

THE COLUMBUS-BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY LIBRARY
ITS
ORIGIN, GROWTH, FUNCTIONS, AND POSSIBILITIES

by
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Contributions of the Graduate School
Indiana State Teachers College
Number 26

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the
Master of Arts Degree
in Education

1930

INDIANA STATE
SERIALS LIBRARY

TO MY WIFE AND SONS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The writer wishes to acknowledge the splendid services rendered to him by: the school teachers of Bartholomew County, who so graciously answered the questionnaire sent to them; the many patrons of the library and the librarians of the stations, who assisted in making material available; the State Departments of Public Instruction and the State Libraries and Library Commissions for furnishing data; Miss Gladys Walker, the Columbus-Bartholomew County Librarian, the Assistant Librarians and Mr. A. J. Dipboye who so willingly made available all the records and reports asked for; Donald DuShane, Superintendent of Schools, Columbus, Indiana, Harley Talley, Statistician, State Department of Public Instruction, Walter Rice, County Superintendent of Schools, Columbus, Indiana, for the submission of records and reports pertinent to the subject; the Library Board in granting permission to do the work; E. E. Ramsey, Head of the Department of Education, Indiana State Teachers College, Terre Haute, Indiana, who has so kindly and attentively advised and guided this effort; all others who have in any way assisted in this work.

J. R. R.

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INTRODUCTION

In case anyone should wonder why such a study as this should be made, let me advise that it is in the interest of a great mass of people who are worthy of educational and cultural opportunities.

Born and reared on the farm, a farm laborer, a farm owner, and with children who may some day reside on the farm, one should have an interest in farm life. As a teacher in the rural districts moving from the one room little red school house to the principalship of a high school in the rural district, one should have an interest in rural growth. As a member of the board who is responsible for the policies of the library, one should have an interest in the development of service.

This is not a deep mathematical problem but merely a survey to see what has been done, what is being done, and what may be done to give the rural group the best possible library service. Theodore Roosevelt in his introduction to the Report of the Commission on Rural Life says;¹

"The strengthening of country life is the strengthening of the nation. Agriculture is not the whole of country life. The great rural interests are human interests and good crops are of little value to the farmer unless they open the door to a good kind of life on the farm."

One problem that is desirable for consideration is to deter-

¹ Long, Harriett Catherine, County Library Service American Library Association 1925. p. 9

mine whether the library is functioning in the matter of opening "the door to a good kind of life on the farm."

The data in this paper have been collected as nearly as possible from original sources. When necessary secondary sources have been used and the source has been noted in the footnotes.

The source of material has been:

1. Personal contact with the Library Board in its meetings for the past two and one-half years.
2. Personal conversations with patrons and librarians.
3. The Columbus Evening Republican
4. Reports of the librarian to the Library Board.
5. Reports of the librarian to the State Library Commission.
6. Indiana Yearbooks 1919-1929.
7. Reports of teachers to the county superintendent of schools.
8. Record of the librarian as to the use of the supplementary work.
9. Reports from Allen and Vanderburgh Counties, Indiana.
10. Questionnaires to:
 - a. Bartholomew County teachers.
 - b. Patrons of the library, rural section.
 - c. Eleven county libraries in Indiana.
 - d. State Departments of Public Instruction and State Libraries in all states of the United States.
11. Financial records.
12. Magazine articles.
13. Bulletins.
14. Advertising material for the libraries.

15. Books on library work.

Every effort was made to secure accurate and reliable data.

The questionnaires to the teachers were either sent through the mail or delivered by me in person. They were returned in envelopes with my address and stamped ready for use or in some cases they were returned through the county superintendent.

The questionnaires to the patrons were delivered by the librarian to the station librarian who handed them to the readers and then collected them, or were mailed to readers on detachable return addressed postal cards. Eighteen stations were visited in order to get the names and addresses of readers. These stations were in all parts of the county.

The questionnaire to the county librarians and the State Departments of Public Instruction were mailed on detachable postal cards with instructions to pass on to the Library Commission if the Department did not have the data. After a reasonable time had elapsed the same questionnaire was sent to the State Library in those states that had failed to respond to the first one sent out.

An attempt has been made to secure valid and reliable data.

There may be places in which the subject matter does not seem pertinent to the problem, but there were so many interesting leads that it was very difficult to refrain from following them.

Feeling that one of the best ways to make a study concrete is the use of tables and graphs, several have been included in this study.

The purpose of this thesis is to find out how well the county library and especially the Columbus-Bartholomew County Library is functioning educationally and culturally and its possibilities in the future.

J. R. R.

THE COLUMBUS-BARTHCLOMEW COUNTY LIBRARY
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CHAPTER I

ORIGIN

A. HISTORY OF THE LIBRARY AS A GIFT FROM ANDREW CARNEGIE

This library, as many institutions that are of public utility, was created very largely through the activities of the local press¹ and the agitation furnished by the various ladies' clubs of Columbus.²

As early as August 1894, the school board, composed of Henry C. Davie, J. C. Condon and J. R. Dunlap, made a tax levy of three cents on each hundred dollars for the purpose of creating a fund for a public library.

¹Conversation with A. J. Dipboye who was at the time editor of the Columbus Herald.

²History of Library, p. 5. This is a pamphlet giving the dedicatory exercises when the present building was dedicated.

In the month of Februrary 1899 the school board was given the use of two rooms in the city hall by the city council, the same to be used for library facilities. The sum of \$5000 had accumulated from the levy since 1894 and the rooms were properly arranged, furnished, equipped and opened to the public after a stock of books and perodicals had been obtained.

The use of the library grew in favor, until, during the winter of 1901, the school board and City Superintendent of Schools, T. F. Fitzgibbon appealed to Mr. Andrew Carnegie for a gift for the purpose of constructing a Carnegie Library.

The response from Mr. Carnegie was very favorable, and he pledged fifteen thousand dollars for a building, on condition that the City of Columbus would furnish the site, and also pledge by resolution of the council to support the library by raising not less than fifteen hundred dollars per year.

The Columbus Commercial Club immediately appointed a committee to cooperate with the school board in securing the site. The school board and committee from the Commercial Club on January 16, 1902 presented a resolution to the City Council, informing them of the offer made by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and urged in the resolution that the offer be accepted and the terms complied with.

On February 7, 1902 the Board of School Trustees informed the City Council that they had procured a lot suitable for the construction of the library. Said lot had been secured partly by purchase and partly by gift from Joseph I. Irwin, and was located on the Northwest corner of Fifth and Mechanic Street in the city of Columbus.

The City Council then passed the necessary resolution con-

curing in the proposed levy, and the school board immediately drew up a letter of acceptance from Mr. Carnegie and informed him that they would accept his offer. On February 10 the City Council's resolution, the City School Board's guarantee and a certificate from the County Recorder, showing the purchase of the lot, were all sent to Mr. Carnegie.

