the Louisville library. The decade was the most placid in the library's history, lacking in the controversies of its early career, the feverish activity of the two war years, and the misfortunes that were to characterize the thirties.

The twenties began auspiciously. In 1920 the central library became the beneficiary of gifts that were to add immeasurably to the appearance of its external surroundings: the Barnard statue of Lincoln and the numerous trees that give the grounds around the building their park-like atmosphere.

Probably no gift to the Louisville Free Public Library has been considered as important as the bronze replica of the George Grey Barnard statue of Abraham Lincoln which faces Fourth Street from the library lawn.

At a Pendennis Club dinner in May, 1920, Frank N. Hartwell, acting as a representative of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac W. Bernheim, disclosed their desire to make this gift to the city. Hartwell read a letter setting forth the nature and scope of the proposed gift, together with such conditions as, in their judgment, the Bernheims thought wise to attach to it. In the name of the Board of Education and on behalf of the citizens of Louisville, Dr. I. N. Bloom, chairman of the board, accepted the gift and proposed suitable resolutions of gratitude for an offer which embraced not only the statue itself but the considerable expense of transportation and installation as well.(18)

There remained the selection of a site. To this end a committee was appointed, of which Hartwell was chairman, the other members being Cale Young Rice and Charles F. Huhlein. The lawn of Louisville Male High School was first suggested as the site for the statue, but this was soon discarded in favor of the library.

Fitting ceremonies of acceptance and unveiling were held October 26, 1922, the principal address being delivered by Lt.-Gov. S. Thruston Ballard, acting for Gov. E. P. Morrow, while Mayor Huston Quin accepted for the city. Little Jane Haub, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernheim, unveiled the statue. Among guests of honor were Ida M. Tarbell, author of an outstanding biography of Lincoln; Ernest Bruce

Haswell, Cincinnati sculptor, and Frederick Ballard Williams, artist, of New York City.(19)

Greatly admired as a faithful likeness as well as for nobility of conception, this figure, of heroic proportions, is often cited as a fine example of American art. The statue stands 13 feet, 2 inches high on a pedestal of rough-cut Connecticut granite 8 by 7 by 3 feet, which rests on a foundation of solid concrete 8 feet square and sunk 9 feet, 2 inches below the surface of the ground.

The landscaping sketch in the original library plans indicated fifty-eight locations on the library grounds for trees and shrubs. After the war the time was propitious to launch a program for executing these landscaping plans. Prime movers in the project were Caroline Q. Fullerton, head of the library's Reference Department, and Credo Fitch Harris of the COURIER-JOURNAL and, a little later, of WHAS. The plan they and their associates in the campaign conceived was to induce fifty-eight different organizations in city and county each to furnish a tree or shrub, the entire number to stand as a memorial to the men and women of Jefferson County who lost their lives in the World War.

A bronze plaque on the south wall of the library lobby above the charging desk testifies to the success of the campaign. The fifty-eight organizations were pledged to contribute, and lots were drawn to determine the place on the grounds each organization was to fill. The trees and shrubs were planted in 1920 and dedicatory services were held on November 28 of that year in the auditorium of the First Chris-

tian Church. From time to time a tree has died, causing a vacancy in the landscaping scheme. In such an instance the original sponsor has been invited to replace the loss, and if that organization was unable or unwilling, another sponsor was sought.(20)

After the war expansion of the library system proceeded at a slower pace than formerly. Public use had kept pace with its previous rapid growth, but there proved to be no need for further expansion, apart from the exceptions noted below. In the main, the later years of Settle's administration were marked rather by consolidation of gains and improvement of existing services than by any increase of facilities comparable in magnitude to that of the pre-war years.

During the twenties and early thirties one new branch and five sub-branches were opened, one of the latter being established to serve Negroes in a western section of the city inaccessible to the Western Colored Branch. Sub-branches are in charge of professionally trained librarians, keep approximately the same opening hours as full branches, and offer services similar to those in branch libraries, though on a more limited scale.

The new branch was that in the Shawnee section. Part of the site it now (1942) occupies had been used since the mid-nineteenth century as the site of a community house. The land had been donated by the late Henry Garr to his neighbors for this purpose and a red brick building erected and administered for years by elected trustees. One of the first libraries

in the West End was established here, with books lent or given by residents of the neighborhood.

As time went on members of the County School Board became trustees of the Shawnee Community House, and gradually the property came to be controlled by the School Board. In 1902 the West End was annexed to the city, and the City Board of Education automatically supplanted the County School Board as proprietor of school property in the section. Several years later the Board of Education, assuming that the Shawnee building and grounds were school property, planned to trade them for a school location. One of the older citizens recalled the building's origin and brought the facts to the attention of the Shawnee Welfare club; a suit was filed and the community established its title to the property.

Soon after the war the community requested a regular branch library at the site. The old building, unsuitable for a modern library, and a few feet of frontage were traded to the Shawnee Christian Church next door for enough additional ground to make a lot 100 by 180 feet. The Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library agreed to erect a temporary building if the community would transfer title to the library and raise $1,000 toward the new building. Work was begun in November, 1921, on a frame structure which was opened formally February 10, 1922.(21) Mrs. May McClure Currey served as librarian of the Shawnee branch until her death in 1932. She was succeeded a few months later by the present (1942) librarian, Alma St. Clair.

In January, 1927, the station at Highland

Park was elevated to the status of a sub-branch, the first in the Louisville library system. In the next four years four more sub-branches were established: South Louisville, at 316 Central Avenue; Cabbage Patch, Sixth and Magnolia Streets; the Parkland Sub-branch for Negroes, and that at Wesley House, which was opened in January, 1931, just a month after the death of George T. Settle.(22)

The South Louisville Sub-branch was moved in 1933 to the Oakdale Community Center at the request of the city's Department of Welfare, and was closed in 1939 when its services were supplanted by the new Iroquois Branch (see Chapter VIII). The Taylor Boulevard Sub-branch, opened in 1938 brought the number now (1942) functioning to five. In 1941 the Wesley House Sub-branch was moved to the Clarksdale Housing Project.(23)

Henry Watterson had been one of the incorporators of the Public Library of Kentucky (see Chapter II), and his interest in Louisville's library enterprise continued throughout a long and useful lifetime. It was natural, then, that he should bequeath his own library to the institution in whose founding he could claim a share, however remote in time. This he did, upon his death in 1921. His gift included a cash bequest of $5,000 and was accompanied by the stipulation that the collection given the library be kept intact and the money used to outfit a room to house it.

The Watterson Memorial Collection consists of first editions, autographed copies, and presentation copies, as well as other books,→

and covers a wide range of subject matter, of which history and political economy are the subjects perhaps best represented. It also includes paintings, etchings, and statuary in bronze and marble.

The collection was delivered to the library in October, 1925, and kept in the Art Room while the books were catalogued and a room adjoining the Art Room prepared in which they could be displayed properly. The Watterson Room was opened formally March 15, 1927. Judge Robert Worth Bingham acted as the spokesman for Mrs. Watterson in presenting the collection to the library, and Mayor Arthur Will presided at the presentation ceremonies.(24)

George T. Settle died on December 28, 1930. His eighteen-year administration of the library had been marked by quiet efficiency, progressive policies, and unspectacular achievement--unspectacular, that is, except in the two years of the war. That colorful interim, sharply contrasting with the unruffled years of Settle's regime that preceded and followed it, served as more than just an exciting break in the library's routine. Rather did it test the library's capacity for rendering exceptional service and prove its mettle. The months of the war were not disruptive, however; the library soon settled back into normal activity. The ever-increasing circulation of the Nineteen-twenties demonstrated its steadily augmenting importance to the public. Settle left the institution better and stronger than he found it.

Chapter Eight

THE TROUBLOUS THIRTIES

As the administration of George T. Settle, coinciding approximately with the era of national prosperity, had been calm and untroubled (for the relatively minor depressions of 1914 and 1921 had been too shortlived to affect the library) so the regime of his successor, covering the period of national depression and local disaster, was one of storm and stress.

In January, 1931, the month after Settle's death, the Board of Trustees appointed a committee to study the library situation and recommend a new librarian. R. C. Ballard Thruston was its chairman and the other members were Mrs. E. Hugh Morris and Rabbi Joseph Rauch. In the same month there was a mild public revival, in the form of letters to the daily papers, of the argument that had raged in 1911-12 over the appointment of William F. Yust's successor. The issue was the same: free choice of a librarian based solely on qualifications versus a choice restricted to local candidates. One or two of the letters advocated the appointment of a woman as librarian.(1)

The Board of Trustees took no part in this dispute. That body presently received and adopted the recommendation of its committee: that Charles H. Compton of St. Louis and Harold

F. Brigham of Nashville be engaged to make a professional survey of the library. The survey was made and the report on it was exhaustive; but it embodied no recommendations of major changes in the library's operation.

In June the board elected Brigham librarian, the appointment to become effective September 1, 1931.(2)

The date is significant. It was nearly two years after the stock market collapse; the depression had been in progress noticeably since some time in 1930, and the library for some months had been feeling the pinch of hard times. The early years of Brigham's administration were marked by problems arising from the depression. The stringent economic situation resulted in a decline in tax revenues and a consequent decrease in the library's income from city tax sources. Its income was curtailed further by the board's acceptance, in September, 1932, of a $21,000 annual reduction in the rent on the Kaufman-Straus Building. This greatly lowered rental, $50,000 a year, prevailed until September, 1935, when it was raised to $56,000. The depression and the flood necessitated four refinancings of the library's large bonded indebtedness (see Appendix A).(3)

Library operation became a problem of maintaining facilities on a drastically reduced budget in the face of increased demands for service. For the Louisville library's experience was the same as that encountered by libraries throughout the country. Not only the unemployed, who were entirely without financial resources, but also those who still had jobs though at reduced incomes, turned to free di-

versions. One of the most important of these was reading; and this was reflected at the Louisville library chiefly by sharply increased use of the library reading rooms: circulation was at its all-time peak in an early year of the depression, 1930-31, falling off rather than increasing as economic conditions increased in severity.

During the period of forced economies, the library reduced its purchases of books, doing without many seriously needed, and curtailed the appropriation for periodical subscriptions and the binding of periodicals. Salary cuts were delayed as long as possible, since Louisville salaries, Brigham said at the time, were among the lowest paid by any institutions of comparable size in the country. In 1934 this finally became necessary and a 5-to-15-per cent reduction in salaries was imposed.(4)

This salary cut was restored at the beginning of 1936. A year later, as the library entered 1937, more comfortable times were in prospect. In anticipation of them the Board of Trustees, on January 14, voted salary increases to employees making less than $100 a month, to become effective in March or April, and promised that adjustments for the entire staff would be made as soon as finances permitted. But the salary increases were to be postponed indefinitely.(5) For less than a fortnight later disaster struck.

In the last ten days of January, 1937, Louisville was visited by the worst catastrophe in its history. The weather during the first three weeks of the month had been unseasonably

warm in the Central South. Heavy rains had fallen in the valleys of the rivers that fed the Ohio. These, together with the normal winter snow now melting in the uplands, swelled the "Beautiful River" until it burst its banks and flooded the cities along its shores with devastating effects. More than half the area of Louisville was inundated.(6)

Of the ten library buildings--the central library and nine branches--only two escaped damage by water and one of these, the Highland Branch, suffered from use as a relief headquarters: The Crescent Hill Branch alone remained entirely free from damage. The foundations of the downtown Kaufman-Straus department store building, second largest source of the library's revenues, were undermined by the assault of the waters, and this structure required more than $81,000 worth of repairs. The monetary cost to the library in damage to all buildings, books, and furnishings reached $156,256.05. But to arrive at the total cost it would be necessary to add about $100,000 in labor expenditures on repairs by the Works Progress Administration; most of the expense of repairs to the museum; the total damage to which, in terms of money, it has been impossible to calculate, and the cost of restoration of the library's paintings. Fifteen of these were restored in 1942 at an expenditure of nearly $1,000 (not included in the foregoing figures); almost fifty more remain to be restored: thus, the library was still paying for flood damage five years after the deluge.(7)

On Friday, January 22, the main building of the Free Public Library was presumed to be safe

from serious flood damage.(8) The predicted crest of the Ohio River was fifty feet; and by the time it reached that height Friday, some books and other articles of value in the basement had been taken to points on the floor believed to be out of reach of the waters. But the impossible happened.

The basement was partially submerged on Friday. Water had entered the basement first through a drain at the foot of the outside stairs at the west end of the building. It flowed into the basement auditorium and ran down the sloping floor to the front of the room, rising nearly to the top of the front seats, or to a level six inches above the floor at the rear of the room. This was a foot below the level of the basement hallway, and five feet below the level of books in the main stacks in the rear wing of the building. It was also five feet below the level of the water in the streets outside the building, which presumably was the actual river level. Friday a piano in the auditorium was removed to this basement hallway.

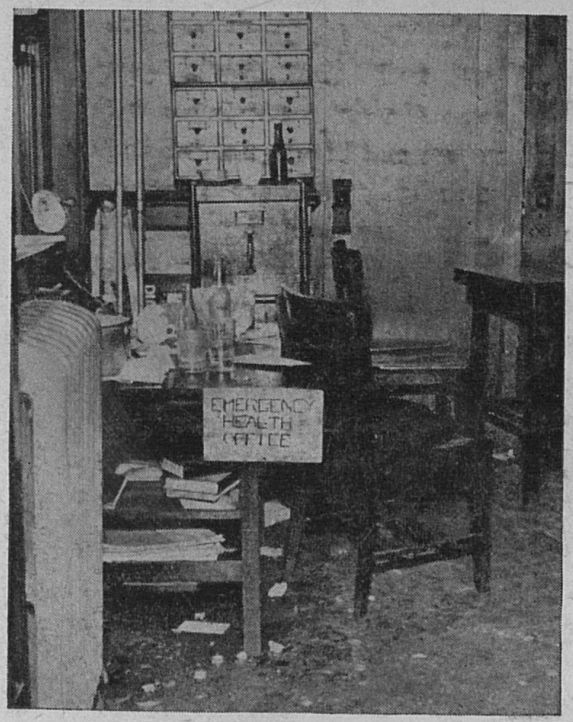
A powerful pump was obtained Friday and operated through most of the night, with the result that the inside water level was lowered by six or eight inches before the pump failed early Saturday morning. Then the slow rise inside the building resumed, while the rise outside continued at a more rapid rate.

On Saturday morning the water inside reached the level of the basement hallway, still rising very slowly. But it was discovered that water was beginning now to enter through the two drains at the foot of the outside stairs at the

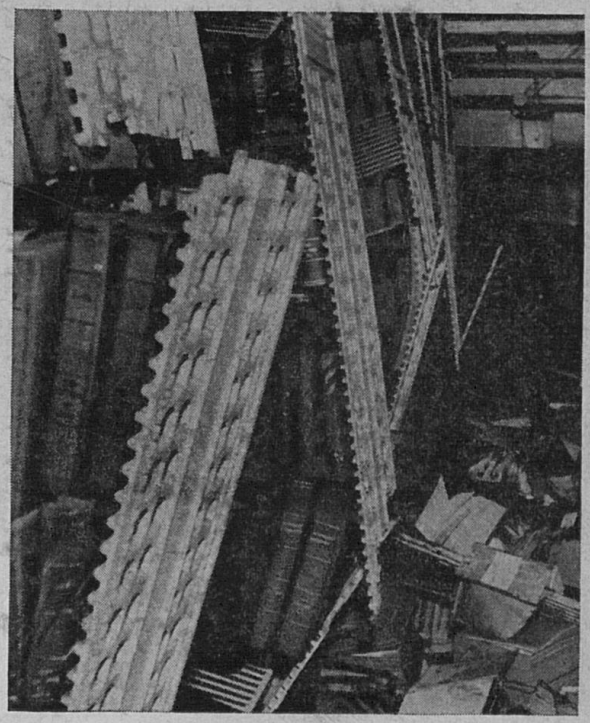
VIEWS OF 1937 FLOOD



Lincoln Statue



Emergency Health Office—Portland Branch



Stack room in basement—Main Building

front of the building. This continued to drain toward the auditorium, however, and not toward the museum at the opposite end of the hallway. At this time the piano was shored up on boxes two feet above the hallway floor level.

Weather forecasts Saturday morning warned that the river crest could be expected to reach fifty-six feet, because thawing snow was being augmented by more rain. It then became obvious that the water outside the library would soon spill over into the basement and fill it to the outside level as, in fact, it did Saturday night. When this "impossible" realization came, it was too late to collect a crew of workers sufficient to move all exhibits from the museum and books from the lower shelves of the basement stacks. Two young men from the Y. M. C. A. did respond to an emergency call and three janitors were still available. These five and the librarian worked all Saturday morning and well into the afternoon to move as much as possible from the museum.

The three janitors remained after the others left and moved books in the stacks from the lower to the upper shelves where space was available. Since the floor of the book stacks was three-and-a-half feet above the level of the basement hall at the front of the building, it was felt that even if the "impossible" happened, safety would be insured by removal of the books on only the three lower shelves of the stacks.

The moving done Saturday saved the official records of the museum, all the mounted bird specimens, the Beckham collection of bird skins, four cases of mounted butterflies, several other

entire cases, and a quantity of additional materials, including manuscripts, textiles, and pictures, that would be most seriously damaged by water. Unfortunately, the valuable mummy, Then-Hotep, was in a large case which defied the efforts of the salvagers that fateful day. Their inability to move her to a place of safety furnished Lucien Beckner later with one of his most perplexing problems when he began to grapple with the work of restoration.

The deluge came Saturday night and Sunday. The water level inside the building rose to within less than a foot of the ceiling of the front basement. In the book stacks it reached the second shelf from the top, saturating all books except those on the top shelf of each section on this floor. The three janitors had to be taken from the building in boats, Charles Glass, the faithful head janitor, being the last man to leave, at two o'clock Tuesday morning, January 26.

Of the branches, Shawnee was the worst sufferer. Its building was submerged in water to the eaves, its books were destroyed or damaged to the extent of a monetary loss of $9,950. Building, furniture, and books were damaged at the Eastern Colored Branch, the basement of which was flooded to a depth of seven feet. The Parkland, Jefferson, Portland, Shelby Park, and Western Colored Branches suffered in less degrees from the flood waters, while the Highland Branch was impaired only by its use as a bureau of missing persons. Three other branch buildings were used as relief headquarters. Portland served as the first relief and medical center in the city, Jefferson was used as a

medical and boat station, and Parkland also was used as a boat station.(9)

By February 4 it was possible to begin the work of salvage and rehabilitation. The Works Progress Administration and the National Youth Administration were prepared to furnish emergency labor immediately, and responded without delay to every call on their manpower. At one time not less than a hundred workers from these sources were detailed to the library. Cleaning came first in all buildings, then restoration of light and heat, book salvage, book stack repair, building repair, and museum rehabilitation.

The stacks presented a striking demonstration of the effect of water on books. These stacks are made of heavy cast iron. The weight of the four upper floors of stacks are supported by the heavy iron uprights of the basement stack. Most of the shelves in the basement were filled to capacity, since books had been moved from lower to upper shelves wherever there was space for them. The wet books swelled and exerted such a tremendous lateral pressure that many of the castings were snapped in two and others were badly bent. Sixty-five castings, more than half, had to be replaced, at a cost of $4,000, which included the expense of shoring up the upper floors of stacks which sagged dangerously. Where castings were not broken or bent, the books under pressure had bulged out and sprung from the shelves into the water, which left them in the muck and dirt on the floor as it receded.(10)

Aside from dealing with the complete devas-

tation in the museum, the salvaging of water- and mud-damaged books proved to be the most difficult problem presented by the flood. A total of 25,349 had been damaged, including all at the Shawnee Branch, a few at the Jefferson and Eastern Colored Branches, and those in the basement of the central library. Most of the latter were bound files of magazines, difficult or impossible to replace.

Only one commercial library bindery was known to have had experience with the problem on a large scale. This was a Philadelphia firm which had achieved remarkable results with books damaged in the Pennsylvania flood of 1936. This bindery was called for counsel and its chief officer, Dr. Charles W. Carroll, came to inspect the situation in Louisville and direct the work of salvage.