On February 13 the following communication was received from Jas. Bertram, Private Secretary to Mr. Carnegie;

"T. F. Fitzgibbon, Esq.,¹

Columbus, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

Yours of 10th. received. Please communicate with R. A. Franks, 505 Hudson Trust Building, Hoboken, N. J. who has authority to make payment on account of library.

Respectfully yours,

Jas. Bertram, P. Sec."

February 13, 1902

J. W. Gaddis of Vincennes was selected to draw up the plans and specification, the contract was let to Coats & Perkinson for \$16,888² and the building was a reality. Reports show that the entire cost was \$19,200, \$15,000 of which was donated by Mr. Carnegie and \$4,200 of which was raised by taxation. The same report shows the present value of the real estate to

¹ History of Library, p. 19.

² Ibid. p. 19.

be \$24,200.¹

Thus we have the library organized in August 1899 under the law of 1883 and in its new home ready to serve the public by June 1903.²

The library continued to be a City Library in fact as well as in name. In an examination of the annual reports, the earliest record of rural use was in 1908 when twelve rural patrons are recorded. The following table will show the rural use.³

1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922
13	15	19	11	26	27	25	36	38	26	28	31

The same reports show this note listed under Charges;
One dollar for out of City, two dollars for out of county.

Nothing prevented rural people from using the library within the building but it was not open to the entire county without charge to the rural group if they desired to take books from the library.

B. THE CONDITIONS MAKING A COUNTY LIBRARY POSSIBLE

Columbus is the county seat of Bartholomew County and is located near the center of the county. The county, being ap-

¹ Annual report to State Library Commission 1929.

² Annual report to State Library Commission 1929.

³ Annual reports to State Library Commission.

proximately twenty-one miles square with a small rectangular area out of the south east corner, contains about 400 square miles. Under reasonable conditions with our modern means of conveyance any point is not to exceed forty minutes from the county seat. Columbus contains approximately one-third the population of the county according to the 1920 census.

There have never been more than three commissioned high schools in the county. The two except Columbus, being Clifford and Hope, lie eight and fourteen miles respectively northeast of Columbus. Accredited high schools were located at Newbern, Burnsville and Walesboro but these have been abandoned. One can readily see that the rural districts led into the Columbus High School so that rural graduates who had been in contact with the library were returning each year by the scores.

And again we find clubs of various kinds being organized, including members from the rural district. Two of these which were of a cultural and literary nature being the Nautilus Club and The Country Club.

C. THE LAW UNDER WHICH THE COUNTY LIBRARY WAS ORGANIZED

Several parties who were interested in seeing the library service extended to the rural communities immediately, in 1922 invoked the use of sections 18 and 19 of the 1917 Acts dealing with County Libraries as follows:¹

¹ Important Laws of Indiana relating to Public Libraries. 1929 revised edition. Sec. 18 and 19, Pages 22, 23, and 24.

18. "Aid to City or Town Library.

Sec.4. Whenever the library board of any public library established in any city or incorporated town in this state shall file notice with the board of county commissioners of the county in which such library is located, of the consent of such library board to make such library open and free to all the people of said county not already having free library privileges, on the condition of the said county contributing to the support of such public library, such board of county commissioners may, and upon petition of twenty-five (25) resident freeholders of each township of such county, not already taxed for public library purposes shall make an annual appropriation and levy a tax not less than one-tenth of a mill, and not more than one (1) mill on each dollar of taxable property in said county, including the property of any city or incorporated town in the county, not already taxed for public library purposes, and the county treasurer shall collect and pay the same to the treasurer of such city or town where such library is located to be held a part of the library fund and to be paid out in the same manner as other library funds. Said tax shall be continued so long as ten per cent (10%) of the inhabitants of the districts so taxed outside the limits of said city or town are found to be users of said library, or when less than ten per cent (10%) of the inhabitants shall use the said library, the board of county commissioners may, at its discretion, continue the tax therein specified. (As amended, Acts 1921, p. 107)

19. Board, Appointment, Qualifications. Sec.5. If the board of county commissioners shall levy a tax for library purposes as provided in section four (4) of this Act and pay the same over to the treasurer of such city or town where such library is located, then such county commissioners shall within ten (10) days appoint two (2) persons, one of whom shall be a woman, residing in some part of said county which is contributing a tax for the support of the county library, outside the limits of the city or town in which such library is located, shall constitute a public library board, who with the members of such city or town public library board, shall constitute a public library board for said county, and such appointments shall be for a period of two (2) years, and the county superintendent of schools likewise shall appoint two (2) such members with qualifications as above provided for a term of one (1) year and three (3) years, respectively. After the first appointment all appointments shall be for a term of two years. The members so appointed shall have the same qualifications and equal authority with other members of the public library board in the levying and expending of all county taxes and in the maintaining of library service to the inhabitants of the county outside the city in which the library is situated.

(As amended Acts 1921. p. 107)

D. THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ARE PETITIONED

The above is the law under which the petition was presented to the County Board of Commissioners. These petitions bore the name of at least twenty-five freeholders from each of the

fourteen (14) townships in the county. These petitions having been filed, "the City School Board by resolution on July 8, 1922 consented to make the city library open and free to all people of Bartholomew County upon condition that the county contribute to the support by levying a tax not less than 2/10 of a mill. A copy of this resolution was filed with the Board of Commissioners on July 29, 1922." ¹

The following excerpts were taken from the librarians annual reports:

"Reorganized as County Library August 1923 under the Acts of 1918."

"Opened to Rural High School" 1922.

"Opened to County year before organized as County Library" 1923.

"The first year the whole county was served" 1924.

E. THE FIRST COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD IS ORGANIZED

The first County Library Board² was composed of the City School Board, Mrs. Mary Best, Carlos Folger and H. K. Volland; the commissioners appointments, Mrs. Albert Newsom and W. D.

¹ Taken from a communication from Donald DuShane who was Superintendent of the Columbus City schools at that time and who still holds this position. An effort to obtain the original petition at the County Auditors office was unsuccessful as they seemed to know nothing about it.

² Librarian's Annual Report. 1923

Wooden; and the County Superintendent's appointments, Mrs. E. E. Arbuckle and Arch C. Cox.

To say that this new board had nothing to do would be putting it mildly. Here was a new venture. The City Board had everything invested, the county nothing. What was to be the status? Be it said to their credit, that they cared for the new born child in such an admirable way that when the rural members retired a few years later and the County Board was reorganized, a fine piece of work had been accomplished.

In searching the Columbus Evening Republican for comments regarding the Library in 1923 the following items were found:

May 5, 1923 "Rate of 2¢ decided upon."

June 8, 1923 "First board meeting for June 15 under new plan."

June 16, 1923 "First board meeting to-night. \$4300 turned to city treasurer by County Auditor and \$8000 available."

June 18, 1923 "\$4,300 available for immediate use. Officers. President Chas. Setser; Vice President Mrs. Anna Newsom; Secretary Carlos Folger; Treasure Mrs. Mary Best. Committees appointed as follows: Mrs. May Arbuckle, Books; Archie Cox, Finance; Mrs. Mary Best, supplies; Carlos Folger, House Committee; Mrs. Anna Newsom, Stations; Library Board to hold its regular meetings upon second Wednesday night of each month. Lenore Bonham, Librarian; Miriam Cosand, Assistant. Stations were planned for."