The first consideration was prompt drying of the books before mildew ruined them completely. Three days were spent in a search for an oven in the city that might be used for the drying and fumigation process. No oven of the type used by the consultant in 1936 could be found. An oven of an entirely different type was found, and plans were made for an experiment; but electric power for its operation was not available. It was decided that further delay, to permit an experiment the results of which were by no means certain, might prove disastrous. So the 25,000-odd books were shipped to Philadelphia in three cars attached to a fast train, and arrived there in record time, thanks to the co-operation of the railroads. Nearly two-thirds, including most of the magazine

files, were salvaged, at a cost of more than $40,000.(11)

For library building repairs three special WPA rehabilitation projects were set up. They were, first, repairs to the main library, including construction of showcases for the museum, $25,493, including a library commitment of $9,990; second, repairs to seven branch libraries, $4,981, including a library commitment of $439; third, construction of a new building for the Shawnee Branch, $32,989, including a library commitment of $5,000. The sum for the Shawnee Branch proved to be insufficient because of the need for hiring skilled workers not on the WPA relief rolls. Repair work was pushed with all possible speed also on the Kaufman-Straus Building.(12)

The staggering task of rehabilitating the museum was entrusted to Lucien Beckner. It was an undertaking that seemed practically hopeless. Appeals for advice to other museums brought Beckner little but good wishes, tinged with pessimism. Such a cataclysm as the flood presented problems quite outside the ken of these men of science. Equally skeptical were the scientists to whom Beckner applied for counsel at the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Indianapolis. They reminded him that large museums did not have single individuals with broad general knowledge but different experts in each department for restoration work. Nevertheless, Beckner decided to attempt to direct restoration single-handed.(13)

The mummy presented the biggest difficulty

of all. "She is wrapped with about 2,000 yards of linen and sopped up water like a sponge, and resisted all efforts to dry her with a hot blast," Beckner said. "The acids in the flood waters had combined with the chemicals used by the Egyptians, with disastrous and baffling results. Finally we took her to the Louisville Gas and Electric Company's plant at the foot of Third Street, where the company had installed a vacuum tank in which to dry out machinery which could not be taken apart. Putting her in the oven there, we left her in it at 115 degrees Fahrenheit." This experiment was successful, although the lady long continued to be a source of baleful odors.(14)

As brother of the original donor, R. C. Ballard Thruston took a great interest in the work of restoration, urging it on and underwriting expenses. Paul Childers, Louisville artist, volunteered to repaint the mummy's case as a public service; but circumstances have since combined to delay this delicate and difficult task.

Two years later Beckner was able to report to the Board of Trustees that all sixty thousand modern shells, comprising about thirty-five hundred species, had been washed and polished and about a thousand species were identified. Of the twelve thousand mineral specimens that had been cleaned and reboxed, two thousand were identified. Identification of the remainder would require chemical, physical, or optical analysis--all highly scientific, costly, and time-consuming work. The collection of fossils had fared better: four thousand of the five thousand were identified. All that remained

was to arrange them systematically, catalogue, number, and choose those for exhibition purposes, and store the rest. The thirteen hundred moths and butterflies and the seven hundred bugs had been cleaned and nearly all were labeled and classified.(15)

A WPA worker formerly a miner and barber developed great skill in putting together shattered fragments of rare bird eggs so that it was hard to detect the mending lines. He also repaired the big moose head, which had lost a part of its double chin, using goat skin for the purpose, and reclaimed the tree section on which "D. Boone" had been carved by that pioneer. Of a different but no less skillful nature was the repairing of the anatomies of the plaster casts of Stephen C. Foster and Venus of Melos, into which the acid flood waters had eaten. Only Venus bears a few scars.

The white mountain goats, after a series of shampoos proved futile, finally emerged in their pristine whiteness from a bluing bath. The late Fred P. Weygold, artist and authority on Indians, took charge of the Indian skins and furs. The problems with these were so complex that they had to be taken to Morris Kleinman, furrier, for treatment. He not only refused payment but gave to the museum the group of black bears which for years had stood in front of his Fourth Street store.

With WPA assistance, a small but complete laboratory was installed. Here John T. Worth, University of Kentucky graduate and teacher of geology, and Oscar Steinburg, graduate of the University of Louisville with a Master of Science degree, worked on the minerals. Test-

ing the minerals for identification was a long and tedious process. A small guillotine device shaved off scraps of the mineral to be classified. Bits were weighed in water. Pulverized particles were mixed with something else, placed on charcoal, and a blow-torch flame applied. The result indicated something. Stone was scratched across a piece of porcelain: the kind of mark it left revealed to the scientist something of its composition. After the tests were made, results were compared with the Troost catalogue.

A. C. Cunningham microfilmed scientific books which aided in the identifications. These volumes, some of them rare and expensive, were lent by other museums. It took about twenty-five minutes to microfilm each book and about $2.00 in material and labor. To identify the museum specimens, the film was projected on a screen and the outlines and characteristics of each specimen were then discernible.(16)

Restoration, labor, repairs, and allied activities in the museum had reached a total cost of $11,900 (17) when, in the week of May 20, 1940, the Professional and Service Division of the Work Projects Administration held open house to show the public the result of the three years' work. Visitors found everything in neat order, the objects tagged and catalogued, and new furniture in the room.

About eighteen months earlier an extensive program of repairs and remodeling elsewhere in the main library and in the branches had been completed, with the assistance of WPA labor. It left the library, in many respects, in bet-

ter condition than it had been in before the flood. The central building presented an altered appearance on all three floors. New basement windows and doors, and better light reflected from freshly painted walls were among the items of improvement. Much refurbishing was done in the branches as well.

In the Open Shelf and Reference Rooms a new asphalt tile floor-covering replaced the old cork carpet and squeaky wooden floors. Under this a concrete foundation took the place of the old supports of cinders and rotted cross-beams, to give the new flooring a perfectly level and solid base.

Remodeling of the library lobby led to a partial solution of one of the most trying and expensive of library problems--that of book thieves. Library officials make a distinction between persons who borrow books on their cards and then neglect or refuse to return them and others who brazenly walk out with volumes not recorded as in their possession. An accidental discovery revealed that one man had so removed 140 books in six months. Probably all these were recovered. "But this case showed us how powerless we are under the present arrangement to protect against deliberate theft," Brigham said at the time. A few known offenders had been warned and were kept under scrutiny, but there were many unknowns whose activities were a drain on the store of books.

This time the experiment of George T. Settle years before, of placing a barrel outside the library and inviting unlawful possessors of books to drop them in under cover of darkness, was not repeated.

Instead, two desks, with turnstiles beside them, were installed on either side of the lobby entrance as charging and return desks, to supplant the long desk in the rear of the lobby. This enabled library attendants to observe each person entering and leaving the library. The new desks were built of materials from the old desk--its framework, mahogany top, and marble facing. The turnstiles also automatically total the volume of the day's attendance. The new locations of the record desks did not affect an innovation in the charging of books which Brigham had put into practice in 1932. Under this device, the self-charging system, the borrower records his own identification on the record-card bearing the title of the book, thereby speeding the process at the charging desk.

With the lobby clear of the long desk, the public card catalogue was brought from its obscure place under the east stairway and put in the prominent position it now (1942) occupies opposite the main entrance. This acquainted many library users with the existence of this principal key to the library's resources, and greatly increased its usefulness and actual use. Removal of the long desk also provided much-needed work space between the stacks and the present position of the catalogue.

On the second floor an archway was constructed to connect the Watterson Room and the Civics and Newspaper Reading Room. The former became the new Kentucky Room, into which all materials relating to Louisville and the State were brought together from many separate places in the library. The latter room was made the

new quarters of the Henry Watterson Memorial Collection. Together the two became the Local History Division of the Reference Department, with Ellen T. Harding as its first chief. Space on the second-floor balcony was utilized as an alcove for current newspapers.

In the basement, the old auditorium, seldom used in recent years, was remodeled to make three spacious rooms out of the large hall. One became the headquarters of the Extension Department, which previously had occupied a smaller room under the librarian's office. The other two were utilized as rooms for public meetings, staff meetings, programs for children, and headquarters for the WPA Library Projects.(18)

Meanwhile, work was nearing completion on the new Shawnee Branch building, only to become the occasion for a successful effort to obtain yet another new branch building.

The flood-damaged frame structure which had housed the Shawnee Branch since 1922 was purchased by the Shawnee Christian Church next door, moved to the church property, and renovated. When renovation was completed in July, 1937, the library, by agreement with the church, reopened in the old structure and remained there until its new brick building was finished. This was erected with the help of WPA at a total cost of about $45,000 and was opened formally on June 2, 1938.(19)

Another Federal agency, the Public Works Administration, provided part of the financial backing necessary for the construction of the library's newest building, the Iroquois Branch.

Unlike WPA, which extended aid to public agencies by furnishing the labor for projects sponsored by those agencies, PWA functioned by giving direct grants of funds for public works projects to the amount of 45 per cent of the total cost of the projects. This was done in the instance of the branch library in South Louisville.

The Iroquois Branch resulted from a campaign initiated in the spring of 1938 by the Beechmont Civic Club. Other organizations which took part in the campaign were Churchill Downs Post No. 2931 of Veterans of Foreign Wars, the South End Civic Club, the Beechmont Woman's Club, and the Taylor Boulevard Civic Club. In June the Beechmont Club sent a delegation to the meeting of the library's Board of Trustees, to be told by Mayor Joseph D. Scholtz that PWA assistance was virtually assured. The delegation included O. E. Hoffman, president of the club; Paul Kneisel, James F. Crumley, the Rev. Father Paul Durbin, Paul Johnson, and Raymond Frankel. W. F. Milburn, principal of Louisville Male High School and chairman of the club's original "committee of agitation," was absent from this meeting.

A lot at Sixth and Woodlawn Streets, 200 by 100 feet, was purchased with $3,300 raised by subscriptions in the community organizations and through a house-to-house canvass. The cornerstone of the building was laid at ceremonies December 8, 1938. Hoffman placed within the cornerstone a bronze box containing a photostatic copy of the check with which the site was purchased, the names of those active in raising the money, and a copy of the SOUTHERNER,

community newspaper active in the campaign for the branch. The building, red brick of colonial design, and costing about $44,000, including the PWA grant of $19,903, was opened June 10, 1939. Marcella Tobe became first librarian. The Beechmont and Highland Park Garden Clubs took part in landscaping the grounds.(20)

An account of the library's material growth in the years after the flood would not be complete without mention of its most important acquisition of books in recent years. This was the gift made by the distinguished Louisville surgeon, Dr. August Schachner, whose professional work had won recognition for him in Europe as well as in the United States, and whose extra-professional accomplishments had included the writing of a biography of the pioneer Kentucky physician and surgeon, Dr. Ephraim McDowell.

In 1940 Dr. Schachner offered to the library, for the exclusive use of Negroes, his entire medical library, a valuable collection of about a thousand medical books. The Board of Trustees accepted the gift, and several months were spent in cataloguing the collection and preparing the "Schachner Memorial Room" at the Western Colored Branch to house the books. During the preceding year, while arrangements to receive the gift were being made, Dr. Schachner had been seriously ill. Over the protests of his medical advisers he rose from his sickbed to attend the dedication program. This was believed to have hastened his death, which occurred less than three months later, on July 10.

In his address of presentation Dr. Schachner advised the Negro doctors to make financial arrangements for the continuing purchase and

binding of current medical literature, to keep the collection up to date. Rabbi Joseph Rauch, president of the library Board of Trustees, announced that Dr. Schachner's benefaction already had attracted gifts of medical literature from other doctors.

Dr. Schachner stipulated that the medical library be kept intact: it was planned to keep it at the Western Colored Branch for a number of years, or until other arrangements for housing it should be agreed upon by the Negro medical fraternity of the city and the library board.(21)

In 1942 the Board of Trustees, encouraged by greatly increased revenue from rental on the Kaufman-Straus Building (see Appendix A), took a step which had been delayed for five years. It granted a uniform salary increase to every employee of the library system. It was the first general salary increase the board had granted since the beginning of the depression.(22)

The library made advances in intangible respects as well as along material lines in the years after the flood. In 1938 and 1941 two measures designed to establish and elevate professional standards of library personnel were adopted, the earlier by the State, the other by the Free Public Library itself.

The first of the two measures was a law setting up a State Board for the Certification of Librarians and requiring certification, similar to that required for public school teachers and administrators, of persons in full-time profes-

sional positions in tax-supported libraries. This law applied to all such libraries in communities of more than 3,000 population. When the certification law went into effect May 31, 1938, Harold F. Brigham became chairman of the State's library certification board, serving in that capacity until his resignation as Louisville librarian in 1942.(23)

The step taken by the Louisville library three years later was the adoption by the Board of Trustees of a "Classification and Pay Plan." This plan was devised by Brigham with the cooperation of the Library Staff Association. Its purpose was to make distinction between the several classes of positions in the library according to the requirements of the positions, and to designate an appropriate salary range for each grade of position.

Three principal classifications, with two or more grades within each classification, were recognized, and minimum and maximum salaries in each grade were set. The classifications were: first, professional, requiring a college degree including one year of approved library school training; second, sub-professional, requiring at least three years of college work without library school training; third, clerical, requiring a high school diploma plus or including commercial training. Promotions were to be made solely on the basis of merit and in accordance with this scheme of service, the Board of Trustees decreed.(24)

The Library Staff Association had been formed in March, 1936, with all full-time members of the staff under regular appointment eligible for membership. Its purposes, as listed in its

constitution, were "consideration of professional questions, social intercourse, and personal welfare of the individual staff member. In promoting these purposes it shall be understood that the best interests of the library will at all times be a first consideration." The association publishes the STAFF LOG, which appears monthly except during the summer. Margaret Gilligan served first as president, in 1936-37. Presidents during succeeding years were Marcella Tobe, Mrs. Marion W. Stoner, Ray Tidings, Eleanor Schmitt, Marethal Burquin, and Virginia Woodson.(25)

Both before and subsequent to the formation of the Staff Association, the library staff and the Board of Trustees recognized the need for an adequate pension system for the employees. More than half the members of the staff in 1933 joined the retirement plan established by the American Library Association for all librarians in the United States. But the Board of Trustees of the Louisville Library was compelled to accept a legal ruling that the library itself could not share the costs with its employees without enabling legislation to permit the use of library funds for such a purpose.

The board was mindful of this deficiency when, in October, 1940, it set the retirement age for library employees at seventy years. This age limit was adopted with the thoughtful proviso that present employees sixty-five years old and more should be given "individual consideration with due regard to their personal situation" as well as to the best interests of the library.

In 1940 the library, with the assistance of

WPA, completed the fourth of a series of large volumes published in mimeographed form under the general title of LOUISVILLE LIBRARY COLLECTIONS. These books, distributed to Louisville schools and to libraries throughout Kentucky, brought together much historical material derived from books, old magazines, and newspapers in the library. The first volume, in two parts, dealt with the history and institutions of Louisville. The other three, under the name Biography Series, were titled as follows: Volume 1, ARTISTS OF LOUISVILLE AND KENTUCKY; Volume 2, KENTUCKY AUTHORS; Volume 3, PROMINENT WOMEN OF LOUISVILLE AND KENTUCKY.

The volume on Louisville was prepared in 1933-35 under the Federal Emergency Relief Administration program in Kentucky. It was projected by the late Helen F. Randolph, journalist, who assisted in launching it. Research workers were supplied from relief rolls, and Edna J. Grauman, head of the library's Reference Department, and Esther Williams, her assistant, supervised the work. The other three volumes were done by research workers on WPA, successor to FERA as a work relief agency, under the supervision first of Mrs. Bettie M. Henry, and later of Mrs. Bess A. Ray of the WPA Library Project.

The advent of war in Europe in September, 1939, found a substantial reading public in Louisville already interested in world affairs. Each spectacular event abroad, from Japan's grab of Manchuria and the rise of Hitler to the Austrian Anschluss and the Munich Pact, added to the number of readers at the library whose

eyes were fixed on the deepening shadows of the world crisis. By the time America's defense program was begun in 1940, this interest had intensified and widened. Those with whom serious reading had become a deeply rooted habit turned avidly to background material on the war and the international situation which had brought it about. Each new book by a newspaper correspondent or other authority on foreign affairs and the military strategy of the war was seized eagerly.(26)

Hitler's MEIN KAMPF was in great and growing demand(27)--a vivid illustration of a fundamental difference between a democracy and a dictatorship. Americans could obtain readily a book embodying the Nazi doctrine and Nazi program by the Nazi leader; it would be difficult to imagine THE PUBLIC PAPERS AND ADDRESSES OF FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, which contain statements of democratic principles, circulating freely in the libraries of Germany.

The national defense program in its two principal phases, the manufacture of war materials on a vast scale and the training of manpower in the armed forces of the nation, gave the Louisville library an opportunity to repeat war services such as it rendered in 1917-18. For Louisville became almost overnight a major center of war manufactures; and the proximity of Bowman Field and Fort Knox to the city made provision for soldiers' recreation here imperative.

The emergence of Louisville as a defense industry boom town created for the library a large new clientele. Formerly the "man with the dinner pail" was only a casual user of the

library. Now, multiplied a thousandfold, he turned to it purposefully. What he wanted was education, as quickly as possible: knowledge that would equip him for a new job, a better job. The demand was not much ahead of the instruments for satisfying it. Early in 1941 the library purchased a substantial number of new books on technical subjects. These included texts on aviation and aircraft manufacture, aluminum processing, blueprint reading, electrical, architectural, mechanical, and radio engineering, chemistry and chemical engineering, gear cutting, die casting, construction work and carpentry, machine and foundry work, ordnance, trades mathematics, telegraphy, surveying, tool making, road construction, woodwork, and welding.(28)

At the same time plans were being made to supply reading matters to soldiers in training in the Louisville area. The mayor's Military Affairs Committee, at the persuasion of its chairman, Alderman Andrew Broaddus, took over Columbia Hall, on Fourth Street just south of the library, as a Service Club for men in uniform, and requested the Free Public Library to maintain and supervise a reading room at the center. Brigham accepted the responsibility on behalf of the library. The need for reading matter was publicized, and numerous clubs and individuals donated books and magazines. Twenty-one subscriptions to magazines were contributed by the library, the Tourist Club, the Rotary Club, the Friendly Class of the Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church, Adath Israel Temple, Mrs. William R. Belknap, Dr. James Bruce, and William Debenham. Nineteen daily and weekly

papers were donated by their publishers or the Chambers of Commerce of their communities. The WPA Library Project provided attendants for the reading room, and it was ready for use when the club was formally opened, on March 15, 1941.

In the early part of 1941 the United States Army's new program of library service had not yet been developed to provide for smaller posts, such as Bowman Field. The Bowman Field command therefore welcomed the offer of the Louisville library and WPA to organize and operate a sizable library there. This was done, with the Free Public Library directing the technical operation of the library at the base, though the Army exercised actual control over it.

By the end of 1941, by which time the United States was actually in the war and preparing to send troops overseas, the American Library Association had formulated plans for a drive for books similar to that conducted in 1917-18. Brigham was named State chairman of the Victory Book Drive in Kentucky, and Howard C. Davis, a former trustee of the library, was in charge of the drive in Louisville, conducted intensively from January 12 to April 1, 1942. Civic organizations, the Boy Scouts, and the Girl Scouts took part. Receiving stations were placed in stores and other points about the city. A novel feature of the campaign was a program of telephone solicitation directed by Mary Verhoeff. A substantial number of the residential listings in the telephone directory was called to urge householders to deliver books at the receiving stations or give them to Boy Scouts in a city-wide house-to-house canvass. By July 6 a total of 33,733 volumes had been received and

14,220 shipped to military areas in the State after being inspected and thoroughly reconditioned by WPA workers.(29)

In the months before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor the library received numerous bulletins and pamphlets on the war, the defense program, and the ideological conflict between democracy and fascism. With the entry of the United States into the war, this paper-bound reading matter increased in volume, especially that part of it which came from government agencies. To keep it classified by subject matter and thereby make it more accessible and useful to the public, the library, with the cooperation of WPA, set up a War Information Center in May, 1942, in the alcove outside the Reference Room.

The center contained hundreds of leaflets and bulletins covering every phase of the war. Those relating to finance explained the necessity of the enormous expenditures by the government and the reasons why the public should buy War Bonds. Problems of taxation, labor, industry, and agriculture were explored. Information was provided on all phases of home economics and on the manifold aspects of civilian defense. Other pamphlets discussed measures to mitigate psychological and emotional effects of the war. Fuller treatment of many of these subjects were available in books, some of which were placed on display from time to time on tables and in display shelves in the lobby and Open Shelf Room.

In the lobby of the central library and also in the branches, colored posters were hung, exhorting the public to keep production going

with its dollars, to avoid waste and extravagance in the home, to grow Victory Gardens, and to refrain from loose talk that might give useful information to the enemy. During the early months of 1942 first aid classes were held at the main library and all branches.

In 1939 and 1940 the library made itself the chief participant in legal proceedings the repercussions from which were to be felt all over the State. This litigation was a test suit which the Board of Trustees arranged to be filed against the library to ascertain its authority to pay the librarian a salary higher than $5,000 a year. Section 246 of the State constitution provides that "No public officer, except the Governor, shall receive more than five thousand dollars per annum, as compensation for official services."

The suit was prompted by a situation which arose in 1937 from the original salary arrangement made with Brigham. Under the terms of this he was to be paid $6,000 annually by the library and $1,000 by the University of Louisville to conduct library courses there. The arrangement with the university continued until 1937, terminating then by mutual consent. Shortly thereafter, the librarian suggested to the Board of Trustees that it compensate him for the loss of income from the university. Consideration of this request by the board revived the question whether it had the legal right to pay the librarian more than the $5,000 fixed by the constitution. Doubts over this point had been raised in 1931, but were removed at that time by an opinion of the Louisville city at-

torney. He ruled then that the library did have the right to pay, out of its revenues from non-tax sources, a salary in excess of the constitutional limitation.(30)

After some discussion, it was decided to arrange a test suit. This was filed February 17, 1939, in the Chancery Branch of Jefferson Circuit Court by a taxpayer, J. E. Alvey, at the library's expense. Brigham and the Board of Trustees were named defendants. The library contended, first, that it was a proprietary and not a governmental function of the municipality and its librarian therefore was not a "public officer" but an employee, an agent of the Board of Trustees; second, that revenues derived from rent on the Kaufman-Straus Building constituted a non-public source of income, did not come within the purview of the constitutional clause, and could be expended at the discretion of the Board of Trustees.