These items are given to show that the board was planning and functioning from the beginning.

Stations, books, expenditures, management of library, care of

property, help, status under the law and many other things had to be taken care of. It would be perfectly reasonable that all could not agree and in order that the City Board and the County Board might know and have an understanding as to their status under the Library Board, a written agreement was proposed and adopted which has seemed to iron out the difficulties to the satisfaction of both groups. This agreement has served so splendidly that in order that others might profit by its contents, it is quoted in full:¹

F. THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS AND THE RURAL MEMBERS

LIBRARY AGREEMENT

It is hereby agreed by the members of the Columbus School Board and by the Appointed members of the County Library Board that the following agreements as to the operation of the Library and the procedure of the board are adopted and shall remain in effect unless modified by both a majority of the county members and a majority of the city school board:

1. The school board assumes full responsibility for the expense of maintenance, repairs and improvements of the Columbus library building and grounds, and for the expense of equipping, operating and maintaining said building as a library, and keep-

¹ Copy of original agreement between the Columbus City Library Board Members and the Rural Library Board Members.

ing it open to and loaning its books to all the citizens of Bartholomew County, without distinction as to place of residence.

2. It is agreed that the funds derived from taxation outside the City of Columbus shall be chargeable as follows for 1927-1928 and for subsequent years based on experience:

(a) with one-half the cost of books, book repairs, binding and periodicals up to a maximum county expense of \$2000.

(b) with one-half the cost of library salaries up to a maximum county expense of \$2250.

(c) one-half the cost of maintenance and operating expense of the central library up to a maximum county expense of \$1500.

(d) with the total cost of book distribution in county territory, including cost of branch libraries and cost of one assistant librarian to serve under the head librarian and to be in charge of County library extension service if deemed expedient to have such assistant by county library board.

3. It is agreed that county members of the board shall constitute a committee on county library extension service and all matters concerning county extension shall be referred to this committee before final action is had. This committee shall elect a chairman who shall have power to act in the absence of the committee and who shall serve as vice-president of the County Library Board.

4. The library board shall meet regularly at the time set for the monthly meetings of the Columbus School Board and also at the call of the president.

5. It is agreed that officers of the school board shall serve as officers of the library board. The Chairman of the County ex-

tension committee shall serve as vice president of the library board.

6. Full financial records of the library funds shall be kept by the school board and shall be open for inspection to any library board member at any time. Except as herein agreed the funds raised by county taxation and the library funds of the school city of Columbus shall be accounted for separately.

7. The librarian shall be executive officer of the library board and shall be present, and report upon the operation and needs of the library at meetings of the library board. In the periods between library board meetings the librarian shall consult with the county superintendent of schools in dealing with county library problems.

8. It is agreed that after August 1, 1928, the annual expenditure for books, periodicals, book binding and book repairs shall not be less than \$4,000.

The advantages of this agreement are self-evident. There is very little occasion for misunderstanding at present. It is evident, in the light of past experience and the dreams of the future, how much the rate need be to raise the amount of money necessary to operate the library successfully and in this light the city rate was increased from 4¢ per \$100 to 5¢ per \$100 while the county rate was increased from 2¢ per \$100 to 3¢ per \$100.

This has been in effect for the year 1928-29 and 1929-30. Consequently, following a policy of retrenchment, it looks as if the library will be able to put on a constructive and much more beneficial program.

G. REORGANIZATION

Following the adoption of the above agreement the board was reorganized. Resignations and new appointments from the County Superintendent and Board of County Commissioners finds the board in 1929 as follows:¹

	Appointed by
President---Mr. Jamie Dowell	City Council
Vice President--Mr. C. E. Talkington	County Commissioners
Secretary---Mr. Albert Goshorn	City Council
Treasurer---Mr. L. E. Reeves	City Council
Mrs. David Marr	Co. Supt. of Schools
Mrs. Perry Davis	County Commissioners
Mr. J. Ray Ross	Co. Supt. of Schools

The county members have not been changed since the fall of 1927 while the city members change as the City School Board changes. This continuity of service should be an aid to future developments as the problems are now becoming familiar to the members.

SUMMARY

The purpose of this chapter has been to show the changes in the development of the library idea from a myth in the early nineties to a reality in 1899, a new Carnegie library in 1903 and on down through the years to a county system in 1923 with a special working agreement, a program and the possibility of growth through the increase in finances. Let us now attempt to study this growth.

¹ Librarians Annual State Library Report. Year ending 1929.

CHAPTER II

GROWTH

A. PHYSICAL PLANT

The library building is no doubt as well located as it could possibly be, being only some two and one-half squares from the high school building, two squares from the main business street of Columbus and beautifully located across from Commercial Park. Across the street east is the unusual Irwin residence, which contains one of the most beautiful sunken gardens in Indiana. Through the generosity of Mr. William G. Irwin, this garden is open to the public most of the time. To the north of the building is the Tabernacle Christian Church. Thus anyone desiring to use the library may easily do so because of its splendid location in the city and not inconvenience themselves, if necessary to be in the business section or school center within a few minutes.

While the lawn is not large, yet with the use of shrubbery and proper care, it is artistic. Plans are already in the hands of the library officials for landscaping the lawn in the rear, as soon as funds are available.

In keeping with this idea that this institution of learning should also be made attractive within, the interior was redecorated and repainted in 1929 and in addition modern and effective electric fixtures have been added so that one feels invited into the building, and rested after entering. These things are important because it was practically impossible to make any

except the necessary improvement, preceding the change into a county library because of a lack of funds. Thus the change seems to have added a stimulus for internal improvement because of added resources.

The building, itself, is not modern, having been built some twenty-eight years ago. It is constructed of "tool-grooved Bedford Stone" and makes a rather impressive appearance. The building is fifty-four feet wide, seventy-two feet long and thirty-four feet in height from the grade line and is fire proof. The basement ceiling is eleven feet high and the main floor ceiling eighteen feet high. The basement floor contains a full room, with a complete steam heating plant, two toilet rooms, a stack-room for government reports, a librarian's workroom, a study room twenty-four by twenty-four feet, and a ladies club room twenty-four by thirty feet. The main floor contains a small waiting room, the librarian's private office and receiving desk, a stack room twenty-four by thirty-eight feet, a children's reading room twenty by twenty four feet, and an adult's reading room twenty-four by forty feet. The building is furnished with the latest library appliances." 1

One of the important items in the above description is the eighteen-foot ceiling which will allow another deck to be constructed for a stack room when occasion demands it. This is one redeeming feature about the building.

Dedicatory Exercises of the Columbus, Indiana Public Library.