The chancellor, Judge Churchill Humphrey, explicitly sustained the first of the two contentions, saying, "The public library is in my opinion a proprietary holding....I think the librarian exercises no function of government, but is an employee engaged to carry out meticulously detailed policies formed by the library board. An officer within the purview of the constitutional salary limit must, in my opinion, exercise governmental functions, which in my mind the librarian does not."(31)

To settle the matter conclusively the board had Alvey carry the case to the State's highest court. The Court of Appeals, on April 26, 1940, reversed Judge Humphrey's ruling and decided that the constitutional limitation on salaries

was applicable to the librarian. Buttressing its ruling with numerous citations from earlier cases, it declared that "Our research has shown it to be fairly well established that the operation of this free public library, under authority, and in the manner prescribed, constitutes no private or proprietary ownership, but is manifestly a governmental function;" that the librarian "is filling office, hence is an officer within the meaning of section 246 of the Constitution," and that the non-tax revenues of the Free Public Library, by that institution's nature, automatically become public funds. Subsequently a petition to rehear was denied by the high court.(32)

This decree had far-reaching effects, not alone on the library. Numerous tax-supported institutions and agencies, on the assumption that their administrative heads were not "public officers," had been paying them salaries higher than the constitutional limit. Now these salaries had to be scaled down to the $5,000 maximum. Conspicuously affected were the institutions of higher education, whose presidents and principal department heads thereafter must accept salaries substantially lower than those paid by colleges and universities of comparable size in other States.

In other words, a capable college or university president who could command a higher salary elsewhere would remain in Kentucky only so long as sentimental considerations might hold him there. And he might be replaced by a man of lesser stature. To forestall this outcome, the State Legislature in 1942 approved submitting to a vote of the people, at the State

elections in November, 1943, an amendment to the constitution doing away with Section 246 and leaving to statutory enactment the fixing of public officers' salaries.[1]

The result to the Louisville library was the loss of its librarian. In the late spring of 1942 Harold F. Brigham accepted an offer of the position of Indiana State librarian and tendered his resignation to the Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library, to become effective September 1, 1942.

During his eleven years in Louisville Brigham faced problems numerous and varied and grappled with them successfully. Despite the attention they demanded and the time their solution consumed, the librarian was able to carry out a policy which gave his administration a character unusual if not unique. It was his aim to make the library a dynamic force, to push it into every phase of community life.

It is the normal thing for the resources of a library to be known to and drawn upon by groups within the obvious spheres of culture: literary, artistic, musical, historical. But other types of organizations theretofore had been largely outside the library's scope of active interest: civic and business organizations, religious groups of all denominations, organizations concerned with social welfare--questions of relief, health and nutrition, housing, recreation--and more recently, all groups with activities within the scope of the Civilian Defense Council. As a matter of course the library could help solve the problems of such groups by providing as much reading matter as possible on subjects of interest to them.

But Brigham conceived that it was not enough to be dutifully helpful. He believed that active participation in many organizations was requisite to perfect a technique of helpfulness to all. He therefore accepted membership on the boards of numerous organizations and institutions and thereby felt a personal responsibility for the solution of their problems. In setting up machinery in the library to reach them and plan with them, he brought members of the staff into closer contact with community interests and activities. A similar policy, embracing active participation in neighborhood affairs, was followed at the branch libraries.

The question of a successor to Brigham brought a mild recurrence of the thirty-year-old argument of local man versus outsider. Both sides won, in effect; for the choice of the trustees, announced September 8, 1942, fell upon a former Louisville man who had served an important Mid-western library with distinction for the six years preceding.

The new librarian was Clarence R. Graham.(33) He was a native of Louisville and a graduate of the University of Louisville, although he spent his first three undergraduate years at the University of North Carolina. Also, after completing graduate study in library science at Western Reserve University, he served for four years as librarian of Parkland Junior High School in Louisville and then, for a year in 1935-36, as assistant to Brigham at the Free Public Library. From 1936 to 1942 he was director of libraries of the National College of Education in Evanston, Illinois.

In one sense the board was following prec-

edent by naming Graham, thirty-five years old. Except Settle, all his predecessors were men in their early or middle thirties when they became librarian in Louisville.

Chapter Nine

THE LIBRARY AT WORK—1942

The aim of this concluding chapter will be to describe the organization of the Louisville public library system in 1942 and to give thereby some account of its services to the public. Because those extraordinary services occasioned by the World War of the Nineteen-forties were detailed comprehensively in the preceding chapter and because, by their nature and objectives, they fall outside normal library routine, they will be omitted here. Omitted also, or touched upon only casually, will be a number of other functions of the library dealt with adequately in Chapters V-VIII.

Now in its forty-first year, the Louisville Free Public Library owns and operates eleven library buildings--the central library and ten branches--and in addition to these maintains, in other buildings throughout Louisville and Jefferson County, five sub-branches and thirty-four stations. All these are administered through seven departments of which two, Order and Catalogue, discharge "backstage" functions. The other five, in contrast, might be called the public service departments, since their work brings them into direct contact with the public: Circulation, Reference, Children's, Extension, and Colored.

It should be explained that the eight white branch libraries do not fall within the exclusive jurisdiction of any one of the seven departments. The Order Department transacts their business affairs and their catalogues are under the supervision of the Catalogue Department. Also, the central Children's Department supervises directly the children's work and school services of all branches. For the rest, the branches are more or less autonomous units within the library system, directed by their respective librarians under the general administration of the chief librarian.

As of September 1, 1942, employees of the library system number 107, of whom sixty-one are professional, ten sub-professional, seven clerical, and twenty-nine bindery employees, pages, and janitors.

The two "backstage" departments, though little known to, or taken for granted by, laymen, are nonetheless of paramount importance in the library's operation.

The Order Department is the financial nerve-center of the library. Its headquarters is north of the stacks on the first floor. Under the direction of the librarian and subject to policies decided upon by the Board of Trustees, it has charge of the library's finances, keeps the financial records, and performs the mechanical work of preparing the annual budget decided upon by the librarian for submission to the trustees. Monthly reports on finances are prepared for submission to the Board of Trustees, and an annual report is made of expenditures

for each account, showing the cost of maintenance of the main library and each branch.

Each department and branch makes its own selection of books to be purchased. These selections are turned over to the Order Department, which buys the books. It also buys all supplies and has charge of maintenance of buildings and equipment, of repair and binding of books, for the entire library system.

Cards for all books purchased are verified and completed in the Order Department, where all information about the titles is to be found. The books are then ordered from publishers or dealers. After a book is received and checked, it is given its accession number, which becomes the identification number of the book for the duration of its library career. At the same time, it is recorded in one of the accession books kept for each department and branch. The accession record shows the number of volumes and their cost, broken down into the two principal categories of adult and juvenile books. A detailed book budget is maintained regularly for each unit in the library system: departments, branches, and centers of the Extension Department.

Practically all periodicals and newspapers subscribed to by the library are combined into one list, and competitive bids on this are taken annually from national subscription agencies. This entails checking with each department and branch for renewals, additions to the list of publications received, or discontinued subscriptions. After the successful bid is accepted and the contract made, each department and branch is sent a list of subscriptions for

the coming year. The periodicals are checked twice a day in the Order Department to show proper receipt, enabling all departments and branches of the library to maintain a definite check of material on hand.

Subscriptions for 1941 were entered for 311 different magazines and forty-three newspapers. The Louisville library allows magazines to circulate extensively, as it does books; therefore, in the case of many periodicals, numerous extra copies are ordered. About 160 periodicals, selected for their reference value, are assembled into volumes, checked for completeness, and bound at Louisville binderies. When these are returned, they are checked and catalogued as new books. Some 220 such volumes are added to the library's shelves each year.

Care of damaged books is another function of the Order Department. Volumes that are worn but do not require rebinding are mended in the library's own bindery or "book hospital," manned by a staff of four trained "physicians." Books which are beyond simple mending are checked for missing pages and future usefulness, and the ones found to be intact are gathered into lots of hundreds and sent to Louisville binderies for rebinding. Books too badly worn to justify rebinding, if they are still serviceable, are sent to various local institutions or to the WPA Library Project. Otherwise they are torn up, baled, and sold for waste paper. About ten thousand volumes were discarded in 1941.

The Order Department has charge of the library's telephone switchboard, which controls four trunk lines and thirteen stations. The department clears all second-class mail and at-

tends to the production of forms and lists on its three duplicating machines. It is in charge also of the library's two motor vehicles, a truck and a sedan. Daily deliveries are made to each branch except on the special days set aside periodically for county service.

In October, 1940, a maintenance man was added to the department and a shop set up in the Jefferson Branch, equipped with necessary tools and machinery, so that carpentry work, plumbing, painting, electrical, and other maintenance work could be accomplished more economically and in greater volume than formerly. Since he was employed, fluorescent lights have been installed in the Open Shelf Room and in the Highland, Parkland, Shelby, Western Colored, and Eastern Colored Branches, and installations are planned for the Reference Room at the main library and in the Portland and Jefferson Branches. Also, walls and ceilings have been washed in four branches and painted in three other branches and in three departments of the central library. Physical improvements were made in the Order Department itself in the summer of 1941. A partition between two of the rooms it occupies was removed, furniture rearranged to provide more space, and the walls painted.

The Order Department was organized by George T. Settle in 1905 with a staff of four persons, increased to five when the present building was occupied in 1908. Now the staff numbers eleven and the department occupies three times as much space as it did thirty-four years ago. Bertha L. Guntermann succeeded Settle as head of the department after he became librarian in

1912 (see Chapter VII); she was succeeded in 1920 by Clara L. Behrens, the present head.

As the Order Department is the library's financial nerve-center, so is the Catalogue Department its literary recording brain whose duty it is to record and correlate the reading resources of the institution. And, to carry the anatomical analogy a little further, the two departments together act also as the library's heart, carrying to its arteries--the other departments and the branches--the reading matter which is their lifeblood.

The department at present performs the cataloguing and classification work for the whole public library system: the central library, the branches, sub-branches, and stations. In the main lobby of the central library there is one dictionary catalogue, listing the total resources in that building. In the Catalogue Department, which is located east of the stacks on the first floor, is the official catalogue, a union author-file of all books in the entire library system. In addition to these general catalogues, there are special catalogues in the Open Shelf Room (including a separate catalogue for the library's large music collection), the Kentucky Room, the Henry Watterson Memorial Room, the Children's Department, and each of the ten branches. Each separate collection has its own "shelf list"--a card record arranged in the order the books appear on the shelves, used in taking inventory.

The cataloguing of books is a process involving many separate steps and presenting numerous problems. It is the broad task of ana-

lyzing books and recording their contents so that they can serve the thousands of readers in search of countless varieties of materials. The library is fortunate in possessing the best possible "tools"--guides and indexes--to aid in the necessary research to establish authors' names, corporate entries for books, proper subject headings, and the like. Printed Library of Congress cards, to the number of about nine thousand annually, are bought for use in cataloguing all main adult non-fiction.

For books and pamphlets the library uses the Dewey Decimal Classification scheme, the accepted system in use in the majority of public libraries.

After a book is classified and given its class number, a so-called author number is assigned, establishing the book's alphabetical place within a small collection representing a single subject. The classification number and the author number together constitute the "call number" which identifies each individual book, enabling readers to call for books by numbers. After the numbering, subject headings are decided upon. Library of Congress and American Library Association subject headings are used, supplemented by additional headings specifically applicable to the Louisville library's needs. A master card is typed by a professional assistant; most of the other cards required are made by a typist. The book is lettered and shellacked; pocket and date slip written, the reviser makes a final check, and the book is then ready for the reader.

Each year the library receives an overwhelming mass of public documents, both Federal and

State publications. Their value as scientific, economic, and governmental information is inestimable: their subject matter is vital to an understanding of the economic and social needs of the country. In order to make the more important documents available to the public, Library of Congress cards on them are filed in the public catalogue under author, title, and subject. U. S. government documents are classified according to the special number system in use in Washington by the Superintendent of Documents.

Besides new titles, the Catalogue Department handles about fifteen hundred continuances a year: bound magazines, annual reports, and yearbooks.

The book collection is an ever-changing thing, and it is one of the major duties of the Catalogue Department to keep the catalogues up to date, adding to them as new books are acquired, and removing cards for books that are discarded. Other duties of the department include the cataloguing of maps, pictures, and films; checking of subject headings in the master list of subject headings in order to maintain uniformity; refiling of cards on books transferred from one department or branch to another; cleaning and relabeling of catalogues, and relettering of mended books.

In the four years immediately after the flood, the department's work a little more than doubled. Figures on the first and last years of this quadrennium show the increase:

	1937-38	1940-41
Books catalogued	10,553	23,000

Catalogue cards made	31,301	71,679
Government documents	7,633	15,552

The department now has a staff of six persons.

Since its organization in 1905 by Harriet B. Gooch, the catalogue department has had four heads. Miss Gooch, the first, was succeeded in 1912 by Mae Wood Wigginton, who served until 1921. Her successor was Mrs. Marion W. Stoner, who remained in the position until 1928. Upon her temporary retirement from library work, the present head, Mary C. Foley, became acting head, receiving her appointment as official head of the department in October, 1930.

Largest of the central library's departments in personnel employed and number of readers served is the Circulation Department. It has jurisdiction over the Open Shelf Room and also over the service desks in the lobby. It is the center of recreational and cultural reading by library users past junior high school age, and more than any other department it is a barometer of public tastes in books. In its educational, as distinct from its recreational, functions, it differs from the Reference Department in that it caters to readers interested in adding to their store of general information and broadening their intellectual outlook. The Reference Department, in contrast, serves persons whose use of the library is directed to more specific ends: who either seek answers to specific questions or want to make detailed studies of particular subjects.

The Open Shelf Room contains approximately

35,000 books. Most of the fiction in the main library is here, as well as a good deal of such other imaginative writing as drama and poetry. Also in this room are the more recent non-fiction books as well as older ones in frequent demand: works of history, biography, philosophy, literary and art criticism, travel, and contemporary affairs--economics, politics, international relations, sociology. In this last-named group books relating to the war now bulk largest, of course. The room also contains an actively circulating collection of current periodicals, especially important in these days of momentous events and rapid changes.

The remainder of the fiction and the greater part of the circulating non-fiction--books in only occasional demand because of their age or because of the limited interest in their subject matter--are kept in the stacks and may be obtained on request.

In addition to the books of recreational and general cultural nature, the Circulation Department does a thriving business in books on utilitarian subjects. Many such subjects cannot be studied effectively unless the books on them are withdrawn and used at home: books on cooking, nutrition, first aid, gardening, poultry raising, nursing, child care and training, interior decoration, sewing, and photography, besides those now being used intensively as textbooks on skills needed in war industries (see Chapter VIII). Similarly, books on the techniques of arts and handicrafts, sports, card-games, and chess and books on party-giving cannot be really useful to their readers unless they are taken out of the library; hence, they

are to be found in the Open Shelf Room rather than in the Reference Department.

In this category is one important special collection to be found in the Open Shelf Room: the large array of music scores--songs, operas, piano and organ arrangements, orchestrations--which, with books on the history, theory, and teaching of music, comprises one of the most frequently used collections in the library. It has been augmented by substantial gifts from two musical organizations of long standing but now no longer in existence, the Louisville Male Chorus and the Wednesday Morning Music Club. A separate card catalogue assists the musician in finding the scores he wants. Ideally, this collection should be kept in a separate music room attended by a musically trained person and furnished with a piano and perhaps a phonograph and collection of records; and this is recognized by officials of the library as one of its most pressing needs.

Many readers who use the Circulation Department come with a definite idea of what they want or have enough literary knowledge and tastes sufficiently decided to find what they want by browsing. But many others come in search of guidance, and some of these are inarticulate in making known their needs. The library worker has an opportunity to guide such readers along paths which may open to them unexpected and ever-widening vistas of knowledge and the pleasure that knowledge brings. The readers' advisory service conducted by the Circulation Department is designed for this type of reader; and the reading supplied by this service often has an important place as a sup-

plement to a more formal education and sometimes even as a substitute for it.

Much advisory work is done also with women's clubs, church organizations, and adult education groups. The latter often have shelves of books put aside in the Open Shelf Room for the use of their students. In growing numbers mechanics, engineers and technical workers of all kinds, office workers, advertising men, personnel workers, salesmen, and accountants are served by the department. The Free Public Library leaves the more technical books on law and medicine to the special libraries of those professions; but there is a growing interest in these subjects on the part of laymen.

The Circulation Department makes lists of fiction and non-fiction on special subjects which are multigraphed for general distribution. It also maintains displays of books with posters, signs, or maps in the Open Shelf Room and the lobby. There are two permanent displays in the Open Shelf Room, one of new non-fiction and one of books on "The World Today." The other displays are constantly changed and often are tied up with timely events. Some of the more popular, as indicated by the number of books circulated from them, are "Favorites Several Years Ago," "Stranger Than Fiction," "Lives And Times," "Let Us Be Gay," "The Voice Of England," "The South American Way," "Our Battle," "Doctors And Medicine," and "The Home Front." Displays are put up from time to time also in connection with motion pictures adapted from meritorious books and plays or based on historic events and characters. For these the motion picture theater supplies the poster, usually

designed and worded as specified by the head of the Circulation Department.

The department does considerable work with high school and university students and teachers. Books written for children, which form a necessary part of teachers' reading, are found in the Children's Department; but numerous books on education and child psychology and training are kept in the Open Shelf Room, although the Parents' Room, which adjoins the main Children's Room, specializes in the newer books of this type. The Open Shelf Room contains a shelf of books on the senior high school reading list for use of high school students and a section of recreational reading for young people, with multigraphed lists for their use. Junior high school students, though having cards from the Children's Department, use the adult Circulation Department when necessary, but this use is confined chiefly to reading for school purposes. In the ninth grade, the last year of junior high school, the student is transferred to the adult department and may have full use of the Open Shelf Room.

Besides its work in the Open Shelf Room, the Circulation Department operates the charging and return desks in the lobby, centers of continuously flowing streams of clerical work. Books are withdrawn at the desk west of the lobby entrance and returned by borrowers at the desk opposite. At the return desk also renewals are taken in person or by telephone and borrowers are registered here and given their library cards. The alphabetical list of borrowers is kept here, as is the record of books in circulation, filed under the date due. At

this desk the book card is put in the pocket of each returned book before it is replaced on the shelf for the next borrower.

For it is the function of the Circulation Department not only to keep books on the shelves in order so that they can be found when wanted, but also to be able to locate all books which are in circulation, to tell who has them and when they are due to be returned. This file, along with the registration file of borrowers' names and addresses, is used in sending notices of books overdue. To get books returned promptly, so they can be used by the greatest number of people possible, a fine of two cents a day is charged for overdue books.

The library can buy only a limited number of copies of a book; so, to satisfy the demand for recent books, new fiction and a limited number of new non-fiction books are lent for only one week instead of two and are made non-renewable. The Duplicate Pay Collection also is designed to get new books to the borrower as soon as possible. It contains recent books, mostly fiction, which are duplicated in the free collection. They are rented for two cents a day, with a bargain rate of ten cents for the first week. When a book pays for itself it is put into the free collection: by this practice the library can buy more copies of a title than it could afford otherwise.

The system of reserves also is used to relieve the book shortage. A borrower may leave his request for a book that is out and is notified by postal when it is returned. Copies of fiction are held only until the close of the day of their return; non-fiction books are held

for persons requesting them a few days longer. Sometimes there is a long waiting list for a book and the borrower must wait his turn. One reader, who had waited impatiently for Steinbeck's THE GRAPES OF WRATH for several weeks, finally exclaimed, "I guess they'll be raisins by the time I get 'em." The reserve service requires the equivalent of the full time of one assistant, although in practice several persons assist the one in charge. Another assistant is in charge of the records of loans to branch libraries. The branches borrow from the Circulation Department to satisfy requests for books they do not own.

The first head of the Circulation Department, Annie V. Pollard, resigned in 1912. Her successor, Jennie M. Flexner, remained in charge of the department for nearly sixteen years, during which time she did much pioneering work in advisory service to readers at the library. She resigned in 1928 to write what has become the standard library textbook on circulation department work, then joined the adult education staff of the New York Public Library to resume her work in readers' advisory service.

Miss Flexner's place was taken, for about three years, by Cora Beatty, who served as acting head until she left the library to take an important post with the American Library Association. That was the office of membership secretary, in which capacity she is responsible for the enlistment of members in the association, which numbers some fifteen thousand librarians.

In 1931 Winifred L. Hutchings, who had been on leave of absence from the library to engage

in study for a year, returned and was made permanent head of the department, a position she now holds. Besides Miss Hutchings, the present staff of the department consists of eleven assistants, two full-time pages, and one half-time page.

Probably all libraries exert their greatest educational influence on adults through their reference departments; this is certainly true of the Louisville library's Reference Department. Its services command not only the extensive materials in the Reference Room, in the east wing of the first floor, and in the Kentucky Room just above it, but the entire resources of the library as well.