B. THE BINDERY

The present condition and arrangement of the basement is due to Mr. A. J. Dipboye, who for a period of ten years was janitor and librarian and who at present is the book binder and repair man. In an interesting conversation with him, it was discovered that several of the rooms in the basement were used merely as storage rooms and rooms for waste matter. He tells of reclaiming these rooms and of his extreme delight in finding a valuable piece of discarded literary work, of removing it to the repair room, and having made the repair, restored it to the stack room. Upon entering one of the basement rooms one finds row upon row of bound newspapers, some of them from the first issues. These have been bound in the library bindery which is the north basement room in the library.

In looking over Mr. Dipboye's Library reports, this item was listed--saved by binding:

1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918
\$196	\$310.63	\$389.42	\$390.58	\$502.68	\$679.74	\$500.	\$569.15

The financial summary for the year ending August 1, 1929 shows in expenditures this item--Binding \$878.36.

In a questionnaire sent out to the eleven county libraries in the state as recorded in the Indiana Year Book 1929, this question was asked--Do you do your own binding and repair work? Eleven replies were returned as follows:

Repair--two; no--five; partly--two; mend--one; yes--one.

The one answering "yes" was Bartholomew County. In Mr. Dipboye's report for August 1, 1919, he reports a saving to the library

during the ten years in which he served as librarian in money value alone of \$4,013.40. Thus this one item alone is a great asset in a financial way as well as convenience.

C. THE MUSEUM

The annual report asks this question, "Is there a museum?" The answer was continuously "No" until 1923. In Mr. Dipboye's annual report to the Board on date of August 1, 1910, it was recommended that a museum be placed in the front room, in as much as several articles of interest had been offered for such and there was a demand for the same. But nothing was done until the date mentioned above.

For the museum, which at present is in the basement of the building, and which consists of birds, stones, shells, animals and other interesting data, we are indebted to the activities of the Country Club and especially to Mrs. Betty Springer, the donor. The address that was given by Mrs. Ruth Newsom on the occasion of the presentation is so characteristic of the spirit of those interested, that it is given in full:

1. Address by Mrs. Ruth Newsom:

Ladies and Gentleman of the Library Board:

Today after so long a time it is with unusual pleasure that I perform the duty to which I have been appointed.

Doubtless, we have all read the short articles in the papers giving a partial description and history of this collection.

As we look down the vista of years, we see with this as a nucleus, other collections added from time to time until Bartholomew County has a museum of which she need not be ashamed.

From a study of these objects, we see boys and girls, with their interest in nature so aroused that they go forth into the woods and open fields to make observations of their own.

But important as all this is, it is not the thing that has most strongly appealed to my imagination.

I see a young man and his wife, (their business farming) spending hour after hour, aggregating weeks and months, stretching through years, procuring and preparing these specimens. To them each had its own intimate history and interest. And they did this from sheer love of nature and a delight in their work.

All around us, fairly crowding up against us, in this prosy, everyday life of ours, if we had the eyes to see and the mind to perceive is the stuff out of which romance is made.

After all, friends, is it our business, no matter how successful it may be, that gives the greatest zest to life? Isn't it rather the thoughts we think, the aspirations we feel, that lift us above the drudgery of our occupation, that makes life worth while?

I take it this is pre-eminently the purpose of the Library and Museum---to broaden thought; to awaken aspiration, to inspire the student with increased ardor in his quest after truth, beauty and goodness.

Again I say, it is with great pleasure, that I formally present to the Library Board this case of birds in the name of the

Country Club and Mrs. Bettie Springer.¹

Thus a small museum was added and the library had grown a little more in the affection of the people and in service to the Community.

D. INCREASED SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

On January 11, 1912 Mr. Dipboye recommended that a special Committee room be furnished for club workers and also that Reference Books be permitted to be taken out between the hours of 8:00 P. M. and 10:00 A. M. Both requests were granted for which the club workers were very grateful.

¹ Mrs. Betty Springer and her husband Jerome Springer lived on a farm in Rockcreek Township near Grammer for many years. They traveled quite extensively and had accumulated quite a display of rocks, birds, animals and other interesting objects. In a conversation with Mrs. Springer, who now lives in Columbus since the death of Mr. Springer, she informed me that she was going to throw many of the specimens away when some one suggested this use for them. Many of the animals and birds were pets on their farm and are held in high esteem by members of the family. She informed me that when they were unloaded at the library building, that there were numerous children about to see and appreciate them. And I can appreciate their curiosity because as a boy it was always a delight to go past the Springer Farm and see the deer, pannies and other interesting animals and fowls.

August 1, 1915, the librarian in his annual report was asking for more help in as much as the progress of the library and service were being hindered by the lack of room and help. The following table may give some light as to the justice of this last recommendation:

TABLE I
SHOWING THE INCREASES IN FIVE CLASSIFICATIONS
OVER A PERIOD OF THIRTY-YEARS

Yr.	Expenditures	Vol. in Library	Borrowers (Active)	Total Circulation	Av. Circulation
1900				26,958	88.1
1901				24,106	78.8
1902				24,476	79.8
1903				23,579	77.0
1904				26,413	86.0
1905				26,656	87.0
1906		7524 ^e		27,478	90.0
1907		8100 ^e		20,862	68.1
1908		8467 ^e		24,821	81.1
1909		8887 ^e		25,145	85.0
1910	\$2882 ^e	9217		23,522	77.0
1911	2899	10,168		29,602	96.5
1912	2514	10,620	1403	32,010	104.6
1913	2559	10,393	1332	35,232	115.5
1914	2783	11,082	1791	36,684	122.0
1915	3295	11,586	1723	40,643	140.1
1916	2929	12,562	1775	39,536	130.4
1917	2878	13,345		36,282	120.1
1918	4869	14,157		38,361	126.6
1919 ^a	3572	14,924		44,368	149.0
1920	5214	15,542	1098	49,115	161.0 ^c
1921	5866	16,141	929	50,242	165.0 ^c
1922	6158	16,600	2122	72,398 ^f	237.0 ^c
1923	5082	14,329	2122	76,835	252.0 ^c
1924	8556	16,087	3453	65,425	214.0 ^c

TABLE I (Continued)
SHOWING THE INCREASES IN FIVE CLASSIFICATIONS
OVER A PERIOD OF THIRTY-YEARS

Yr.	Expenditures	Vol. in Library	Borrowers (Active)	Total Circulation	Av. Circulation
1925	10,492	19,811	5022	100,798	331.0 ^d
1926	10,687	21,736	4805	163,771	537.0 ^d
1927	14,056 ^g	23,374	6178	162,776	540.0 ^d
1928	9,664	23,191	6929	175,062	576.0 ^d
1929 ^b	14,517 ^h	24,808	7263 ^d	179,682	593.0 ^d

^a The data from 1900-1919 taken from A. J. Dipboye's reports during his ten years as Librarian.

^b The data from 1920-1929 taken from The Indiana Year Book as based on reports to State Library Association.

^c Average Circulation figured on basis of 305 library days.

^d Average Circulation taken from Librarian's report to Library Board.

^e Taken from yearly reports to Library Board and to State.