The main Reference Room has the reference bocks in more constant use--dictionaries, encyclopedias, "Who's Who" volumes, and the like, the various special reference collections, the out-of-town city directories and telephone books, college and university catalogues, current non-circulating periodicals, the periodical indexes and other indexes, and a few of the recent bound periodicals. The library's extensive files of bound periodicals are made available to the public through the use of the numerous periodical indexes, which constitute a key to resources of the library second in importance only to the huge public card catalogue in the main lobby.

Since the library is designated by law as a Federal government depository library, the Reference Department has a collection of government publications totaling several thousand bound volumes and many thousands more of un-

bound pamphlets received each year. These are made accessible to public use through the many government indexes, the subject-card check list, and the Library of Congress cards in the public catalogue. Although the collection is enormously valuable as a medium of authentic information, knowledge of it by the general public is tragically lacking.

The Reference Room has several other special collections: the Genealogical Collection, the Confederate Collection, which contains more than six hundred books dealing with the Confederate side of the War Between the States, and the Art Collection, comprising about eight hundred books, many of them rare and valuable, dealing with the fine arts, furniture, costuming, and design. A collection of pictures, reproductions of works of art, is maintained for study clubs and students in schools of the city.

As early as 1906 the local newspapers were clipped for stories about the library itself and mounted to form the beginning of what is now the extensive Louisville Free Public Library Scrapbook Collection. With the establishment of the Newspaper and Civics Room in 1914, the newspapers were read for general clippings on Louisville and Kentucky, and the clippings mounted. In recent years thirteen major out-of-State newspapers have been clipped also for stories on events of national and world significance, for the alphabetical vertical file, which serves as a quick reference tool to special pamphlets and general clippings. A clipping file of newspaper pictures on such subjects as travel, industries, famous persons, and natural history is being developed.

The Kentucky Room (see Chapter VIII) now contains almost three thousand volumes by Kentucky writers, many of them autographed; almost the same number of volumes about Kentucky, including the valuable file of Louisville City Directories. Here also are almost seven thousand pamphlets on Kentucky, current Kentucky State documents, many maps, and a few manuscripts. Back files of State documents are kept in the first floor stacks. The Kentucky Room also has several special indexes: a card index of all Kentucky material appearing in the main catalogue, a newspaper index for 1917-18 and for the years from 1924 to date, and a comprehensive index of Kentucky articles in books and magazines. Eighteen magazines dealing with Kentucky and the South are indexed for items about this State.

One of the Kentucky Room's valued possessions is a rare copy of John James Audubon's BIRDS OF AMERICA, 38 by 40 inches, kept locked and allowed to be used only when an assistant is on hand to safeguard against damage. Another is a complete file of exact reproductions of the originals of the 188 songs by Stephen Collins Foster, the gift of J. K. Lilly of Indianapolis.

The Louisville library was quick to see the advantages of microphotography as a medium for reproducing newspaper pages on film: valuable in the preservation of records on newsprint that would ultimately disintegrate, and useful as a space-saving measure.

In November, 1937, the library discontinued binding of the COURIER-JOURNAL and TIMES and, under a financial arrangement with the publish-

er of the newspapers, began sending the files of the papers to the Eastman laboratories to Rochester, New York, to be microfilmed. The COURIER-JOURNAL defrays the cost of the negative film and of one positive copy for its files, and the library pays for another positive copy which it retains.

With WPA assistance, the library made a beginning toward microfilming its newspaper files of dates prior to November, 1937. By the time the entry of the United States into the second World War forced this project to suspend, the files from 1925 to 1937 had been microfilmed. Completion of the microfilming will reduce the space occupied by the bound files from 2,814 cubic feet to 405 cubic feet, the space taken by five cabinets for storing the rolls of film.

The films are used by means of a reading machine which projects a photographic image of the newsprint. The machine is adjustable so that a whole newspage can be seen at once, or a quarter-page magnified. The user can move from column to column and from page to page by turning a crank and shifting a lever.

The success of the Reference Department depends on the assistance it gives those who are in search of information, whether in the form of an isolated fact or a mass of material on a given subject. It seeks to serve writers, musicians, artists, business men, manufacturing establishments, professional men, mechanics, engineers, artisans, the public schools, private schools, colleges, and the University of Louisville, men's and women's study clubs, church and Sunday School groups, genealogists

and historians, special students, and the general public.

Not even approximate figures on the use of the department can be given, since the complete freedom of the shelves to readers makes compilation of statistics on the use of books and periodicals impossible. A record of the more important questions asked is kept, but the amount of time involved in answering them is difficult to tabulate. The telephone question-answering service keeps two telephones in the Reference Room and one in the Kentucky Room busy almost continuously. During the school year the daily average of calls is about a hundred; this average drops to around sixty during the summer months.

The range and variety of information sought and questions asked in the Reference Department are boundless. It serves study clubs in the preparation of their programs; amateur theatrical producers use it for data on period costumes and furnishings; business houses turn to it for financial reports, economic statistics, and price charts. Questions on history, geography, government, etiquette, correct English usage, literary quotations, interior decoration, landscaping--these and many others round out the daily barrage. Out-of-town letters are received frequently, requesting information on such subjects as birth records, family history, and verification of bibliographical references.

Occasionally unconscious humor creeps into the questions. There was the person who wanted to know something "about autos in the early days before there were any"; and another who asked for "a city directory of Arizona."

The Reference Department played a part in settling the 1907 streetcar strike in Louisville. On the night before the final meeting between representatives of the workers and of the company, one of the attorneys in the case remembered a similar strike in St. Louis and sent to the library for the terms of its settlement. It happened that the newspaper file containing the information was at the bindery, but it was recalled; and the information thus obtained played an important part in expediting settlement of the strike which was effected the next day.

The department maintains close co-operation with the University of Louisville libraries, the Filson Club, the theological seminary libraries, the Board of Education and school libraries, the City Hall Research Library, and the Louisville Board of Trade. Through the medium of inter-library loans, the department borrows from the Library of Congress and many other libraries for Louisville users and lends to small libraries in the State and occasionally to large libraries throughout the country to meet special requests of their readers.

The department co-operates with the schools in their vocational guidance work, and a special effort is made to have materials available on all occupations.

Reserve shelves are maintained for special study clubs, such as the College Club, the League of Women Voters, and the Girl Scouts. Consultation service is offered to committees arranging programs for study clubs. Each June the clubs are asked to send their programs of the coming year to the library; and a selected

bibliography is made on each topic for the benefit of the club member who will prepare the paper on that topic. These bibliographies are available to other library patrons also.

An "Educational Events" calendar of lectures, concerts, theatrical attractions, and similar events, displayed in the lobby, is prepared each Monday morning from items in the Sunday paper, other events being added as they are announced in the newspapers. Two important annual displays prepared by the department are those of travel pamphlets and garden catalogues.

The first head of the Reference Department, Marilla W. Freeman, served from 1905 to 1910. Upon her resignation she was succeeded by Caroline Q. Fullerton, who headed the department until her death in 1925. Her successor, Edna J. Grauman, is now head of the department. Since the inception of the Kentucky Room in 1939, Ellen T. Harding has headed that division of the Reference Department. The staff of the department consists also of seven assistants, one full-time and two half-time pages.

In 1901 the Public Library of Cleveland, Ohio, established a Children's Department; in 1906 the library at Indianapolis set aside a room for this purpose, and in 1910 the library of St. Louis recognized the need of a separate department for children.

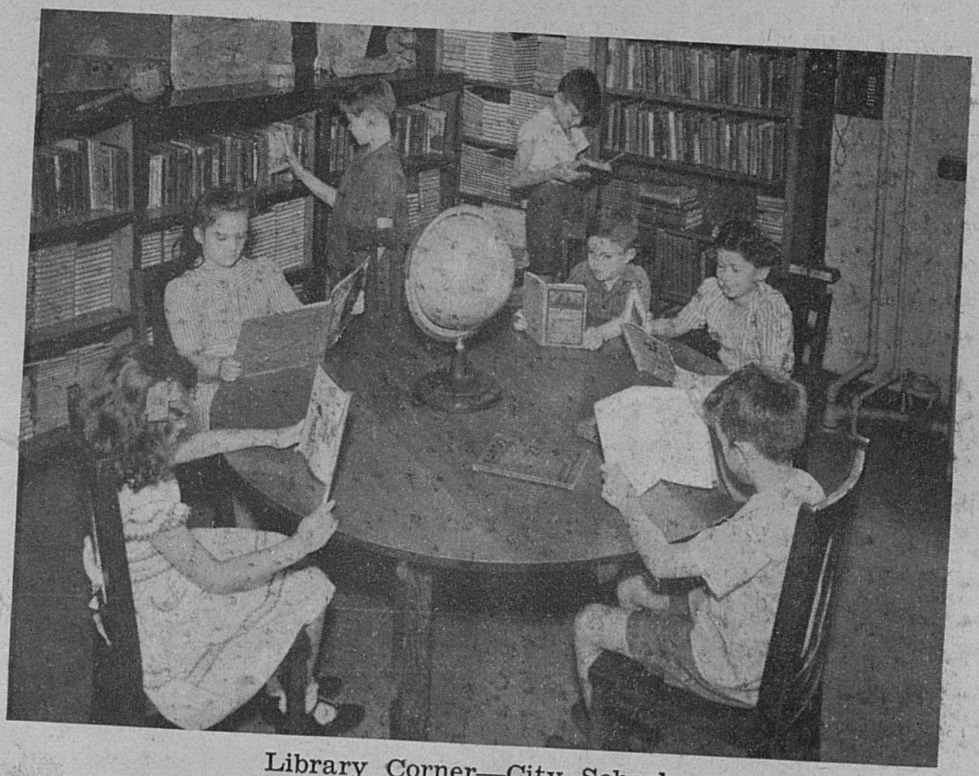
Louisville may well be regarded as a pioneer in this field, for its Children's Department antedated the one in Indianapolis by several months. The organization plan approved by the Board of Trustees in April, 1905, provided for the operation of a Children's Room in the library's temporary quarters in the Kaufman-Straus

Building. By the time this room was ready for use, children's work had been given the full status of a department. The Children's Room was opened October 30, 1905, on the fifth floor of the Fourth Street building. It was fitted with low tables and chairs to match, and had new books on the open shelves. Adeline B. Zachert, first head of the department, whom the children called the "liberry teacher," was in charge. At about the same time the library's work among Negro children was inaugurated (see Chapter V).

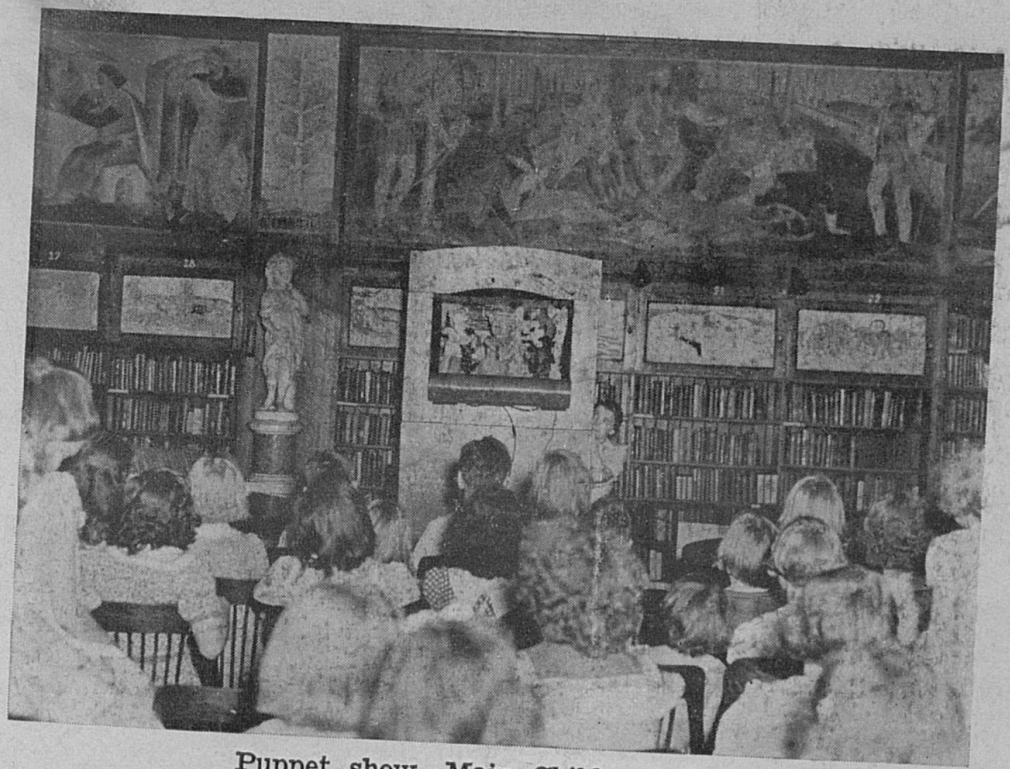
From these beginnings the Children's Department has grown to the point at which, on September 1, 1941, 27,858 children were registered as borrowers in the whole library system. The total juvenile circulation in the year ending on that date was 568,538: an annual average of 20.4 books for each child.

In 1908, when the new library building was occupied and the branch library plan was materializing, it became evident to the library board that if the library was to attain a maximum of usefulness as an auxiliary medium of child education and as a builder of sound reading habits in children, it would be necessary to co-ordinate the work in each new center through a general policy of progressive work with children, both white and Negro. General supervision of the execution of this policy was assigned to the head of the Children's Department.

In the next few years the work was extended to the schools in the form of classroom libraries; and in 1917 the functions of the Children's Department were expanded still further



Library Corner—City School



Puppet show—Main Children's Room

to embrace the suburban and rural schools of Jefferson County, when the services of the library were made available to residents of the county outside the city (see Chapters V and VII).

Meanwhile, in 1912 Miss Zachert resigned. Her successor, Bernice W. Bell, has just completed thirty years as head of the Children's Department; therefore, in point of length and continuity of service, she is now the senior department head in the library system and the only one remaining of those appointed in 1912-13 by George T. Settle.

As early as 1908 an advisory and policy-forming group for children's work was organized, consisting of the chief librarian, the head of the Children's Department, and the branch librarians. With the growth of the library system, this group has grown also until it now embraces thirteen members, including the head of the Extension Department. It meets five times a year, with additional meetings when necessary. Each year programs for the promotion of Children's Book Week and summer vacation reading are undertaken. The establishment of the WPA story-telling, dramatic, and puppetry projects in fourteen library centers was arranged by this council on children's reading.

The Children's Reading, Dramatic, and Story-telling Clinic of the Louisville library was organized under Miss Bell's direction in 1931. It was inspired by the significant findings of the Committee on Reading of President Hoover's White House Conference on Child Welfare; and was formed to carry out the recommendations set forth in the conference's pamphlet, "Books in

the Child's Bill of Rights." The purposes of the clinic are to study the habits of voluntary reading of various types of children; to plan methods of meeting the reading problems of each type or age-group, and to encourage a greater amount of reading, and reading of a higher order. It holds an annual conference on childhood and youth.

During the late Nineteen-thirties and until the war compelled elimination of non-defense projects, the WPA Library Project conducted story hours and gave puppet shows for children. More than $2,000 a month was expended by WPA for this work. The puppet shows presented to children at the main library, branches, and subbranches carefully dramatized stories enacted by puppets and operated by trained puppeteers. The shows were held on Thursday mornings at the main library and on other days at the branches. These presentations were enthusiastically received by children: in one month, after they had been going on for some time, attendance reached a total of 5,944. Story hours have continued under library auspices since the discontinuance of the puppet presentations.

The WPA, through its Art Project, was responsible for the striking murals that now adorn the western wall of the Boys' and Girls' Room. Painted by Mary Spencer Nay of Louisville, they depict scenes from the legends in the sagas of King Arthur and Robin Hood.

Miss Bell is keenly aware that the interest of parents is essential if reading and library use by children is to be really beneficial; and the effectiveness with which she has enlisted the confidence and co-operation of the adult

public is largely responsible for the progress and success of the department. The Parents' Room, which adjoins the Boys' and Girls' Room in the Children's Department at the central library, specializes in books to read to children, stories to tell, books on games and play, books on story-telling, and general children's literature. Advice is sought here by parents whose children present special problems in reading because they are precocious, retarded, or indifferent. This division also offers a service of book lists on special subjects and for children presenting special problems.

Reading lists are issued in co-operation with Parent-Teacher Councils for free distribution to their membership. The head of the Children's Department devotes a great deal of her time to publicizing these available services. She identifies herself with parent education movements, serves on parent education boards, speaks to Parent-Teacher Association groups, and lectures on children's reading. Each branch librarian is similarly identified with the P. T. A. work in her area, and with related activities.

The department in its total scope thus provides library service for more than 56,000 school children and teachers. Individual children are assisted in their selection of books according to age, personal interests, and reading ability; and children are given help in reference work and vacation reading programs. Teachers are served with files of books reviews and publishers' catalogues, annotated catalogues of children's books, and exhibits of new books. The teacher also may borrow books on a special

teacher's card to assist her in teaching a unit of work. The teachers co-operate with the library in reaching children not served by branches, sub-branches, or stations through the classroom libraries in elementary schools.

The seventh, eighth, and ninth grades of the city schools are served through the eleven junior high schools, each of which has a centralized library under the supervision of a trained librarian. Every summer a special program is arranged for this age group to encourage the pupils to acquire or improve the voluntary reading habit as a help to their school work and a preparation for adult life.

The Children's Department also performs a service for Scout leaders, counselors in summer camps, recreation leaders, Sunday School teachers, and settlement workers by supplying them with books of stories and books on games, handicrafts, nature study, and other recreational activities of young people.

Besides Miss Bell, the staff of the Children's Department comprises four assistants and a page.

The program of centralization and consolidation begun in the Extension Department in 1939 has changed its physical set-up materially. Instead of the 200-odd small centers that were maintained for the distribution of books throughout the greater part of the Nineteen-thirties, the department now maintains only thirty-one centers below the branch library status for white readers: four sub-branches and eighteen stations in Louisville and nine stations in Jefferson County outside the city. They are

located at strategic points and the reading matter they contain is selected to enable them to achieve the maximum of usefulness in their localities.

A trend in recent years has been toward establishing common centers for organized services in such places as churches, schools, stores, and motion-picture theaters; and libraries have been most eager to share in this community life. Especially in the outer sections of Louisville there have been requests for library services by groups of citizens. One of these was satisfied in November, 1942, when the station at St. Matthews was located in a place of its own at 3830 Frankfort Avenue, to be developed along the lines of a sub-branch. Attempts have been made to establish the same type of service along Bardstown Road between Douglas Boulevard and Doup's Point.

The smaller library centers serve three purposes: they introduce the resources of a large library system, direct patrons who wish to do extensive study to full-time branches and to the various departments of the main library, and teach children the use of the library and help them form correct reading habits.

When the New Deal conceived its slum-clearance plan--the replacement of tenements, shanty-houses, and other substandard dwellings by clean, well-built, and well-appointed home-units in large housing centers--that plan encompassed the provision of recreational facilities for each of these housing centers. The Free Public Library was asked to provide the library resources in the recreation centers at the Louisville housing projects. Now one of the Exten-

sion Department's sub-branches, Clarksdale, and two of the larger stations, La Salle Place and Fincastle, have been installed in the three U. S. Housing Projects known by those names.

The Extension Department also serves the library at Bowman Field Army Air Base in an advisory capacity. All books are classified by the department; and from books donated titles are selected before adding permanently to the collection. Special requests are given prompt attention. Registration cards are available for members of the Army Air Force stationed at the base who wish to borrow books from the main library or branches.

The full-time staff of the Extension Department consists of the head, Florinne C. Kammerer, and three assistants. Each sub-branch and station has an attendant, but only a few of these are paid by the library. Of the rest, four are WPA workers; three more, also WPA workers, staff the library at Bowman Field, and the remainder either are volunteer workers or receive compensation by neighborhood arrangements. Jennie C. Cochran, first head of the department, died in 1936. She was succeeded temporarily, as acting head, by Mrs. Nell Lee Miller, who served until 1939.

In addition to its two branches, the Colored Department (see Chapter V) now has one sub-branch, in the Parkland section, five stations in the city, and two in the county. The Negro housing project, Beecher Terrace, is close enough to the Western Colored Branch to be served there. The smaller library centers for Negroes, like the two branches, are operated by

the Colored Department; though the Extension Department lends its assistance when desirable.

Long observation at the Louisville library has shown that the hour of the day governs the kind of books issued to a great degree. The morning patronage consists chiefly of housewives who, for the most part, want fiction. In the afternoon students of all ages come in for books needed in their courses. At night workers of both sexes and many vocations arrive for reading matter that will benefit them in their work and otherwise increase their knowledge or that will give them needed diversion.

There are indications that use of the library is not as widespread as library officials would like it to be--a condition that is typical of public libraries rather than peculiar to the one in Louisville. On September 1, 1941, the total number of adult registered borrowers in the library system was 51,030, a figure respectable enough in a county of around 400,000 total population. But adult circulation for the year ending September 1, 1941, was only 691,195, an average per borrower of slightly more than 13.5 books a year. Since an inveterate reader can--and some do--negotiate that many books in a month, an obvious surmise is that many card holders exercise the privilege of withdrawing books only occasionally or not at all.

Of course, these figures do not include the great volume of reading done in the Reference Department and the somewhat less, though still considerable, use of Open Shelf Room books on the premises. On reading done in the library no figures are available. But the low circula-

tion average indicates that habitual reading at home is confined to a fraction of library users and that the rest do not make the most of their privileges.

If the dictum of George T. Settle, that a community's intellectual quality may be judged by the number of non-fiction books it reads, can be taken as gospel, the outlook is brighter in this respect. For it is safe to say that more factual books are being read in Louisville now than at any time since the close of that remote era when only the classics, theology, philosophy, or a good, sound, and inevitably ponderous work of history were regarded as proper and "story-books" were frowned upon as frivolous if not downright immoral.

The international crisis and the war, of course, have been primarily responsible. But the reading public, in Louisville as elsewhere, became acclimated to non-fiction in the twenty years between the Armistice and Munich. It discovered that such books as TRADER HORN, THE CRADLE OF THE DEEP, and the Halliburton travel series on the lower literary levels and Bowers' TRAGIC ERA, Beer's MAUVE DECADE, and Allen's ONLY YESTERDAY on the higher could be quite as fascinating as novels. By and large, reading tastes have kept pace with the improvement in quality of best sellers since the first World War.

Transitory excitements as reflected in newspaper headlines exerted a strong influence on the nature of reading done by the Louisville public in the Nineteen-twenties. In 1920, when there was a minor flurry in spiritualism, Sir Oliver Lodge's RAYMOND was much in demand. Two

or three years later the Parisian Pollyanna, Dr. Emile Coue, won a battalion of ephemeral adherents to his mind-over-matter therapy. In 1925 the Scopes trial at Dayton, Tennessee, precipitated parallel runs on the works of Charles Darwin and William Jennings Bryan.

The years passed, and the Trivial Twenties faded into a fragrant, if somewhat chaotic, memory: the post-war spree was over and the hangover had entered an acute phase. The depression led the serious-minded to books and magazine articles about the economic shape of things to come: to the problems of business and of organized labor, to the nature of fascism and communism and their economic antithesis, free enterprise. If some readers became spellbound by the sonorous promises of the Technocrats and the Townsendites, the judicious could anchor themselves to reality with the solid good sense of John Maynard Keynes and Stuart Chase, Lewis Mumford and Gilbert Seldes.

The point is that it has been and is the Louisville library's policy, as it is the policy of all American free libraries, to make accessible to the reading public material on all sides of controversial questions and to let readers form their own opinions and draw their own conclusions. This policy, the very essence of which is the spirit of free inquiry, is important now as it has not been since the founding of the American Republic. It is no less important that citizens make increasing use of these resources at their disposal to inform themselves upon the issues that now face them and will face them for years to come.

As these lines are written, America and the

concepts of freedom it typifies are at death grips with an enemy who, in contrast, is the devil's advocate for the concept of tyranny and for suppression of free inquiry. Of the military outcome of the struggle Americans are confident. But military defeat of the foe will not eradicate from the world the ideas for which he has stood. These must be combated by education, in the future as they have been in the past. This will be the task of the universities, the schools, and the libraries of America and its allies. And to this task the Louisville Free Public Library unreservedly dedicates itself.

NOTES

NOTES

CHAPTER I

1. HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES AND THEIR COUNTIES, 1882, p. 242.

2. SKETCHES OF LOUISVILLE AND ITS ENVIRONS, by Henry McMurtrie, quoted in HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES.

3. MEMORIAL HISTORY OF LOUISVILLE, edited by J. Stoddard Johnson, v. i, ch. 7.

4. Ibid. 5. Ibid. 6. Ibid.

7. Ibid. 8. Ibid.

9. Quoted in HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS Cities, p. 242.

10. Thesis, "Early History of Lexington before the Year 1820," by Mary Estelle Delcamp; also, information supplied by Mary K. Bullett, librarian, Lexington Public Library.

11. HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES.

12. HISTORY OF KENTUCKY, by L. and R. H. Collins, v. i, p. 641; sketch by Samuel Wilson in the KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY REGISTER, 1926.

13. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, by Carl Van Doren.

14. HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES, ch. 18.

15. Louisville City Directory of 1832.

16. HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES, ch. 18.

17. Ibid.

18. Information furnished by Otto A. Rothert, secretary of the Filson Club of Louisville.
19. HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES, ch. 18.
20. Ibid. 21. Ibid. 22. Ibid.
23. Ibid. 24. Ibid. 25. Ibid.

CHAPTER II

1. LOUISVILLE PAST AND PRESENT, pp. 266-267. This was a "Who's Who" of prominent Louisvillians living and dead, published in 1875. The section used as source here was a biographical sketch of Reuben T. Durrett.
2. Ibid.
3. Louisville COURIER-JOURNAL, March 30, 1897.
4. Ibid.
5. ACTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, 1871: "An Act to Incorporate the Public Library of Kentucky."
6. Ibid. 7. Ibid.
8. NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY, v. xiii, p. 9.
9. REMINISCENCES OF GENERAL BASIL DUKE, C. S. A., p. 494.
10. HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES AND THEIR COUNTIES, v. i, ch. 19.
11. Ibid.
12. "The Public Library of Kentucky and the Polytechnic Society of Kentucky," by Paul Allen Towne, first and only librarian of the Public Library of Kentucky, published serially in the LOUISVILLE MONTHLY magazine in 1879. This source will be indicated in succeeding references as "Towne articles."

NOTES

These articles were written with considerable animus and bias. But they are the only exhaustive account and the most nearly reliable record of the affairs of the Public Library of Kentucky known to be in existence. (The only exception is the court record of the lawsuit against the library noted later in this chapter.) For this reason they were used as the basis of this account. The financial records of the Public Library of Kentucky did not descend to its successor, the Polytechnic Society, along with its real estate and literary, artistic, and scientific properties.

13. Quoted in Towne articles.
14. Towne articles.
15. Ibid. 16. Ibid. 17. Ibid.
18. Ibid. 19. Quoted in Towne articles.
20. Towne articles. 21. Ibid. 22. Ibid.
23. Ibid. 24. Ibid. 25. Ibid.
26. Except the Boston Symphony, which demands a flat $15,000 guarantee. William Hoke Camp, manager (1942) of the Louisville Memorial Auditorium, verifies the estimates of costs of touring attractions to local managements in the Nineteen-forties.
27. Towne articles.
28. Ibid. 29. Ibid. 30. Ibid.
31. Records of Chancery Court, Jefferson County, Kentucky, in the case of A. W. Little et al. versus the Public Library of Kentucky et al.
32. Ibid. 33. Ibid.
34. Towne articles.

CHAPTER III

1. Towne articles. 2. Ibid. 3. Ibid.
4. Ibid. 5. Ibid. 6. Ibid.
7. Ibid. 8. Ibid. 9. Ibid.
10. Ibid. 11. Ibid. 12. Ibid.
13. Ibid. 14. Ibid. 15. Ibid.
16. Ibid. 17. Ibid. 18. Ibid.
19. Ibid.
20. ACTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, containing the Charter of the Polytechnic Society of Kentucky, approved April 10, 1878. The act was amended March 17, 1882, to broaden the society's powers to incur debts.
21. Ibid.
22. Towne articles. 23. Ibid.
24. Polytechnic Society Minutes, 1878.
25. Ibid. 26. Ibid. 27. Ibid.
28. Towne articles and Polytechnic Society Minutes.
29. Ibid.
30. CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY, v. ii, p. 368.
31. Polytechnic Society Minutes.
32. Records of Chancery Court, Jefferson County, Kentucky, case of Farmers and Drovers Insurance Company versus Polytechnic Society of Kentucky et al.
33. Polytechnic Society Minutes.
34. Ibid.
35. Summarizing Report of Polytechnic Society, 1896.
36. Summarizing Report of Polytechnic Society, 1883; report of Academies and Lectures Committee, 1883.

37. Report of Academies and Lectures Committee, 1884.

38. Summarizing Reports of Polytechnic Society, 1883 and 1884.

39. Circular letter of inquiry by Polytechnic Society secretary, July 26, 1884.

40. Rules and regulations of Polytechnic Society.

41. Letter to COURIER-JOURNAL by Fannie Casseday Duncan November 30, 1924.

42. Polytechnic Society Minutes, 1889.

43. Polytechnic Society Minutes, 1891.

44. Summarizing Report, Polytechnic Society, 1896.

45. Ibid.

CHAPTER IV

1. OUR TIMES, by Mark Sullivan, v. iv, chs. 4 and 7, published in 1932 by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City.

2. Found among Andrew Carnegie's papers after his death. Quoted in Sullivan's OUR TIMES, v. ii, ch. 18, p. 339, published in 1927 by Scribner's.

3. OUR TIMES, v. ii, ch. 18, pp. 356-357.

4. NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW. June, 1889, quoted in OUR TIMES, v. iv, ch. 8, pp. 141-142.

5. From the charter of the Carnegie Corporation, quoted in OUR TIMES, v. iv, ch. 8, p. 154.

6. OUR TIMES, v. iv, ch. 8, p. 150.

7. Ibid., ch. 8, pp. 151, 156. The material to which the foregoing notes refer is used

by courtesy of the publishers of OUR TIMES, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York City.

8. Polytechnic Society Minutes, 1898.

9. Ibid., 1899. 10. Ibid.

11. COURIER-JOURNAL report of addresses by Bennett H. Young and Alonzo T. MacDonald July 24, 1908, at opening of Louisville Free Public Library.

12. Polytechnic Society Minutes, 1899.

13. Address by James C. Moffet at Carnegie Centenary celebration November 25, 1935.

14. Ibid.

15. Proceedings of Louisville General Council.

16. Address by James C. Moffet, November 25, 1935.

17. Ibid.

18. Polytechnic Society Minutes, 1902, 1903.

19. Annual report, Louisville Free Public Library, 1904-05.

20. Polytechnic Society Minutes, 1904.

21. Quoted and paraphrased from 1904 contract between Polytechnic Society and Louisville Free Public Library.

22. Louisville POST, April 20, 1909.

23. Opinion of Appellate Judge Shackelford Miller.

24. Louisville POST, April 20, 1909.

CHAPTER V

1. Minutes of Board of Trustees, Louisville Free Public Library, 1903.

2. Ibid. 3. Ibid. 4. Ibid.

5. Paraphrased from minutes of Board of Trustees, L. F. P. L., April 20, 1905, et seq.

6. COURIER-JOURNAL, July 25, 1908.

7. In the description of the library building that follows, past and present tenses were used alternately to differentiate in details between the building as it was in 1908 and as it is at the present time (1942). Such details as were modified or eliminated in later years were drawn from a description of the library as it was originally, written by William F. Yust for the Louisville TIMES of September 11, 1909.

8. Annual Reports, L. F. P. L., 1904-05 to 1907-08, incl.

9. Ibid., 1907-08 and 1908-09.

10. Ibid.; also COURIER-JOURNAL, October 16, 1908.

11. Annual Report, L. F. P. L., 1910-11.

12. Annual Reports, L. F. P. L., 1906-07 and 1907-08; also, COURIER-JOURNAL, October 30, 1908.

13. Annual Reports, L. F. P. L., 1913-14.

14. Annual Report, L. F. P. L., 1918-19.

15. Pamphlet, COLORED BRANCHES OF THE LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, published 1915; also, information supplied by Rachel Harris, head Colored Department, 1935-1942.

16. Report on Children's Department, L. F. P. L., 1905-06; also, information supplied by Bernice W. Bell, head of Children's Department, 1912- .

17. Annual Report, L. F. P. L., 1908-09; Louisville TIMES, August 7, 1909.

18. Louisville LEADER (Negro publication). July 9, 1922.

CHAPTER VI

1. Towne articles and Polytechnic Society's records of Troost collection.

2. Polytechnic Society Minutes, 1881.

3. Records of Louisville library museum.

4. Louisville HERALD, July 7, 1911.

5. Correspondence between R. C. Ballard Thruston and George T. Settle, March-May, 1914.

6. Information supplied by Lucien Beckner.

7. COURIER-JOURNAL, July 5, 1925.

A brother of Sallie Ward Downs, Matt F. Ward, was involved as defendant in one of Kentucky's causes celebre of the mid-nineteenth century. Ward shot and killed William H. G. Butler, Louisville high school principal and brother of Noble Butler (see Chapter III). Professor Butler had chastised Ward's youngest brother, William, for some breach of discipline and Ward, with another brother, Robert, went to the school to discuss the matter with the principal. At the trial Matt Ward, a man in feeble health, pleaded self-defense, claiming that Butler threatened to strike him. He was acquitted on this plea, an outcome that aroused much indignation in the city. Bland Ballard (see Chapter III), then an attorney, headed a committee that drafted resolutions of disapproval; and the Ward brothers were burned in effigy.

8. Information supplied by R. C. Ballard Thruston; also, COURIER-JOURNAL, September 25, 1921.

9. COURIER-JOURNAL, September 23, 1930.

CHAPTER VII

1. See account of controversy between Polytechnic Society and Louisville Free Public Library detailed in Chapter IV.
2. Louisville Library Scrapbook (of newspaper clippings) for 1911-12.
3. COURIER-JOURNAL, November 6, 1912.
4. Annual Reports, L. F. P. L.
5. Louisville TIMES, November 9, 1912.
6. Annual Reports, L. F. P. L., 1910-15.
7. Ibid., 1905-06, et seq.
8. Louisville TIMES, November 9, 1912.
9. Annual Report, L. F. P. L., 1916-17.
10. Annual Reports, L. F. P. L.
11. COURIER-JOURNAL, May 12, June 16, October 13, 1932.
12. Annual Reports, L. F. P. L.; TIMES, November 30, 1912; COURIER-JOURNAL, March 11, 1913.
13. Annual Reports, L. F. P. L.; POST, November 13, 14, 20, 1912; TIMES, November 30, 1912; COURIER-JOURNAL, December 8, 1912.
14. COURIER-JOURNAL, June 26, 1914.
15. Annual Reports, L. F. P. L.
16. Ibid.
17. LOUISVILLE AND JEFFERSON COUNTY IN THE WORLD WAR, v. ii.
18. COURIER-JOURNAL, May 19, 1920.
19. Ibid., October 27, 1922
20. HERALD, November 28, 1920.
21. Records of L. F. P. L.
22. Annual Reports, L. F. P. L.
23. Ibid.
24. Records of L. F. P. L.; COURIER-JOURnal, March 16, 1927.

CHAPTER VIII

1. Annual Report, L. F. P. L., 1930-31.
2. Ibid. 3. Ibid.,1930-31--1935-36.
4. Ibid. 5. Ibid., 1935-36, 1936-37.
6. Louisville COURIER-JOURNAL, January-February, 1937.
7. Library records, 1937-42.
8. Article, "Louisville Flood Toll," in LIBRARY JOURNAL, March 15, 1937, also information supplied by Harold F. Brigham, librarian.
9. Library records, 1937.
10. COURIER-JOURNAL, February 5, 1937.
11. Ibid.; also library records, 1937.
12. Library records, 1937.
13. Report of Lucien Beckner to Board of Trustees, February, 1939; also, COURIER-JOURNAL, April 15, 1939.
14. Ibid. 15. Ibid. 16. Ibid.
17. Library records, 1937-40.
18. COURIER-JOURNAL, September 22, 1938.
19. Library records; COURIER-JOURNAL June 3, 1938.
20. COURIER-JOURNAL, March 10, June 30, August 10-11, December 9, 1938; February 25, June 11, 1939.
21. COURIER-JOURNAL, April 26, 1941; TIMES, April 25, 1941.
22. Library records, 1942.
23. ACTS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 1938.
24. Library records, 1941.
25. Constitution and records of Louisville Free Public Library Staff Association, 1936-1942.
26. Information supplied by members of library staff; also, COURIER-JOURNAL, September 1, 1939.

27. COURIER-JOURNAL, September 1, 1939.
28. COURIER-JOURNAL, January 31, 1941.
29. Records of Victory Book Drive.
30. Information supplied by Harold F. Brigham.
31. Opinion of Chancellor Churchill Humphrey in Chancery Court, Jefferson County, Kentucky.
32. Opinion of Kentucky Court of Appeals.
33. Library records, 1942.

CHAPTER IX

1. All factual material in this chapter was obtained through interviews with members of the library staff or from library records.

APPENDICES

1. All material in the appendices, except the biographical sketches of Harold F. Brigham and Clarence R. Graham, which came from personal interviews, was derived from records of the Louisville Free Public Library.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

FINANCES

Two questions that naturally arise in connection with any public institution are, first, what is its income and how derived? and, second, how is this income spent? It is these questions as they refer to the operation of the Louisville Free Public Library that this section will undertake to answer.

The library's two major sources of revenue are city tax moneys and the rental of the Kaufman-Straus Building. In the 1940-41 fiscal year these two sources brought more than $221,700 of the grand total of $240,751.61 received by the library. Third in size and importance is the subsidy from the Jefferson County Fiscal Court for library services to county residents. This has ranged up to $15,000 in years past. In the quadrennium ending with the 1941-42 fiscal year it has been $9,000 annually, rising to $11,000 for the 1942-43 fiscal year.

By statute the library may receive a maximum of four cents of each $1.50 of city tax revenues. In 1905, to provide funds to purchase the site of the present building, and in the four fiscal years after the 1937 flood, this

maximum was allowed. In most of the intervening years the rate accruing to the library was three cents, and in 1941-42 it was three-and-a-half cents.

The library is unusual among institutions of its type in its ownership of a valuable downtown rent-producing property, the building occupied by the Kaufman-Straus Company, one of Louisville's large department stores. Since 1903 the Kaufman-Straus Building has brought the library a total of $1,734,280.48 in rents. For the first ten years of that time the rental was $28,800 a year; this was increased for the next fifteen years to $36,000 annually. In 1928 a new twelve-year lease was signed, calling for an annual rental of $71,947.62. This agreement remained in force for four years. Then, because of the depression, the rent was reduced by mutual consent, to $50,000 annually in September, 1932. From September 1, 1935, to January 31, 1940, when the present (1942) lease was executed, the mercantile company paid rent of $56,000 a year.

This new lease provides a rental of 3 per cent of the company's gross sales (less "returns"--articles bought but returned by the customers), with a guaranteed minimum of $60,000 a year. In the first twelve months the agreement was in force the extra rent, over the $60,000, was $12,757.28; in the second, February 1, 1941-January 31, 1942, the total rent was $94,472.72. Seventeen years ago the library rejected a sale offer of a million dollars for the property. Its foresight in so doing is now evident; for it could not have obtained, in 1941, a 9.4 per cent return on anything in which

it might have invested that million dollars safely in 1925, if the offer had been accepted.

It is true that the yield from the Kaufman-Straus Building has not been all "velvet." The library had to make important repairs--more than $81,000 worth--in the building after the 1937 flood. Now, however, it is responsible only for the external building, while costs of remodeling, decorating, and minor repairs are borne by the tenant.

Another steady source of revenue to the library is the fines on overdue books, which amounts to about $1,000 a year more than that collected in traffic fines in Ordinance Court in Louisville. In the three fiscal years 1938-41, fines on books averaged $5,595 a year. Since 1931 the library has collected nearly $35,400 in fines.

The largest item of expenditure at the library is that of salaries to the staff and wages to the janitorial force. This aggregated more than $119,600 in 1940-41. In the same twelvemonth a little more than $29,500 was spent on books and periodicals, most of this on books. The bonded indebtedness of the library which, in September, 1941, stood at $408,000, is being liquidated at the rate of about $25,000 annually in payments of principal and interest. In 1940-41 library operating expenses totaled $155,546.66; building maintenance, including $17,819.81 in janitors' wages, $40,530.12, and $25,560 was paid or set aside to be paid on the bonded debt. There was an additional item of $3,313.47 for purchase of film as the library's contribution to the WPA Microfilming Project.

The bonded indebtedness of the library, carried over from the days of the Polytechnic Society, has been refinanced several times. On January 25, 1907, the library Board of Trustees requested the Polytechnic Society to mortgage the Kaufman-Straus Building for a sum not to exceed $100,000 to furnish the new building. The society agreed, and this sum was added to the debt already borne by the mercantile property, $210,000. After several refinancings, at rates of interest varying from a maximum of 6 per cent down to 3 per cent in the post-depression years, the debt in 1936 stood at $228,000.

In March, 1937, the mortgage was rewritten with the Fidelity and Columbia Trust Company for $325,000 for fifteen years at 3 per cent interest. A year later the State Legislature passed an act permitting libraries in cities of the first class to borrow up to $500,000. The library thereupon increased its indebtedness to $375,000 with the Kentucky Title Trust Company for twenty years at 3 per cent. In November, 1939, the library board agreed to assist the Kaufman-Straus Company in financing the air-conditioning of the building by the issue of an additional $75,000 in 3 per cent bonds, to be repaid by the Kaufman-Straus Building with interest on a monthly rental basis.

There follow tables of the various refinancings of the bonded debt and receipts and expenditures of the library at eight-year intervals:

APPENDIX A

MORTGAGE AND REFINANCING OF MORTGAGE
(Until 1913, The Polytechnic Society and Louisville Free Public Library were jointly the mortgagees)

YEAR	AMOUNT	RATE	HOLDER
1907	$310,000	5%	Mutual Life Insurance Co. of N. Y.
1913	$310,000	5%	"
1918	$310,000	6%	Louisville Trust Co.
1923	$310,000	5½% (Stipulation of $10,000 annual reduction)	"
1928	$260,000	5%	"
1933	$250,000	5½%	Fidelity and Columbia Trust Co.
1935	$230,000	4½%	"
1936	$228,000	3%	"
1937	$325,000	3½%	"
1938	$375,000	3%	Kentucky Title Trust Co.
1939	$450,000	3%	"

As of September, 1941, the outstanding bonds amounted to $408,000, they having been retired at the specified rate of $21,000 annually.