^f Increase in circulation due probably to opening of library to all high school pupils and to county before its organization as a county library.

^g Expenditure should be \$11,880.52. Investigation shows that the balance was added to the expenditure and the total called expenditure.

^h Expenditure should be \$12477.29. Investigation revealed that a shift in deposits of \$2040 from Irwin-Union Trust Company to the First National Bank was added to expenditures.

E. AN ANALYSIS OF INCREASES

Table I takes up the five items: expenditures, volumes in

the Library, borrowers, circulation, and average daily circulation. All of this data with the exception of the blank spaces was available since 1900 from some source. The per cent of increase of these five items for the period 1923 to 1929 or during the period of the county library is as follows:

TABLE II

SHOWING PER CENT OF INCREASE 1923-1929

Expendi- ture	Volumes in Library	Borrowers	Circula- tion	Av. Daily Cir.
145.5	54.4	242.3	133.8	135.3

Table II shows a large per cent of increase in borrowers, a creditable increase in the circulation and average daily circulation but a small increase per cent in the increase of volumes in the library. This would seem to indicate that the major part of the increase in expenditure is being used for the operation of the library rather than the purchase of books. This will then justify the special clause in the special contract of 1927 which provides for the purchase each year of not less than \$4000 worth of books and also the increase in the tax levy of one cent in each of the County and City units. In other words the item facing the library is the increase of book stock.

A graphical representation of Table II as is shown in Figure I will show the need for a greater revenue to meet the needs of the library service:

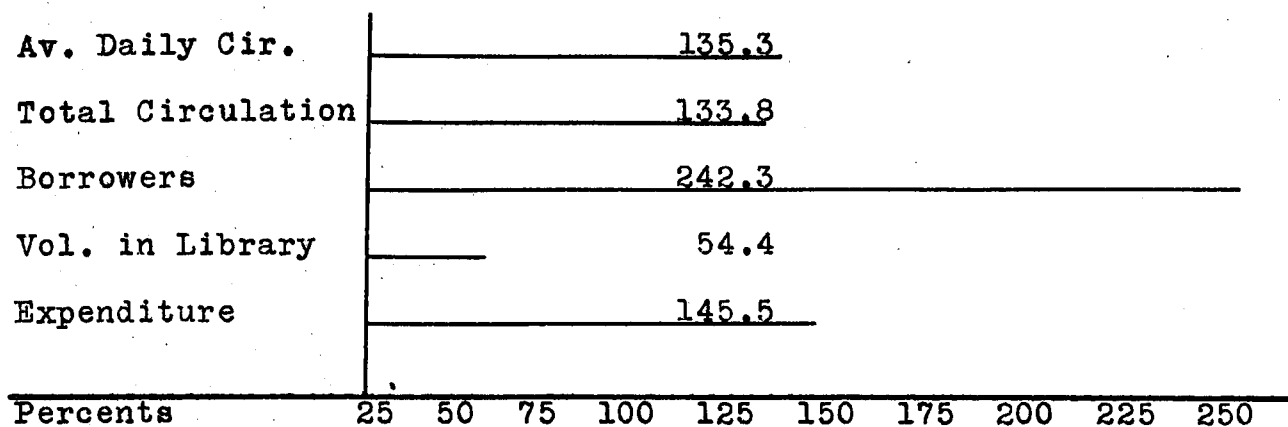


Figure 1. - Showing the per cent of increase in five major items since organized as a county library as based on Table II.

Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5 are graphical representations of the increase in total circulation, expenditures, volumes in library and average daily circulation.

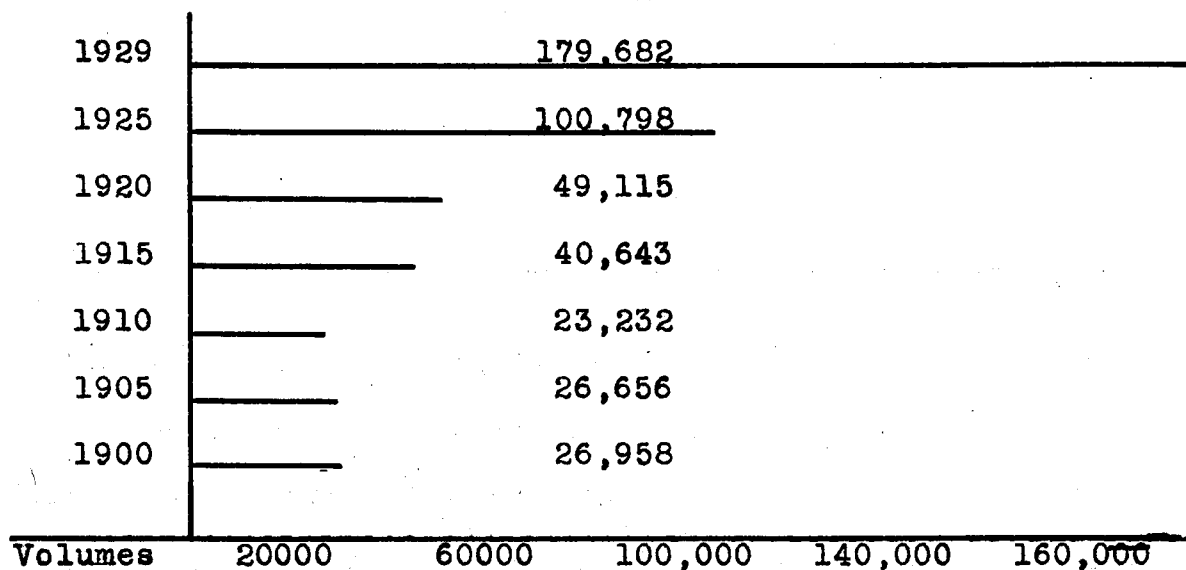


Figure 2. - Showing the increase in the circulation from 1900 to 1929 with five year intervals as based on Table I.

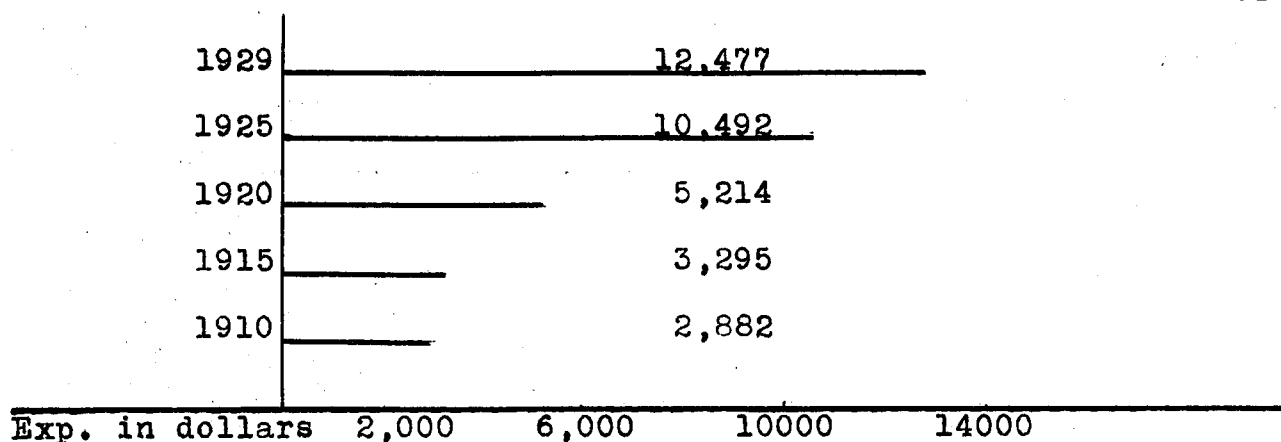


Figure 3. - Showing the expenditure in dollars for operating the library from 1910-1929 as based on Table I.