ANNUAL RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY AT EIGHT YEAR INTERVALS

1908-09

Balance	$ -- --	
Receipts: City Taxes	48,876.18	
Rent: Kaufman-Straus	22,299.96	
Other rental	103.35	
Fines	1,441.29	
Refunds (Ins. & Fur.)	360.46	
Interest on Loans	657.22	
Carnegie (for branches)	22,000.00	
Bills Receivable	30,000.00	
	$125,738.46	

EXPENDITURES

Pay Roll	$ 33,483.65	
Books	14,852.20	
Expense	6,538.64	
Furniture & Fixtures	1.483.13	56,357.62
Repairs & Improvements	1,516.46	
Light, Heat, Power	5,552.57	
Insurance	1.704.84	8,773.87
	65,131.49	
Building Construction	24,282.56	
Furniture Special	19,146.77	
Interest on Mortages	15,630.00	
Overdraft--Sept. 1908	671.74	
	$124,862.56	

1916-17

Balance	$ 299.44
Receipts: City Taxes	65,267.74
County	5,000.00
Rent	36,000.00
Fines, etc.	3,447.37
	$110,014.55

EXPENDITURES

Pay Roll: Staff	$43,406.81	
Books	13,510.27	
Periodicals	2,008.60	
Binding, Rebinding	2,918.15	
Expense	9,080.94	
Interest on Loans	15,910.29	
Furniture & Fixtures	1,828.19	
	$88,663.25	
Pay Roll: Janitors	7,099.40	
Rent	4.50	
Repairs & Improvements	7,430.48	
Light, Heat, Power	6,671.49	
Insurance	142.89	
	$21,348.76	
		$110,012.01

LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1924-25

Balance	$ .16
Receipts: City Taxes	121,733.42
County	12,500.00
Fines, etc.	5,772.77
Rent	33.000.00
	$173,006.35

EXPENDITURES

Pay Roll: Staff	$ 83,223.60
Books	15,040.20
Periodicals	3,126.45
Binding & Rebinding	7,333.73
Library Supplies, Printing, etc.	5,373.45
Telephone, Postage, etc.	3,290.94
Furniture & Fixtures	378.60
	$117,766.97
Pay Roll: Janitors	$ 12,957.62
Janitor Supplies	313.59
Repairs & Improvements	2,222.64
Rent	39.00
Light, Heat, Power	11,223.86
Other Items	5.872.90
	$ 32.609.51
	150,376.48
Mortgage & Expense	20,285.41
Mortgage Appraisal	2.343.16
	$ 22,628.57
Total	$173,005.05

APPENDIX A

1932-33

Balance	$ 11,998.84
Receipts: City Taxes	106,393.56
Jefferson County	4,500.00
Fines, etc.	6,195.22
Rent	50,000.01
Gift	100.00
	$179,187.63

EXPENDITURES

Pay Roll: Staff	$104,472.49
Books	15,094.25
Periodicals	2,886.13
Binding & Rebinding	4,483.70
Library Supplies	1,805.20
Printing	667.18
Incidentals	524.15
Transportation	1,659.80
Telephone	1,520.56
Postage	861.61
Interest on Loans	497.99
Furniture & Fixtures	160.42
	$134,633.48
Pay Roll: Janitors	15,699.12
Janitor Supplies	1,113.36
Repairs & Improvements	1,553.41
Rent	455.00
Heat	5,241.55
Light	4,215.57
Insurance	2,977.86
Incidentals	524.15
	$ 31,780.02
	$166,413.50
Mort. Int. & Expense	12,043.08
	$178,456.58

LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1940-41

RECEIPTS

Balance on hand--General	$ 46.82
Balance on hand--Bond Refund	2,651.13
Receipts--City Taxes	148,964.01
Jefferson County	9,000.00
Fines, etc.	6,192.53
Rent Kaufman-Straus	72,757.28
Gifts and Refunds	389.84
Courier-Journal Film	750.00
	$240,751.61

EXPENDITURES

LIBRARY OPERATING EXPENSES	
Pay Roll--Staff	$111,801.10
Books	26,453.59
Periodicals	3,173.91
Binding, Rebinding, Filming	4,010.22
Library Supplies	2,932.44
Printing	1,120.27
Incidentals	794.70
Transportation	1,887.73
Telephone	1,554.63
Postage	953.25
Interest on Loans	138.78
Furniture and Fixtures	726.04
Total Operating Expense	$155,546.66

APPENDIX A

EXPENDITURES (continued)

Total Operating Expense	$155,546.66
BUILDING MAINTENANCE EXPENSE	
Pay Roll--Janitors	$ 17,819.81
Janitor Supplies	2,050.49
Repairs & Improvements	7,279.66
Repairs & Improvements--Shop	762.39
Rent	633.00
Heat	4,546.74
Light	4,284.63
Insurance	2,838.14
Incidentals	315.21
Total Building Maintenance	$ 40,530.12
Total Operating & Bldg. Maint.	$196,076.78
Mortgage Sinking Fund	25,560.00
WPA Film	3,313.57
Total Expenditures	$224,950.35

APPENDIX B

CIRCULATION AT LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Aggregate circulation in the first year of operation of the Louisville Free Public Library, May-August 31, 1905, was 69,705. Tabulated figures for representative years succeeding follow:

1905-6

	WHITE Adult	Juvenile
Main Library	194,460	47,575
Branches	* 59,589	
Extension Dept.		
Total	254,049	47,575
	NEGRO	
Branches	* 17,838	
Extension Dept.		
Total	17,838	
Grand Total		319,462

*Includes Juvenile Circulation.

APPENDIX B

191?-16

WHITE

	Adult	Juvenile
Main Library	254,539	67,068
Branches	287,612	254,778
Extension Dept.	57,661	32,882
Total	599,812	354,728

NEGRO

Branches	27,110	74,182
Extension Dept.	2,231	1,610
Total	29,341	75,792

Grand Total 1,029,673

1925-26

WHITE

	Adult	Juvenile
Main Library	248,558	102,635
Branches	* 425,682	**326,166
Extension Dept.	64,659	27,025
Total	738,899	455,823

NEGRO

Branches	51,397	69,877
Extension Dept.	3,702	3,771
Total	55,099	35,574

Grand Total 1,285,395

*Includes Senior High School Collection.
**Includes Class Room Collection.

LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

1930-31

	Adult	Juvenile
WHITE		
Main Library	291,360	*207,905
Branches	690,506	**387,033
Extension Dept.	102,550	71,368
Total	1,084,416	666,306
NEGRO		
Branches	***112,907	99,809
Extension Dept.	3,304	6,277
Total	116,211	106,086
Grand Total	1,973,019	

1935-36

	Adult	Juvenile
WHITE		
Main Library	311,650	181,560
Branches	380,024	263,806
Extension Dept.	113,670	57,329
Total	805,344	502,695
NEGRO		
Branches	44,475	87,939
Extension Dept.	2,783	2,626
Total	47,258	90,565
Grand Total	1,445,862	

*Includes Class Room Collection.
**Includes Junior High School Collection.
***Includes Senior High School Collection.

APPENDIX B

1941-42

WHITE

	Adult	Juvenile
Main Library	204,733	*158,693
Branches	321,859	246,347
Extension Dept.	98,310	59,285
Total	624,902	464,325

NEGRO

Branches	29,407	74,449
Extension Dept.	3,387	9,956
Total	32,794	84,405

Grand Total 1,206,426

*Includes Class Room Collection

APPENDIX C

OFFICERS LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

LOUISVILLE MAYORS 1902-1942

Charles F. Grainger, 1902-1905
Paul C. Barth, 1905-1907
Robert Worth Bingham, 1907
James F. Grinstead, 1907-1909
William O. Head, 1909-1913
John H. Buschemeyer, 1913-1917
George W. Smith, 1917-1921
Huston Quin, 1921-1925
Arthur A. Will, 1925-1927
Joseph T. O'Neal, 1927
William B. Harrison, 1927-1933
Neville Miller, 1933-1937
Joseph D. Scholtz, 1937-1941
Wilson W. Wyatt, 1941-

Until the administration of Mayor Neville Miller, mayors of Louisville served as presidents ex-officio of the library Board of Trustees. Since 1933 presidents of the board have been R. C. Ballard Thruston, 1933-1934, and Rabbi Joseph Rauch, 1934- .

APPENDIX C

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Col. B. H. Young, 1902-1907; 1911-1919
Arthur M. Rutledge, 1908-1910
Joshua D. Powers, 1919-1920
Rev. Dr. E. L. Powell, 1921-1929
R. C. Ballard Thruston, 1929-1933
Henry B. Heyburn, 1933-1937
Howard C. Davis, 1938-1939
Mrs. Walter A. Radford, 1939-

TREASURERS

John Stites, 1905-1913
Louisville Trust Company, 1913-1931
Kentucky Title Trust Co., 1931-

SECRETARIES

Robert W. Brown, 1904-1907
Reuben Post Halleck, 1907-1908
Alfred Pirtle, 1909-1911
W. H. Bartholomew, 1912-1917
George T. Settle, (asst. sec. 1918)
1919-1929
Harold F. Brigham, 1931-1942
Clarence R. Graham, 1942-

LIBRARIANS

Anderson H. Hopkins, 1903-1905
William F. Yust, 1905-1912
George T. Settle, 1912-1930
Harold F. Brigham, 1931-1942
Clarence R. Graham, 1942-

LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS

Annie V. Pollard, 1905-1912
George T. Settle, 1912

HEADS ORDER DEPARTMENT

George T. Settle, 1905-1912
Bertha L. Guntermann, 1915-1920
Clara L. Behrens, 1920-

HEADS CATALOG DEPARTMENT

Harriet B. Gooch, 1905-1912
May Wood Wigginton, 1912-1921
Mrs. Marion W. Stoner, 1921-1928
Mary C. Foley, 1928-

HEADS CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT

Annie V. Pollard, 1905-1912
Jennie M. Flexner, 1912-1928
Cora Beatty (Acting Head) 1928-1931
Winifred L. Hutchings, 1931-

HEADS REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

Marilla W. Freeman, 1905-1910
Caroline Q. Fullerton, 1910-1925
Edna J. Grauman, 1925-

HEADS CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Adeline Zachert, 1905-1912
Bernice W. Bell, 1912-

APPENDIX C

HEADS OF MUSEUM

Susie Shane (attendant) 1905-1942
Col. Lucien Beckner (curator) 1933-

HEADS STATIONS AND EXTENSION DEPARTMENT

Jennie O. Cochran, 1912-1936
Mrs. Nell L. Miller (Acting Head), 1936-1939
Florinne Caroline Kammerer, 1939-

KENTUCKY ROOM AND WATTERSON COLLECTION

Ellen T. Harding, 1940-

TRUSTEES OF LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY DURING PERIOD 1902-1942

Abbott, Mrs. Catherine
Abell, William H.
Barker, Thos. A.
Bartholomew, W. H.
Brandeis, Alfred S.
Briney, Mrs. Russell
Brown, Robert W.
Caine, Paul
Davis, Howard C.
Davis, John J.
Doherty, William B.
Duane, Louis
Dudley, Thos. Underwood
Erskine, Michael A.
Fagin, Mrs. Starling
Gamble, Mrs. Hoyt
Graves, Azariah
Green, Mrs. L. D.
Halleck, Reuben Post
Hartstern, Fred J.
Hemphill, Charles R.
Herr, Hardin H.
Heyburn, Henry B.
Hume, E. C.
Kavanagh, J. J.
Langham, Arthur G.
MacPherson, Donald
Mayer, Chester A.
McAdams, Pope
Mequire, Mrs. K. U.
Morris, Mrs. E. Hugh
Mullins, E. Y.
O'Brien, Edward J.
Ossmann, Philip
Ouchterlony, John A.
Pirtle, Alfred

Pfingst, Adolph O.
Powell, E. L.
Powell, H. Cecil
Powers, Joshua
Radford, Mrs. Walter A.
Rash, Dillman A.
Rauch, Joseph
Ray, J. Morrison
Rutledge, Arthur M.
Satterfield, Mrs. W. H.
Schuhman, George W.
Segner, Charles A.
Semple, Mrs. Patty B.
Smock, Wendell M.
Stites, John
Stoll, George J.
Straus, Frank P.
Thalheimer, William
Thruston, R. C. Ballard
Welch, Charles W.
Whittingham, George S.
Wolford, Leo
Uri, Nathan
Young, Bennett H.
Tyler, Owen

APPENDIX D

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF LIBRARIANS OF LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ANDERSON H. HOPKINS

Anderson Hoyt Hopkins was a graduate of the University of Michigan and for a time assistant librarian of the university. From 1895 to 1903 he was associated with the John Crerar Library in Chicago. In September, 1903, he became the first librarian of the Louisville Free Public Library, remaining until January 1, 1905, when he left to become librarian of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. He resigned this position in 1908 because of ill health.

WILLIAM F. YUST

William Frederick Yust was born in Canton, Missouri, November 10, 1869. He was graduated from Central Wesleyan College in 1893. From 1895 to 1899 he was assistant in the Reference and Circulation Departments of the University of Chicago Library. He then removed to New York and became assistant State inspector of libraries, in the New York State Department of

Education, remaining there until the end of 1904.

In January, 1905, he became librarian of the Louisville Free Public Library, resigning in 1911 to fill a similar position in the public library of Rochester, New York. In 1931 he became head of the library of Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida.

Yust served two terms on the council of the American Library Association, 1907-12 and 1926-31. He was president of the Kentucky Library Association from 1907 to his departure from Louisville, and a member of the Kentucky Library Commission in 1911; and a member of the Library Council of New York University 1921-24. Since 1931 he has been a member of the Florida Library Association.

GEORGE T. SETTLE

George T. Settle was born in Russellville, Kentucky, April 21, 1863. He was educated in the public schools of Russellville, Owensboro, and Louisville. Upom his graduation from Bethel College he studied law for a time. In 1887 he joined the John P. Morton Company in Louisville, serving for eighteen years as buyer and head of its book department.

In 1905 he became head of the Order and Accession Department of the Louisville Free Public Library and served in this capacity, and, in 1912, as assistant librarian also, until he was elected librarian in November, 1912. He continued in this position until his death December 28, 1930.

In 1921 a detailed report by Settle on the

Louisville library system to the secretary of the Czechoslovak Bibliographical Institute, Prague, resulted in the selection of Louisville's library as one of the two American libraries to serve as models for Czechoslovakian libraries.

Settle was a member of the Council of Federal and State Relations of the American Library Association in 1917; of the Kentucky Library Commission, 1912-15; president of the Kentucky Library Association and of the Southeastern Library Association, 1917.

HAROLD F. BRIGHAM

Harold Frederick Brigham was born May 25, 1897, in Newark, New Jersey. He became interested in library work as a boy, and worked in the Trenton Free Library from 1912 to 1916, in which year he entered Princeton University. He was graduated from Princeton in 1921, his work at the university having been interrupted by a year spent during the war doing work for the American Library Association in the United States Naval Reserve.

In 1922 he received his certificate in library science from the New York Public Library School, after taking special courses at the University of Chicago. From 1921 to 1923 he was cataloguer at the Rutgers University Library, and from 1923 to 1925 he was librarian of the Public Library of New Brunswick, New Jersey. He was in Chicago, 1925-27, as research assistant for the American Library Association. From there he went to Nashville, Tennessee, as head of the Carnegie Library

there. He resigned that position to become head of the Louisville Free Public Library, continuing in that post for just eleven years. He left to become State librarian of Indiana September 1, 1942.

In Louisville Brigham entered actively into community affairs. He was a member of the executive committees of the Louisville Boy Scout Council and the Louisville Council of Churches; president of the Y. M. C. A. Southern Area Council 1939-40 and chairman of the board 1940-42. He served as executive chairman of the Louisville Council of Social Agencies; a director, and secretary of the executive committee, of the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and an elder of the Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church and superintendent of its Sunday School. He was a member also of the Rotary Club, the Filson Club, and the Conversation Club, which latter organization he served for a time as president.

Brigham is a fellow of the American Library Institute and a member of the American Library Association, serving as its chairman on annuities 1928-39. He was president of the Southeastern Library Association 1935-37 and chairman of the Kentucky Library Certificate Board.

CLARENCE R. GRAHAM

Clarence R. Graham was born in Louisville February 28, 1907. In 1912 the family removed to Winston-Salem, North Carolina, for six years, then resided successively in Petersburg, Virginia, Marion, South Carolina, Boydton, Virginia, and Jersey City, New Jersey, before return-

ing to Winston-Salem. Graham received his education in these cities, being graduated from high school in Winston-Salem in 1924.

He attended the University of North Carolina for three years, serving as student assistant in the university library for two years of this time. He then returned to Louisville and for the next two years worked in the statistics department of the Brown-Williamson Tobacco Company. From 1931 to 1934 he was librarian at Parkland Junior High School in Louisville, attending the University of Louisville during the latter part of this period and receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree there in 1934. In the next school year he took work at Western Reserve University for a degree of Bachelor of Science in library science. In 1935-36 he served as special assistant to Harold F. Brigham at the Louisville library.

From this position Graham went to the National College of Education, Evanston, Illinois, as director of its library, remaining until the fall of 1942, when he was elected librarian of the Louisville Free Public Library.

He is a member of the American Library Association, the Kentucky Library Association, the Louisville Library Club, and the Filson Club.

APPENDIX E

THE LIBRARY'S ART COLLECTION

PAINTINGS

DANCING CUPIDS--Aldini (copy by Octavia Allen Shreve)--(?)--Presented by Mrs. Octavia Bullitt Shreve

A MUTE APPEAL--Beard, James H.--1814-1893

PORTRAIT OF HENRY WATTERSON--Benoni, Irwin--(?) --Watterson Collection

STORM ON LARAMIE PEAK--Bierstadt, Albert--1829-1902

COLD AND GRAY--Belmer, M. De Forest--1854

PILGRIMS ATTACKED BY INDIANS WHILE AT CHURCH--Boyd, Clarence--1855-1883--Presented by Andrew Cowan

FOREST SANCTUARY--Brenner, Carl Christ--1838-1888

WOODLAND SCENE--Brenner, Carl Christ--1838-1888 --Presented in memory of Louis Barkhouse by his children

GRANDFATHER'S DELIGHT--Brenner, Carlos-- -1924 --Presented by R. C. Peaslee

STORM IN THE TYROL--Carmiencke, Herman--1810-1867

APPENDIX E

PIETA--Carracci, Annibale (copy by Cornelia S. Perring)--1560-1609--Bequeathed by Cornelia S. Perring

COUNTESS AURORA VON KONIGSMARK--Carriera, Rosalba (copy by Cornelia S. Perring)--1675-1757--Bequeathed by Cornelia S. Perring

PLUCKING THE ROSE--Castiglione, Guiseppe--(?) Lent by Mrs. Willa Fosdick Whitlock

HERRING BOATS PREPARING FOR SEA--Chase, Harry--1853-

PORTRAIT OF ALEXANDER CAMPBELL--Variously attributed to Washington Cooper and Oliver Frazer --Watterson Collection

THE WINE SELLER--Flor, Eliza--(?)

PORTRAIT OF BLAND BALLARD--Foiard, Madame Nina G. Batchelor--1882-1912--Presented by Logan C. Murray

THE MAN WHO WOULD BE KING--Gorham, Sidney--(?) --Lent by Artist

MORNING--Gorham, Sidney--(?)--Lent by Artist

THE BROKEN PITCHER--Greuze, Jean Baptist (copy by Cornelia S. Perring)--1725-1765--Bequeathed by Cornelia S. Perring

PORTRAIT OF BLAND BALLARD--Harding, Chester--1792-

PORTRAIT OF DANIEL BOONE (painted 1820)--Harding, Chester--1792- --Presented by James Traube

PORTRAIT OF DANIEL WEBSTER--(?)--Presented by Mrs. James Rudd

THE RIVER PASS--Hart, William--1823-1894

PORTRAIT OF SALLY WARD DOWNS--Healy, George Peter Alexander--1808-1894-- Presented by granddaughter, Ruth Hunt

PORTRAIT OF WILL S. HAYS--Joiner, Harvey--1852--Presented by his daughter, Mrs. F. W. Samuel

MADAME LE BRUN AND HER DAUGHTER--Le Brun, Marie Louise Elizabeth Vigee (copy by Cornelia S. Perring)--1755-1842--Bequeathed by Cornelia S. Perring

THE OLD PORCH--Loop, Henry A.--1831-1895

PORTRAIT OF GEORGE D. PRENTICE--Mayer, Christian --1812-1870--Presented by Thomas S. Kennedy

CUPID SHARPENING AN ARROW--Mengs, Anton Raphael (copy by Cornelia S. Perring)--1728-1779--Bequeathed by Cornelia S. Perring

LANDSCAPE--Meriweather, C. W. --(?)--Given by Artist

SHEEP FOLD--Moran, Peter--1842

PORTRAIT OF SIMON KENTON--Morgan, Louis W. (copy by Xantippe Saunders)--(?)

THE LAST SACRAMENT--Mosler, Henry--1841- --Awarded $2,500 prize, Am. Art Asso., New York, 1885

PORTRAIT OF STUART ROBINSON--Mulvany, John--(?)

HARBOR VIEW--Nicholl, James Craig--1846

MARINE--Opendenhoff--(?)--Presented by Wibray J. Thompson

Bequeathed by painter:

BULL-TERRIER "ROSCOE"--Perring, Cornelia S.--1840-1923

CUPID'S CHOIR (water color)

GRAPES (pastel)

HOMELESS (water color)

MADONNA

APPENDIX E

MINIATURE ON CHINA OF A LADY
MINIATURE ON IVORY OF A FORMER BELLE
PEACHES
A DAUGHTER OF SPAIN (pastel)

PORTRAIT OF HENRY CLAY--Perring, Cornelius--(?)
THE NEW YEAR--Poore, Henry Rankin--1859- --Lent by Dr. Jouett Menefee
THE YOUNG BULL--Potter, Paul--1625-1654
PORTRAIT OF JOHN HUNT MORGAN--Reinhardt--(?)--Presented by Basil Duke
PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST--Rembrandt (copy by Cornelia S. Perring)--1607-1669--Bequeathed by Cornelia S. Perring
BEATRICE CENCI--Reni, Guido (copy by Cornelia S. Perring)--1575- --Bequeathed by Cornelia S. Perring
PORTRAIT OF ANDREW CARNEGIE--Revenaugh, Aurelius O.--1840-1908
LANDSCAPE--Rozier, Jules--(?)--Presented by Wibray J. Thompson
PRINCESS ELIZABETH OF FRANCE--Rubens, Peter Paul (copy by Cornelia S. Perring)--1577-1640--Bequeathed by Cornelia S. Perring
PORTRAIT OF CORNELIUS PERRING (crayon)--Saunders, Xantippe--1852-1922--Bequeathed by Cornelia S. Perring
WAITING FOR THE FISHING BOATS--Schuchardt, Jr., Ferdinand--1855-
THREE WATER COLOR SKETCHES--Shreve, Octavia Allen--(?)--(not in best condition)
THE OLD DOG--Tracy, John M.--1844-
PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST--Van Dyck, Anthony (copy by Cornelia S.Perring)--1599-1641--Bequeathed by Cornelia S. Perring
THE COMING STORM--Van Elten, Kruseman--1829-1904

MESSIAH--Vasari, Giorgio--1511-1574--Presented by R. C. Ballard Thruston

PORTRAIT OF BENNETT H. YOUNG--Walker, Ferdinand Graham--1859-1927--Presented by friends

ITALIAN SPINNER--Walker, Ferdinand Graham--1859-1927--Presented by Mrs. Laura B. Cross

LET'S HAVE A SMOKE--Wood, Thomas Waterman--(?)

LANDSCAPE--Wyant, Alexander H.--1839-1892--Lent by Louisville Art Association

THE WINDY DAY--Wyant, Alexander H.--1839-1892--Exhibited at Panama-Pacific Exposition, San Francisco, 1915

SANTA MARIA DELLA SALUTE--Yewell, George H.--1830-

ARTISTS UNKNOWN

PORTRAIT OF DR. CLAYTON BOONE, grand-nephew of Daniel Boone--Presented by Mrs. Bertha L. Fitch

PORTRAIT OF W. T. GRANT--Presented by widow

PORTRAIT OF ANDREW JACKSON--Presented by Mrs. B. F. Atchison

PORTRAIT OF MR. VIRGIL MCKNIGHT--Presented by Logan C. Murray

PORTRAIT OF GEN. DANIEL MORGAN, of the Continental Army Presented by Rev. David Morton

PORTRAIT IN OIL (subject unknown)

PORTRAIT OF A PIONEER

PORTRAIT OF EDGAR ALLEN POE--Presented by Misses Lucie and Mattie Norton

PORTRAIT OF GEORGE WASHINGTON--Presented by Sallie T. Berryman

PORTRAIT OF MARTHA WASHINGTON--Presented by Sallie T. Berryman

BOAR FIGHT (copy by Sue Brown)

APPENDIX E

FIRST SNOW, copy on porcelain of a painting by Bischoff in Munich--Presented by Wibray J. Thompson
HIAWATHA--Presented by Mrs. J. B. Camp

MURAL DECORATIONS

ART, HISTORY, SCIENCE--(Lunette)--Theodore L. Wilberg
COMMERCE, EDUCATION, PRINTING--(Lunette)--Theodore L. Wilberg

MURALS

GREAT MEADOW (Elizabeth Madox Roberts)--Orville A. Carroll--1912-
Episodes from "Robin Hood," "King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table" and "Alice in Wonderland"--Mary Spencer Nay

BULLETIN BOARDS

Walnut Carved Bulletin Board: perpetuating the GREAT AMERICAN FAMILY GROUP Paul Childers
Bulletin Board (metal)--Mrs. Bruce (Lois Piper) Vance

BERNHEIM COLLECTION OF PAINTINGS

TWILIGHT--Bergen, Carl von
RHONE VALLEY--Biva, Henri
THE LOVE LETTER--Blaas, Eugene von
PORTRAIT OF ISAAC BERNHEIM--Carino, A.
A SQUARE DEAL--Coleman, T.
STILL LIFE--Cramer, Molly
D'ASILE--Fath, René

SPANISH GIRL--Gorham, Sidney
LILAC AND SYRINGA--Longpre, Paul de--1855-
READING--Maxence, Edgard H.M.A.
HUNTED--Mueller
A FAVORABLE OPPORTUNITY--Ortlieb, Friedrich--1839
EVE (tempera)--Riemerschmid, R.
DRAFTED--Wachsmith, M.

PORTRAIT OF AMANDA URI BERNHEIM (Wife of I. W. Bernheim)--Williams, Charles Shead--1882-

STATUARY AND BRONZES

PORTRAIT BUST OF MARY ANDERSON--Alexandra--Watterson Collection
ABRAHAM LINCOLN--Barnard, George Grey--1863--Presented by Mr. and Mrs. I. N. Bernheim
MERCURY TAKING FLIGHT (plaster)--Bologna, Giovanni da--1530-1608
GEORGE D. PRENTICE--Bonly, Alexander--(?)--Presented by Courier-Journal Company
HEBE--Canova, Antonio--1757-1822
LAUGHING BOY (plaster)--Donatello--1386-1466
PORTRAIT BUST OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN--Ezekiel, Moses Jacob--1844-1917--First presented to State of Kentucky by Messers I. N. and B. Bernheim; transferred at their request from State Capitol to Library
FIGURE OF A WOMAN (marble)--Faust, Bigges--(?)--Presented by Mrs. J. W. E. Bayly
PORTRAIT BUST OF FATHER RYAN--Galvan, Marc--(?)
MORNING GLORY--Hart, Joel Tanner--1810-1877
VENUS DE MEDICI (copy)--Hart, Joel Tanner--1810-1877

APPENDIX E

PORTRAIT BUST OF ALEXANDER CAMPBELL (plaster model--Hart, Joel Tanner--1810-1877

PORTRAIT BUST OF JOHN J. CRITTENDEN (plaster model)--Hart, Joel Tanner--1810-1877

PORTRAIT BUST OF ROBERT WICKLIFFE (plaster model)--Hart, Joel Tanner--1810-1877

PORTRAIT BUST OF FREDERICK DOUGLAS--Hathaway, Isaac

BUST OF GEORGE WASHINGTON (bronze replica)--Houdon, Jean Antoine--1741-1828--Watterson Collection

WINTER (executed in Rome, 1873)--Lombardi--(?)

PORTRAIT BUST OF DR. EDMUND T. PERKINS (plaster)--Perring, Cornelia S.--1840-1923--Bequeathed by sculptor

BAMBINO (plaster)--Robbia, Andrea della--1437-1528

PORTRAIT BUST OF HENRY WATTERSON (bronze)--Rohl-Smith, Carl--(?)

PORTRAIT BUST OF MRS. MARY TRAUBE BARKSDALE--Romanelli--1853-

PORTRAIT BUST OF W. H. BARKSDALE--Romanelli----1853- --Both lent by Richard Traube

PORTRAIT BUST OF MADISON CAWEIN--Roop, J. L.--(?)--Presented by Louisville Literature Club, 1913

STEPHEN COLLINS FOSTER (plaster)--Roop, J. L.--(?)

PORTRAIT BUST OF JOEL T. HART--Saul, G. H.--(?)

MEDALLION PORTRAIT BUST OF MADISON CAWEIN--Simpson, Theodore Spicer--1871--Presented by friends and admirers

YOUTH OF LINCOLN (bronze)--Van Wart, Ames--(?)--Watterson Collection

ABRAHAM LINCOLN (bronze replica of statue in rotunda of State Capitol, Frankfort)--Weinman, Alexander Adolph--1870--Watterson Collection

PORTRAIT OF JOHN B. CASTLEMAN (plaster)--Yandell, Enid--1870-

QUASIMODO, THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME (plaster)--Yandell, Enid--1870- --Presented by Mrs. Charles I. Groves

ARTISTS UNKNOWN

ANTIQUE BRONZE BUST OF PLATO--Lent by Louisville Art Association

SINGING CHERUBS (plaster)

HERMES (plaster)--Presented by Mrs. Victor Engelhard

VENUS OF MELOS (plaster)--Presented by Mrs. Isidor Rosenbaum

VENUS OF MELOS (plaster)--Presented by Mrs. Harry Bishop

BUST OF APOLLO BELVEDERE (bronze copy)--Presented by Mrs. Nannie Hite Winston

CHINESE VASE (bronze)--Bequeathed by Dr. William Cheatham

PORTRAIT BUST OF GEORGE WASHINGTON (plaster)--Presented by Mrs. Charles Gasper

MEDALLION PORTRAIT OF OCTAVIA ALLEN SHREVE (alabaster)

MARBLE PEDESTAL--Presented by Mrs. Harry Bishop

WORLD WAR MEMORIAL SUNDIAL (stone and bronze, on lawn of Crescent Hill Branch)--Presented by Crescent Hill Woman's Club, 1924

APPENDIX E

BRONZE TABLETS

BOONE TRAIL TABLET--Presented by Kaufman-Straus Company

JEFFERSON COUNTY WORLD WAR MEMORIAL TREES (58 trees)--Presented by fifty-eight local public-spirited organizations

TABLET COMMEMORATING GIFT OF ANDREW CARNEGIE TO LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

TABLET COMMEMORATING ERECTION OF LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

ETCHINGS, PRINTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, AND ENGRAVINGS

EVOLUTION OF THE BOOK (print) 3 copies--John Alexander White--1856-

READING FROM HOMER (print)--Alma-Taduma--1836

THE DAYS OF CREATION (print)--Edward Burne-Jones--1833-1898

DANCE OF THE NYMPHS (print)--Corot--1796-1875

NOVEMBER EVENING (etching)--Henry Farrer--1843-1903

DECEMBER AND MAY (etching)--Stephen J. Ferris--(?)

Typical Scenes from British History from Roman times to the present day; all prints--Henry J. Ford--(?)

THE ROMAN WALL (Roman period)

AUGUSTINE PREACHING BEFORE KING ETHELBERT (Saxon period)

DANISH RAID (Danish period)

HAROLD'S LAST STAND AT SENLAC (XI century)

RICHARD COEUR DE LION'S SIGHT OF JERUSALEM (Angevin Kings)

KING JOHN SEALS THE GREAT CHARTER (Angevin Kings)

ARMADA IN THE CHANNEL (Tudor period)
CHARLES I'S VISIT TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TO SEIZE THE FIVE MEMBERS (Stuart period)
DEATH OF WOLFE BEFORE QUEBEC (Fight for British North America)
TRAFALGAR (XIX century)
PORTSMOUTH HARBOR IN 1909: THE "DREADNOUGHT" AND THE "VICTORY" (XX century)
PORTRAIT OF MADISON CAWEIN (crayon)--Thomas E. Grove--(?)--Presented by artist
WET SNOW IN CITY STREET (etching)--Edward Timothy Hurley--1869-
TREES ON HILLSIDE (etching)--Edward Timothy Hurley--1869- --Both presented by Caroline Bouregard
GEORGE ROGERS CLARK (print)--Matthew Harris Jouett--1787-1827--Presented by R. C. Ballard Thruston
THE ACCOLADE (print)--Blair Leighton
ST. JEROME (engraving)--L. Massard--Presented by Margaret Frost
DAVID--Michelangelo
COMING TO ANCHOR (etching of painting by Harry Chase)--Thomas Moran--Presented by Wibray J. Thompson
SISTINE MADONNA (print) 2 copies--Raphael
ANGEL HEADS (print)--Sir Joshua Reynolds--1723-1792
PORTRAIT OF JOHN P. MORTON (etching on satin)--Mary S. Riley--Lent by Judge and Mrs. Samuel B. Kirby
DETAIL FROM CANTORI FRIEZE (print)--Lucca della Robbia--1400-1482--Presented by Edna J. Grauman
MADONNA OF THE HARPIES (print)--Andrea del Sarto --1486-1531

APPENDIX E

GEORGE WASHINGTON (print)--Stuart Gilbert--1755-1828
BABY STUART (JAMES II OF ENGLAND) (print)--Van Dyck--1599-1641
CHILDREN OF CHARLES I (print)--Van Dyck--1599-1641
FISHING SMACK IN PORT (etching on silk)--Van Elten Kruseman--1829-1904
KING ARTHUR (print)--August Vischer--1822-
LORD TENNYSON (print) George Frederick Watts--1817-1904
SIR GALAHAD (print) 2 copies--George Frederick Watts--1817-1904
INSPIRATION OF FRANCIS SCOTT KEY (print)--Charles H. Weisgerber--Presented by Seventh Grade, Lucia Ave. School
SPRING (print)--Herta Zuckerman

ARTISTS UNKNOWN

PORTRAIT OF HENRY WATTERSON (etching on copper plate)--Watterson Collection
ABRAHAM LINCOLN (print)
CANTERBURY PILGRIMS (print)
COLOSSEUM, ROME (print)
COLOSSEUM, ROME (photograph)--Both given by Mrs. J. A. Flexner
HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW (print)
JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY (print)

The following prints presented by Mary B. Pratt:

PARTHENON, ATHENS
TEMPLE OF THESEUM, ATHENS
TEMPLE OF NIKE APTEROS, ATHENS (2 copies)
TEMPLE OF ZEUS, OLYMPIA

HOMER (print)--Presented by Miss Emma Grauman
PORTRAIT OF WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (print)--
Presented by Mrs. M. D. Sachs
PORTRAIT OF WILHELM RICHARD WAGNER (print)--
Presented by Mrs. M. D. Sachs

The following engravings presented by estate of Elizabeth Anderson:
MICHALANGELO IN HIS STUDIO (engraving)
REMBRANDT IN HIS STUDIO (engraving)
STUDIO OF RAPHAEL (engraving)

WASHING CLOTHES AND BABY (engraving)
PORTRAIT OF DR. R. B. GILBERT (photograph)--
Presented by estate of Dr. Gilbert
PORTRAIT OF JAMES D. PORTER, the Kentucky Giant (photograph)
PORTRAIT OF OCTAVIA ALLEN SHREVE (colored photograph)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

LIBRARY RECORDS

Annual Reports, Minutes, and other records of the Louisville Free Public Library and of the Polytechnic Society of Kentucky.

BOOKS

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN by Carl Van Doren, Viking Press, New York, 1938.

HISTORY OF KENTUCKY by L. and R. H. Collins, Covington, Kentucky, 1874, 2 vols.

HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES AND THEIR COUNTIES, L. A. Williams and Company, Cleveland, Ohio, 1882, 2 vols.

LOUISVILLE AND JEFFERSON COUNTY IN THE WORLD WAR (of 1917-18). Compiled under supervision of Kentucky Council of Defense.

LOUISVILLE PAST AND PRESENT, M. Joblin and Company, 1875.

MEMORIAL HISTORY OF LOUISVILLE FROM ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE YEAR 1896, edited by J. Stoddard Johnston, Biographical Pub. Company, Chicago, 2 vols.

NATIONAL CYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY, James T. White and Company, New York, 1893-1942, 35 vols.

OUR TIMES, by Mark Sullivan, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1926-1935, 6 vols.

REMINISCENCES OF GENERAL BASIL DUKE, C. S. A., Doubleday, Page and Company, Garden City, Long Island, 1911.

THESIS

EARLY HISTORY OF LEXINGTON BEFORE THE YEAR 1820, by Mary Estelle Delcamp,

MAGAZINES

KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETY REGISTER, 1926, (article on Mann Butler by Samuel Wilson).

LIBRARY JOURNAL, March 15, 1938 ("Louisville Flood Toll").

LOUISVILLE MONTHLY, 1879 ("The Public Library of Kentucky and the Polytechnic Society of Kentucky" by Paul Allen Towne).

LOUISVILLE NEWSPAPERS

COURIER-JOURNAL, HERALD, HERALD-POST, LEADER, POST, TIMES.

RECORDS OF GOVERNMENT

Acts of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky for various years.

Records of the Circuit Court of Jefferson County.

Records of the Kentucky Court of Appeals.

Proceedings of the Louisville General Council and other municipal records of the City of Louisville.

INDEX

INDEX

Acy, Mrs. J. H., 142
Adams, Benjamin J., 14
Adath Israel Temple, 179
Altsheler, Brent, mammal collection, 127-128
Alvey, J. E., 183
American Library Association, 101, 117, 123, 147-149, 176, 180, 202
Anderson, Olof, 115
Anderson, Thomas, 15
Art collection, LFPL, 131-134, 262-274
Art Room, LFPL, 111
Astor Library (see New York Public Library)
Audubon, John James, 205

Bakewell, B. P., 14
Ballard, Judge Bland, 62-63
Ballard, Mrs. Frances Ann Thruston, 133
Ballard, Lt.-Gov. S. Thruston, 126-127, 150
Bamberger, L., 16
Barnard, George Grey, 149-150

---

*To reduce the length of many references in the Index, the following abbreviations are used: Louisville Free Public Library--LFPL; Polytechnic Society of Kentucky--PSK; Public Library of Kentucky--PLK.