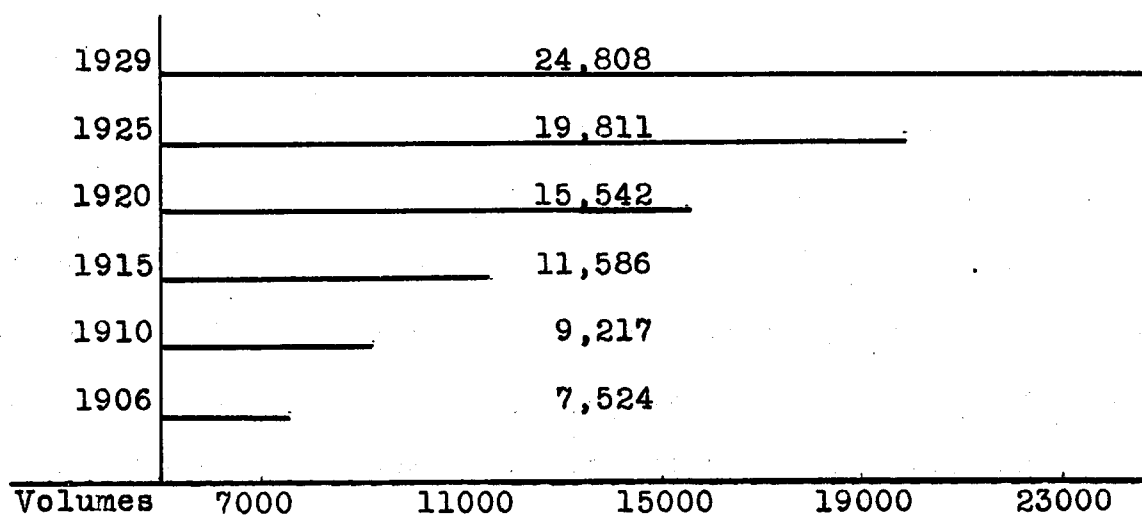


Figure 4. - Showing the increase in volumes in library 1906-1929 as based on Table I.

Here again we are definitely shown that marked increases have been made since county organization in everything except increase in volumes. This gives the Library Board a basis for increasing the book stock as rapidly as the finances will permit.

Table III. ...
the trustees.

1929	593
1925	331
1920	161
1915	140
1910	77
1905	87
1900	88

Av. Daily Cir. 75 150 225 300 375 450 525 600

Figure 5 - Showing the increase in Average Daily Circulation as based on Table I.

F. COMPARISON OF CITY AND RURAL CIRCULATION

Table III will give some idea as to the increase in circulation in both city and county. It would seem from this table that as the rural circulation increases the city circulation increases also. It is interesting to note that the city increase has been constant while the rural has remained practically static since 1926. This would indicate that new forces to increase circulation must be found.

TABLE III

SHOWING THE CITY CIRCULATION, RURAL CIRCULATION

AND TOTAL SINCE 1924¹

	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
City	51,668	60,934	72,707	74,490	85,616	89,613
Co.	13,757	39,864	91,064	88,286	89,446	90,069
Total	65,425	100,798	163,771	162,776	175,062	179,682

¹ Table III. Made from the yearly reports of the librarian to the trustees.

The Figure 5A compares the circulation in the city and rural districts.

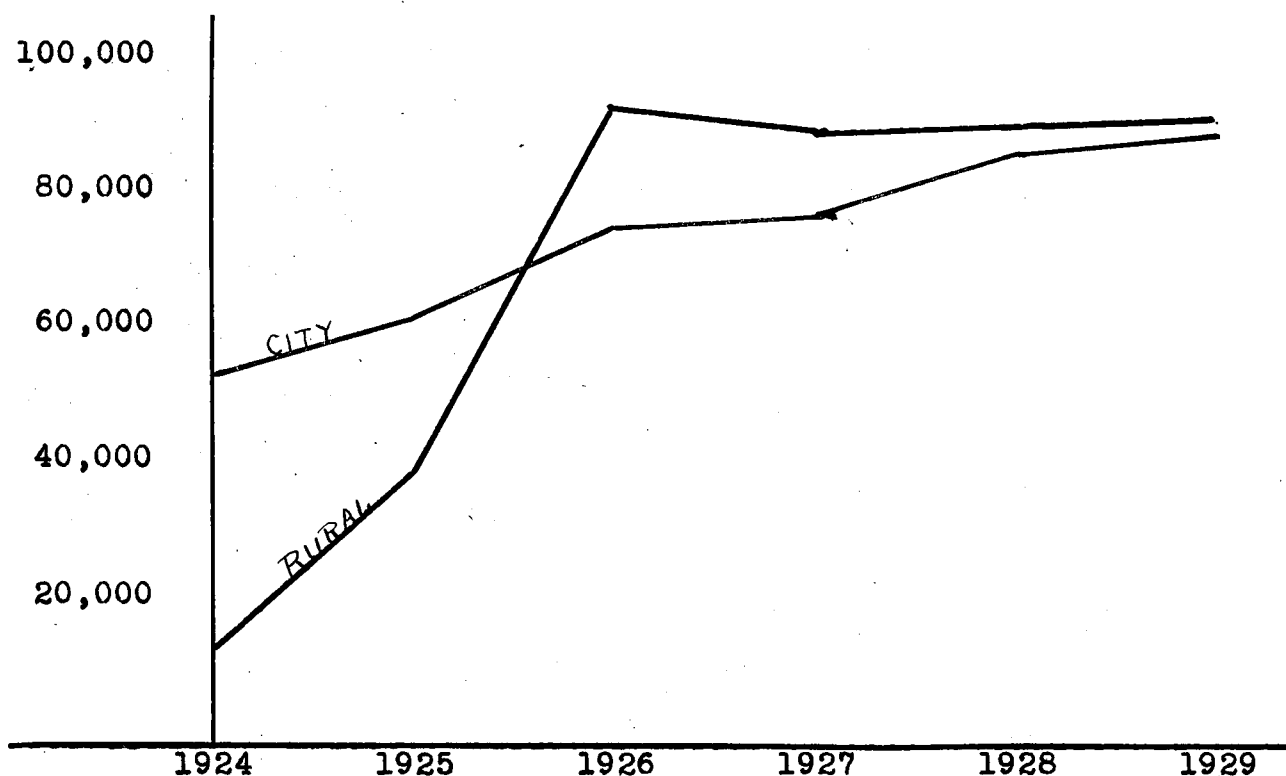


Figure 5A. - Graphical representation of Table III showing the circulation of books in city and rural districts for six years 1924-1929. The left column of figures represents volumes.

Table III is incorrect to the extent that all people who have books changed at the main station, Columbus, are counted with city circulation. Many rural people use the central station. If an accurate account were kept, from the standpoint of rural and city, the city circulation would be decreased and the rural circulation increased. The record is only that of those which pass through the central station and those that are handled through the rural stations.

The rapid increase in the rural circulation is no doubt due to the system used in getting the books into the rural districts.

There are at present thirty-two agencies¹ to get books to the people. These include the central library at Columbus, one branch at Hope and thirty stations scattered over the county as shown on the map Figure 6. In addition to these stations there are thirty-two schools with fifty-four classrooms or other collective agencies. Let us have Miss Walker, the Librarian, tell how the organization was effected and is maintained.²

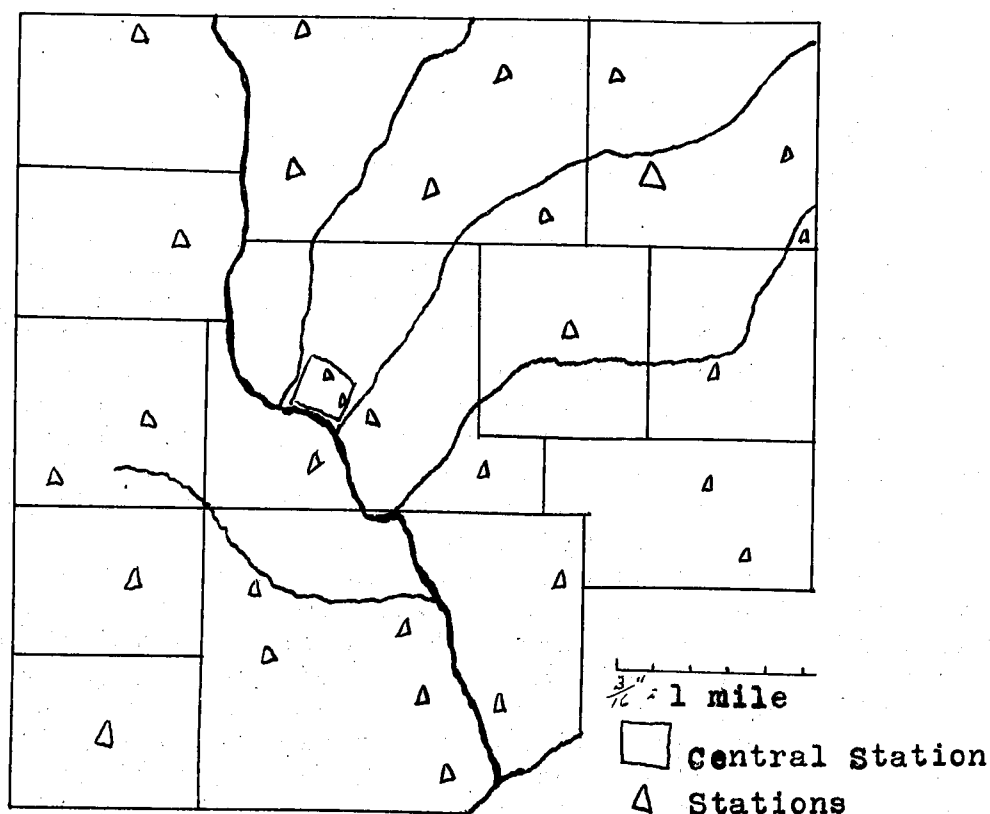


Figure 6 - Showing the Central Station at Columbus, the branch at Hope, and the thirty stations scattered about over the County.

¹ State Annual Library Report 1929.

² "Branches and Stations--Their Establishment and Maintenance" by Miss Gladys Walker, Librarian, Columbus-Bartholomew County Library, Columbus, Indiana. Paper read before State Library Meeting 1929 at Gary, Indiana.

G. BRANCHES AND STATIONS--THEIR ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE

When the Columbus Public Library was reorganized as the Columbus-Bartholomew County Library in 1923, the first concern was to establish book depositories for community service as soon as possible since the primary purpose of a county library is to equalize cultural opportunities for city and rural communities by giving general reading to all parts of a county. However, the organization and the type of service to be given depend entirely upon the physical conditions of the county itself and the people to be served, since every county has its own characteristics and personality.

The location has a special influence on the delivery system that may be developed and while books must be brought within easy reach, it is necessary to attract readers as well as serve those who will sacrifice to obtain reading material.

Bartholomew County has 14 townships, covering an area of approximately 400 sq. mi., but has no point more than one half hour from headquarters. There are five incorporated towns and eighteen unincorporated settlements. With this condition existing it was considered advisable to establish stations first in the districts farthest removed from the central library and then wherever needed.

Personal visits were made to these districts and the plan of service was presented to different groups. Newspaper publicity was a great help and the aid of the county teachers, officers and county organizations was sought. After a time definite cooperation was secured and those who had been recommended for custodians in these various settlements were interviewed. Much interest was found and the staff was fortunate enough to secure custodians with little difficulty, although sometimes the one who had been recommended was not the person who would represent the county library in that community. It was most imperative that the person in charge of the station be chosen with great care and have the desire to assume the task. The finer the spirit and the better the understanding of the custodians, the greater will be the usefulness of the county library to the communities. It was found that although it was more important to secure a suitable custodian, yet a library station established at the postoffice or village store was splendid advertising both for the local establishment and for the library. It was discovered too, that adult residents were not enthusiastic about going to the district schools to get library books. More active interest was displayed when the books were located in the stores or post offices. This attitude was not strange when the local conditions were understood. These discoveries, plus careful planning and a thorough study of the population, industries, ways of communication, schools, county organizations, etc., resulted in the establishment of twelve stations. These stations were the cornerstones of the system which has been developed.

After a place for the books was secured, the librarian prepared a general collection of books, remembering it was to be an effective sample and chosen with due regard to the special interests of the community and to include books which would develop or meet those interests. The number depended upon the size of the community, character of the population and the character of the library representative, for the usefulness of the collection depends to a large extent upon the enthusiasm and interest of the custodian. A book for each person was the number usually sent. A case for the books was furnished by the library and supplies were taken, including guides, posters, etc., Instructions were given the custodian and the station was a reality.

The one branch which has been established is located at Hope, a town of about 1200 residents. This was established as a station, but grew so rapidly that it became necessary to reorganize it as a branch. It is located in one room in a store building and is in charge of a college graduate, who has been serving very efficiently although he has had no library training. The branch observes library hours and has not only a collection of reference books and standard books of non-fiction and fiction which are permanent additions, but also a large popular collection which is changed every month.