Barry, E. C., 4
Baxter, Mayor John G., 31
Bayless, Dr., 13
Beattie, Prof. Francis R., 86
Beatty, Cora, 202
Beckham, Charles W., 130
Beckham, Gov. J. C. W., 87, 130
Beckner, Lucien, 129-130, 162, 165-166
Beechmont Civic Club, 172
Beechmont Garden Club, 173
Beechmont Woman's Club, 172
Behrens, Clara L., 193
Belknap, William B., 15
Belknap, William R., 17
Belknap, Mrs. William R., 179
Bell, Bernice W., 138, 211-212, 214
Bell, Dr. Theodore S., 16, 54-57, 66-67
Bennett, David P., 86
Bernheim, Mr. and Mrs. I. W., 132, 150
Berryman, Sallie, 115
Bertram, James B., 87
Bibb, Chancellor George M., 12
Bingham, Judge Robert Worth, 155
Blake, Edward D., 57
Bland, John B., 13
Blitz, Samuel S., 86
Bloom, I. N., 150
Bloom, Nathan, 69
Blue, Thomas F., 118
Board of Trustees, LFPL, 83, 103, 119, 121, 129, 148, 153, 156, 158, 174-176, 182-183, 185-186, 189, 255-256
Board of Trustees, PLK, 26-31, 44, 50

INDEX

Books
BIRDS OF AMERICA, 205
CRADLE OF THE DEEP, THE, 218
FESTOONS OF FANCY, 4
GRAPES OF WRATH. THE, 202
HISTORY OF KENTUCKY (Butler), 8
HISTORY OF THE OHIO FALLS CITIES AND THEIR COUNTIES, 13
HISTORY OF THE VALLEY OF THE OHIO, 8
LOUISVILLE LIBRARY COLLECTIONS, 177
MAUVE DECADE, THE, 218
MEIN KAMPF, 178
ONLY YESTERDAY, 218
PUBLIC ADDRESSES AND PAPERS OF FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, THE, 178
RAYMOND, 218
SKETCHES OF LOUISVILLE AND ITS ENVIRONS, 1, 4-5, 10
TRADER HORN, 218
TRAGIC ERA, THE, 218
WINNING OF THE WEST, THE, 68
Booth, Alaxander G., 17
Bowles, James B., 126
Bowman Field, 178, 180, 216
Bramlette, Mary G., 45
Bramlette, Thomas E., 26-27, 31, 41-46, 48-49
Branches, LFPL, administration of, 189; Carnegie grant for, 87, 89, 113, 118, 141
Crescent Hill, 114-116, 159
Eastern Colored, 117-118, 141, 162, 164, 192
Highland, 113-114, 145, 192
Iroquois, 171-173
Jefferson, 141-143, 162, 164, 192
Parkland, 115-116, 162-163, 192
Portland, 113, 143, 162, 192
Shawnee, 152-153, 162, 164-165, 171

Branches (cont'd)
Shelby Park, 116, 162, 192
Western Colored, 116-119, 162, 173-174, 192
Brandeis, Alfred S., 84, 97-98
Brannon, J. W., 14
Breasted, Dr. James H., 127
Breden, Ezekiel, 12
Brenner, Carl C., 57
Briggs, Charles M., 43, 45-46, 49
Briggs, J. A., 45
Brigham, Harold F., 145, 156-158, 169, 175, 179-180, 182-183, 185-186, 259-260
Broaddus, Alderman Andrew, 179
Brown, John Mason, 77
Brown, Robert W., 88
Bruce, Helm, 86
Bruce, Dr. James, 179
Bryan, William Jennings, 219
Buchanan, J. R., 16
Bucklin, Simon S., 14
Buford, N. B., 11
Bullitt, Capt. Thomas, journal of, 12
Burquin, Marethal, 176
Buschemeyer, Mayor John H., 144
Butler, Dr. Mann, 5, 7-8, 10-11, 108
Butler, Prof. Noble, 16, 56-58
Byington, Dr. F. M., 56

Cain, J. S., 28
Caine, Paul, 88
Caldwell, W. B., 17
Camp Knox (see Fort Knox)
Camp Taylor, 147-149
Carnegie, Andrew, 7, 79-83, 85-88, 101, 107, 114
Carnegie Corporation of New York, 81-82

Carnegie Libraries, 83
Carpenter, Dr. Charles F., 54
Carpenter, Floyd S., 130
Carr, Henry, 152
Carroll, Charles W., 164
Carsner, Jasper, 23
Caruth, George W., 16
Casseday, Benjamin (Ben), 28, 31, 41, 75
Castle, Martin, 23
Cawein, Madison, 114
Certification of Librarians, State Board for, 174-175
Chase, Stuart, 219
Chenault, Prof. Jason W., 56
Childers, Paul, 166
Children's Room, LFPL (see Departments, Children's)
Civics Room, LFPL, 128
Clark, Gen. George Rogers, 12
Clark, Nicholas, 4
Clarke, Robert, 12-13
Classification of LFPL employees, 175
Clay, Henry, 23
Cluskey, Mike W., 28
Cobb, Henry L., 14
Cochran, Jennie O., 139, 143, 216
Cochran, Robert, 17
Coke, J. Guthrie, 16
Coleman, Chapman, 15
Columbia Hall, Service Club in, 179
Compton, Charles H., 156
Cook, E. D., 16
Cook, Littleton, 16
Cooper, Helen, 143
Cosby, Fortunatus, 14
Cotter, Joseph S., 117

Coue, Dr. Emile, 219
Court of Appeals of Kentucky: decision in case of PSK vs. LFPL, 95-96; decision in LFPL salary test suit, 183-184
Crowder, Mrs. Charles, 142
Crumley, James F., 172
Crutcher, Thomas B., 91
Cunningham, A. C., 168
Cunningham, R. M., 16
Currey, Mrs. May McClure, 153

Darwin, Charles, 219
Davidson, James, 87
Davis, Howard C., 180
Davis, John J., 97-98
Davis, William J., 54, 56-57
Davison, C. G., 16
Debenham, William, 179
DeGarmo, Jacob, 133
Dembitz, Louis N., 17
Departments, LFPL
  Catalogue and Classification, 101, 104, 112, 193-196
  Children's, 105, 119-120, 188-189, 200, 209-214
  Circulation, 104-105, 138, 188, 196-203 (see also Open Shelf Room)
  Colored, 118, 123, 188, 216-217 (see also Branches, Eastern Colored and Western Colored)
  Extension, 136, 138-141, 171, 188, 214-216 (see also Stations and Sub-branches)
  Order and Accession, 104, 112, 138, 188-193
  Reference, 105, 137, 171, 188, 196, 198, 203-209 (see also Reference Room)
Depression of thirties, effects on LFPL, 157-158
Dewey, Melvil, 102

Dix, Philo C., 148
Doern, George P., 28
Dohrmann, Howard J., 115
Downs, Sallie Ward, 132-133
Drewry, Mrs. Minnie, 142
Drummond, William W., 57
Du Chaillu, Paul, 53
Dudley, Bishop Thomas Underwood, 77, 88
Duke, Basil W., 66, 86
Duncan, Fannie Casseday, 75
Duncan, John, 57
Durbin, Rev. Fr. Paul, 172
Durrett, Reuben T., 12, 14-15, 20-22, 29, 31, 34-36, 38, 43, 45-46, 49, 52, 62-63, 67-68
Dutch Presbyterian Society, 23

Eastman, W. R., 102
Egyptian mummy in LFPL museum, 126-127, 162, 165-166
Ehler, Herbert, 146
Everett, Isaac, 15

Farmers' and Drovers' Insurance Company, 68
Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), 177
Filson Club, 13, 20
Finney, Elizabeth I., 118
Fitzgerald, J. J., 86
Flexner, Jennie M., 138, 202
Flood of 1937, damage to LFPL, 158-168
Foley, Mary C., 196
Fort Knox, 149, 178
Foster, Stephen C., collection of songs in LFPL, 205; statue of, 129, 167
Frankel, Raymond, 172
Frankfort lottery grant, 24

Franklin, Benjamin, 8-9
Frazier, Margaret, 145
Freeman, Marilla W., 101, 105, 137, 209
Friendly Class, Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church, 179
Fullerton, Caroline Q., 137, 151, 209
Fulton, Edward, 16

Gallagher, W. D., 16
Galt, Dr. William C., 8
Garrett, Edward Lee, 115
Gerard Troost Collection (see Troost Mineral Collection)
"Gift Concerts" (See Lotteries of PLK)
Gilligan, Margaret, 116, 176
Girls High School, Library in, 145
Glass, Charles, 162
Goebel, Gov.-elect William, 86
Gooch, Harriet B., 101, 104, 106, 137, 196
Goodman, John, 16
Gordon, A. A., 14
Gordon, Judge Thomas R., 86
Gorham, Sidney, 133-134
Graham, Dr. C. C., 31, 53
Graham, Clarence R., 186-187, 260-261
Grainger, Mayor Charles F., 85-88, 100, 107
Grant, Dr. Emory A., 54, 56-57, 68-69, 73
Grant, Dr. Thomas P., 57
Grant, W. T., 69, 85-86
Grauman, Edna J., 145, 177, 209
Gray, James, 4
Greenaway, Anna Giles, 143
Grinstead, Mayor James F., 108, 114
Griswold, Alexander, 57
Gude, A. V., 17
Guntermann, Bertha L., 138, 192

Hagan, Mrs. E. N., 142
Haldeman, Bruce, 144
Haldeman, Walter N., 27, 35-36, 44, 60, 62, 64-65, 68-69, 114
Halleck, Prof. Reuben Post, 88
Harding, Ellen T., 171, 209
Harris, Credo Fitch, 151
Harris, Mrs. Rachel, 118
Harrison, William Henry, 23
Hart, Joel T., 111
Hartwell, Frank N., 150
Haskell Oriental Museum, 127
Hast, Prof. Louis, 57
Haswell, Ernest Bruce, 150-151
Haub, Jane, 150
Hawes, Rev. T. M., 107, 114
Hawley, Hezekiah, 8
Head, Mayor W. O., 97
Healy, George Peter Alexander, 132
Hebe, Canova statue of, 51, 62, 111
Heming, John L., 13
Hemphill, Rev. C. R., 97-98, 108
Henry, Mrs. Bettie M., 177
Henry Watterson Memorial Collection (see Watterson Memorial Collection)
Heywood, Rev. John H., 16-17
Hickman, W. L., 68
Highland Park Garden Club, 173
High Schools, LFPL services to, 144-145
Hill, Brooke, 8
Hitler, Adolph, 177-178
Hoffman, O. E., 172
Holland, J. W., 17
Hoover, President Herbert, 211
Hopkins, Anderson H., 100-104, 257
Housing projects, LFPL stations at, 215-217

Houston, Russell, 17
Huhlein, Charles F., 150
Humphrey, Alexander P., 17
Humphrey, Judge Churchill, 183
Humphrey, Mary Brown, 144
Hunt, Mrs. Ruth, 132
Huntoon, B. B., 34
Hutchings, Winifred L., 202-203

Inman, William, 12
I. W. Bernheim Gallery, LFPL, 132

Jacob, Mayor Charles D., 58-59
Jefferis, Laura, 116
Jefferson County Jail, library station in, 139-140
Jefferson County, library services in, 120, 140-141, 237
Jefferson Institute of Arts and Sciences, 127-128
Jefferson Seminary, 4-5, 8
Jefferson, Thomas, 23
Jenkins, Dr. Thomas E., 54, 56, 69, 73
John Pierce Company, contractors for LFPL building, 107
Johnson, John N., 14
Johnson, Paul, 172
Junto, The, 9
Juvenile Library, Lexington 7

Kammerer, Florinne C., 114, 141, 216
Kaufman-Straus Building, 91, 99, 157, 159, 165, 174, 183, 237-240
Kaufman-Straus Company, 89, 95
Keats, George, 11
Kelly, R. M., 57, 62-63

Kentucky Historical Society of 1838, 12-13; of Eighteen-seventies, 64
Kentucky Negro Education Association, 117
Kentucky Room, LFPL, 111, 170-171, 203, 205, 209
Keynes, John Maynard, 219
Kinkead, Robert C., 86, 91
Kiser, Jacob, 23
Kleinman, Morris, 130, 167
Kneisel, Paul, 172
Knights of Columbus, 147-148
Knott, J. Proctor, 31
Knowles, Joseph, 16

Lane, Henry M., 61
Langham, Arthur G., 88
Lanius, Helen, 115
Lawrence, Harvey P., 115
Lawsuits (see Litigation)
Leathers, John H., 69
Lees, James, 14
Leslie, Gov. Preston H., 26
Lewis, George L., 149
Lewis Hall, 143
Lexington Athenaeum, 7
Lexington Library Association, 7
Lexington Public Library, 7
Librarians, LFPL (see Brigham, Harold F.; Graham, Clarence R.; Hopkins, Anderson H.; Settle, George T.; Yust, William F.)
Libraries in Louisville (see pp. 8-19, also references to LFPL, PLK, PSK)
Library Association of Louisville (1868), 16
"Library Paper," 51
Library Staff Association, LFPL, 175-176
Lilly, J. K., 205
Lincoln, Abraham, statue of, 149-151

Lincoln, Judge Walter P., 95
Litigation: against PLK, 45-49; Farmers' and Drovers' Insurance Company vs. PSK, 68; PSK vs. LFPL, 95-96; salary test of LFPL, 182-185
Littel, William, 4
London Polytechnic Institute, 54, 56
Long, Cordie C., 115
Lotteries, 22-24; of PLK, 25, 29-32, 36-37, 41-49, 60
Louisville Art Association, 111
Louisville Franklin Lyceum (1840), 13
Louisville Free Public Library, begins 86; planning committee named, 86; negotiations with Carnegie on grant for, 87-88; launched, 88; merger with PSK, 91-93; lawsuit with PSK, 95-96; plan of operating, 104-106; building of, 108-112; restoration and remodeling in, after 1937 flood, 163-171 (see also Branches, Departments, etc., of LFPL)
Louisville General Council, 84-88, 116
Louisville Library (1847-53), 15-16
Louisville Library Association (1868), 16
Louisville Library Association (1871), 16-18, 76
Louisville Library Company (1816), 6, 8, 10-11
Louisville Lyceum (1831), 11
Louisville Male Chorus, 198
Louisville Municipal College, 118
"Louisville Public Library" of 1902-13 (see Polytechnic Society of Kentucky)
Lyon, Daniel, 13

MacDonald, Alonzo T., 108
MacDonald, Andrew, 56, 65
Maitland Club of Scotland, 56
Male High School, 5
Marchand, G. L., 56

Marshall, Humphrey, Sr., 12
Marshall, James, 115
Mason, George, 12
Maury, Mason, 89
Mavity, J. W., 57, 59, 63
Mayer, Mrs. Chester, 139
McCarty, H. M., 28
McCoy, Raymond J., 149
McCreary, Gov. James B., 60
McDermott, Lt.-Gov. E. J., 114, 148
McDowell, Dr. Ephraim, 173
McMurtrie, Dr. Henry, 1-2, 4-5, 10
Mechanics' Institute, 12
Mees, Prof. C. Leo, 56
Mercantile Library Association, 13-15
Microfilming of newspaper files, 205-20
Milburn, W. F. 172
Miller, Mrs. John H., 141-142
Miller, Minnie Dearing, 142
Miller, Mrs. Nell Lee, 216
Miller, Judge Shackelford, 95-96
Minter, James, 13
Mirus, Albert, 130
Modern Library, 18
Moffet, James C., 87
Monroe, Burt, 130
Mooney, James S., 45-46
Morris, Mrs. E. Hugh, 156
Morrow, Gov. E. P., 150
Mullins, Rev. E. Y., 107-108
Mumford, Lewis, 219
Mummy (see Egyptian mummy)
Museum of LFPL, 124-134, 165-168
Music collection in LFPL, 198

National Library War Council, 146
National Youth Administration (NYA), 163
Nay, Mary Spencer, 212
Negro branch libraries (see Branches, LFPL)
Negroes, library facilities for, 116-119, 122-123, 216-217
Needham, Timothy, 56
Neff, Mrs. Edgar D. E., 142
Newspapers and Periodicals
  ANZEIGER, The, 28, 116
  CORRESPONDENT, Louisville, 4
  COURIER, Louisville, 28
  COURIER-JOURNAL, Louisville, 27-28, 58, 62-63, 68, 98, 134, 205-206
  FARMER'S LIBRARY, 3
  GAZETTE, Louisville, 4
  HARPER'S WEEKLY, 32-34
  HERALD, Louisville, 98
  LEDGER, Louisville, 28
  LOUISVILLE MONTHLY, 36, 66 (see also Towne, Paul Allen)
  NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW, 81
  PUBLIC ADVERTISER, 4
  SOUTHERNER, The, 172
  TIMES, Louisville, 98, 205
  WESTERN AMERICAN, 4
  WESTERN JOURNAL AND CIVILIAN, 8
New York Public Library, 67, 202
Nimes, Joseph A., 45-46
Noble, G. W., 14
Norris, Loraine, 116
Nunnemacher, Frank C., 87

Ohio River flood of 1937 (see Flood of 1937)
O'Leary, J. D., 57, 64

Open Shelf Room, LFPL, 106, 109-111, 169, 192, 196-200
Ouchterlony, Dr. J. A., 88
Ouerbacker, Samuel, 142
Owen, Jacob, 14
Owens, James H., 13

Parents' Room, LFPL, 213
Parmele, 14
Peniston, F., 4
Penn, Shadrach, 4
People's Library, 16
Pepper, Professor, 54
Peter-Escott coral and shell collection, 127
Peters, Charles R., 29-30
Pirtle, Judge Henry, 12
Pirtle, James S., 17
Pocket Books, 18
Pollard, Annie V., 68, 105-106, 135, 138-39, 202
Polytechnic Society of Kentucky, 11-12, 18, 36, 56-78, 83-84, 88-100, 111, 126, 135
Powell, Rev. E. L., 88
Pratt Institute Library School, 137
Pratt, Mary B., 113-114
Prentice, George D., 12, 144
Price, Mrs. Lillie, 118
Proctor, R. A., 53
Public Library of Kentucky, 19-20, 24-55, 60-65, 67, 71, 111, 154
"Public Library Paper," 41
Public Works Administration (PWA), 171-173

Quin, Mayor Huston, 150

Randolph, Helen F., 177
Rank, George W., 64

Rannals, David G., 4
Rauch, Rabbi Joseph, 156, 174
Ray, Mrs. Bess A., 177
Reading, trends in, observed at LFPL, 217-219
Redd, James B., 13
Reference Room, LFPL, 107, 109-110, 169, 192, 203-204
Revenaugh, Aurelius, 107
Rice, Cale Young, 150
Ricketts, Dillard, 45-46
Robinson, Dr. Stuart, 69, 75
Roop, Joseph L., 129
Roosevelt, Theodore, 67-68
Rosenplaenter, C. G., 57
Rotary Club, Louisville, 179
Rush, C. E., 136
Russell, Samuel, 16
Rutledge, Arthur M., 88

St. Clair, Alma, 142-143, 153
St. John, I. M., 17
St. Matthews, LFPL station at, 215
Sanders, H. V., 16
Schachner, Dr. August, 173-174
Schachner Memorial Room, Western Colored Branch, 173-174
Schmitt, Eleanor, 176
Schneider, Evelyn, 130
Scholtz, Mayor Joseph D., 172
Schoolroom collections of library books, 119-120
Scopes, John T., trial of, 219
Scott, P. B., 16
Scottish Society of Louisville, 85-87
"Seaside Library," 18
Seldes, Gilbert, 219

Settle, George T., 104, 107, 127-128, 137-138, 146, 149, 154-156, 169, 187, 192, 211, 218, 258-259
Shane, Susan B., 129
Shawnee Christian Church, 171
Sherley, Congressman Swagar, 107
Shipp, Bernard, 57
Shreve, Octavia Allen, 126
Shreve, Mrs. Octavia Bullitt, 126
Shreve, Thomas H., 16
Shriner, Emma J., 145
Sievers, Ada, 143
Simmons and Dickerson, 24
Smith, Mayor George W., 149
Smith, Dr. J. Lawrence, 16-17, 54, 56-57, 125
Smith, John, 23
Snead, Udolpho, 17
South End Civic Club, 172
Souther, W. N., 127
Special collections in Reference Department, LFPL, 204
Speed, James S., 12
Speed Memorial Museum, 131
Spratt, Grandison, 15
Stanley, Gov. A. O., 149
State Legislature, charters PLK, 26; PSK charter debated in, 57-61; enacts public library act, 87
Stations, library, of LFPL, 139-141, 188, 214-216 (see also Extension Department, LFPL)
Steinburg, Oscar, 167
Stevens, S. G., 56
Stites, John, 88, 91, 94-96, 135-136
Stoner, Mrs. Marion W., 114, 176, 196
Story, Marcus, 12

Sub-branches, LFPL, 152, 188, 214-216
  Cabbage Patch, 154
  Clarksdale Housing Project, 154
  Highland Park, 154
  Parkland, 154
  South Louisville, 154
  Taylor Boulevard, 154
  Wesley House, 154
Swearingen, George W., 69

Tachau and Pilcher, 90
Tarbell, Ida M., 150
Taylor Boulevard Civic Club, 172
Taylor, Jessie M., 116, 145
Terrell, Marguerite, 115, 116
Terry, Alvah L., 86
Tevis, R. B., 14
"Then-Hotep" (see Egyptian mummy)
Thompson, J. S., 12
Thruston, R. C. Ballard, 127, 133, 156, 166
Tidings, Ray, 176
Tobe, Marcella, 173, 176
Tobin, Prof. Thomas W., 54, 55, 71, 76
Tomkins, William, 8
Tomppert, Mayor Phil, 28
Tourist Club, 179
Towne, Paul Allen, 34-38, 41-43, 50-57, 59-61
  64-68
Training of LFPL personnel, 121-122
Transylvania Library, 6
Transylvania Seminary, 6
Traube, James, 15
Troost, Gerard, 125
Troost Mineral Collection, 51, 94, 125-126
Tyler, Owen, 8, 108

University of Louisville, 5, 63, 182
Uri, Nathan M., 86, 88

Vail, Samuel, 3
Vasari, Giorgio, 133
Venus de Medici, statue of, 111
Venus of Melos, statue of, 167
Verhoeff, Mary, 180
Veterans of Foreign Wars, 172

Wagenest, Fred, 115
Walker, W. H., 17
War Information Center, LFPL, 181
Ward, John H., 17
Warren, Hall, 143
Washington, George, 22
Watterson, Henry, 28, 44, 144, 154
Watterson Memorial Collection, 154-155, 171
Watterson Room, LFPL, 155, 170-171
Wednesday Morning Music Club, 198
Wehle, O. A., 17
Weissinger-Gaulbert Apartments, 112
West End Library Association, 142
Weygold, Fred P., 130, 167
White House Conference on Child Welfare, 211
White, Levi, 13
Whittingham, G. S., 97, 98
Wigginton, May Wood, 101, 137, 149, 196
Wilder, Edward, 69
Wilder, Gen. Wilber E., 148
Will, Mayor Arthur, 155
Williams, Esther, 177
Williams, Frederick Ballard, 151
Williamson, John, 56
Wilson, David H., 86
Winchester, Boyd, 16

LIBRARY
U OF W

Woodson, Elizabeth S., 143
Woodson, Virginia, 176
Work Projects Administration (WPA), 130, 159, 163, 165, 167-168, 171-172, 177, 180-181, 206, 216
Works Progress Administration (see Work Projects Adm.)
World Wars, First and Second, LFPL activities in, 136, 146-149, 155, 177-182
Worth, John T., 167
WPA (see also Work Projects Administration) --Library Project, 177, 180, 212;--Museum Project, 130
Wright, J. M., 17
Wyer, James I., Jr., 103-10

Y. M. C. A., 18-19, 147-148
Young, Bennett H., 57, 60, 63, 68-69, 75, 84-85, 91, 94-95, 98-99, 108, 136, 144, 148
Yust, William F., 94, 102-104, 108-109, 135, 137, 142, 156, 257-258

Zachert, Adeline B., 105, 137-138, 210

This book may be kept