The Columbus-Bartholomew County Library is now serving this one branch, 30 deposit stations, eighteen of them being located in stores and the others in private homes, and it has also 63 school-room collections, including three parochial schools. New books, usually about 25-50, are sent to the branch and stations once every month. They are placed in corrugated shipping containers which are discarded and given to the library by local grocers. The selection of the books to be returned is made by the custodian, unless the librarian finds it necessary to have some particular books returned. The teachers secure their books and return them once a month unless they have them renewed. The regular white charging cards are left in the books for charging and the custodians and teachers charge the books on these, keeping the cards in Gaylord files which are given them. The cards are counted every day and at the end of the month a report blank is filled out and sent to the central library. A few of the teachers do this also, but usually the circulations are counted on the school books when they are returned. Supplementary reading material is furnished for all the grades and last year 1,015 supplementary readers for the first four grades were purchased with county funds. The teachers came to the library when the county institutes were held and secured the number they wished. This project was very successful and the teachers were more than appreciative of the help given them by the library. Comments were heard constantly concerning the improvement in the reading of the pupils in the county schools. This work was entirely experimental, but it was so satisfactory that the service is being given again this year and it will be enlarged if it is found necessary. It will probably be necessary also to deliver the books to the teachers later since the new law concerning county institutes has become effective, but this problem will have to be solved when the question arises.

In keeping a record of the books sent from the main library to the county a Whereabouts File, i. e. a file by author and title of all the books in the county deposits, showing the dates sent and where, is used so that a duplication will not be made. This file also shows the exact place of a book which may be requested elsewhere.

A Branch and Stations File is also necessary. This file shows the number and kind of books at the deposits. When the books are returned, these cards are slipped in them, discharging them from one place and preparing them for sending to other places. Each book sent to the county has three cards in different colors, making it easy to distinguish them. Revolving stamps with the names of the stations and dates simplify the work of charging and discharging.

A Registration File is made for all the county borrowers. It consists of a numerical file, an alphabetical file and a file of the registered readers in each township. These cards may be used in the city as well as in the county with equal freedom.

However, too much time must not be spent on methods; results must be obtained by the methods best suited to the needs of each county. The only result which counts is service to all. There can be no hard and fast rules for County Library Service. It must be made possible for the books to follow the people. It is most important to have a definite means of service through a personal supervision and it must not be elusive and changing, but have stability.

The maintenance of the various agencies of a county library demands a great deal of consideration and careful thought. One distinct advantage of a city library with county service, as the one which is being considered, is to give equal privileges to county residents, therefore county residents should be offered the use not only of all the books, but of reading and reference room facilities and all privileges on the same terms as is given city residents. There can be no discrimination in service, but it must have unity.

The librarian, while intent on improving her distributing agencies, should not disregard the possibilities of developing contacts for county patrons with the main library, and the fact that possibly she needs an extension of her advertising of its facilities as much as an increase in extension agencies. The modern farm family, formerly isolated and segregated, is now making new contacts. Modern developments have broadened its outlook and stimulated its wishes.

County branches and stations afford this opportunity of giving these modern farmers and their families the things they have learned to want. It is necessary to train the custodians to inform their readers of the chance of securing books from the main collection and that he or she must be on the alert for every indication that this service is desired. It must be made known that telephone service is given to all parts of the county and that special requests will be answered by return mail. Guides and posters made by school students are also valuable helps in bringing this service to the attention of the county readers.

The county librarian must have personal contact often with the custodians, leaving them more efficient after her visits. Local problems should be discussed and comments given on the books. The greatest of all the benefits of visiting, however, is an indescribable something that gives a mutual feeling of the worthwhileness of all the effort made in giving library service. It is the rainbow which is lost under clouds of fatigue and despair sometimes, emerging again with the realization of some aspiration attained.

In addition to the money received from the city of Columbus, the Columbus-Bartholomew County Library received \$7645 last year from a 3¢ levy in the county. The cost of county service was divided into three classes. 22% of the income was used for books and periodicals; 3% for transportation; and 62% was spent for services and maintenance. This left a balance of approximately \$1000 which is to be used for service this year. It might be interesting to explain a part of this cost in detail. The custodians are paid 1¢ a circulation. The branch librarian receives \$25 a month for his services, half of this sum being paid by the town of Hope and the other half by the library. The books are delivered to the branch and stations by the library building custodian, usually accompanied by a member of the library staff. The custodian uses his own car and is paid 10¢ a mile in addition to his regular salary. The actual cost of circulating a book in the county is seven and one-third cents.

The attention of the librarian has been turned on the books and the detail work of establishing and maintaining the branch and stations, but as soon as it is possible her thoughts should be turned to a study of the readers. The librarian in a small town has a splendid opportunity for intimate acquaintance and the station custodians have still greater opportunities for this intensive work. This point has been stressed when instructions have been given the custodians and it has been very profitable.

The purpose of the library is kept constantly before the readers and every means available is used to tempt them. Magazines are placed in all the stations, the number depending upon the size of the community. Newspapers are supplied with items about the establishment or changes of stations. All the well-known ways of advertising are used and sometimes a novel way is discovered. One of the staff members happened to be in a grocery store where the largest station is located and noticed several library books in the boxes of groceries to be delivered that morning. It was quite unusual to see the books with groceries and upon inquiry it was learned that the custodian delivered the books to her customers just as she would the articles in her store. This is only an incident similar to those which you as county librarians probably experience, but it does show that librarians must always be watchful of all their chances for service. Enthusiasm and interest in the library must never be allowed to decline and county librarians have wonderful opportunities for proving the worth of books. May county librarians as a group strive to reach the goal of providing reliable, stimulating centers in every community for dependable and suggestive sources of information, fact, and amusement.

H. BOOKS, THEIR CLASSIFICATION

An effort has been made to secure data in regard to book stock before the library became a county system. This was impossible because there were no reports available and the librarian knew of no reasonable way to secure the data. But better methods of making reports and filing reports are being used and as a result the following table in regard to books was secured.

TABLE IV¹

SHOWING THE NUMBER OF BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY AUGUST
1929 ACCORDING TO THEIR CLASSIFICATION:

Class	Adult Non-fiction	Juvenile Non-fiction	Total
000 General Works	2625	22	2647
100 Philosophy	271	0	271
200 Religion	850	106	956
300 Sociology	1003	474	1473
400 Philology	87	615	705
500 Science	526	444	970
600 Useful Arts	773	179	952
700 Fine Arts	386	183	569
800 Literature	1303	393	1696
900 History etc. Biography	1558 1060	1200 155	2758 1215
Adult Fiction	10442 7595	Juvenile 3771 3000	14213 10595
Total.....	18037	6771	24808

A question which naturally arises is: How well is the library balanced?

In Dana's² "A Library Primer" this quotation is found:

¹ Data furnished by Columbus-Bartholomew County Librarian.

² Dana, John Cotton, A Library Primer pp. 56-57. Copyrighted by Library Bureau, 1920.

The Proportion of books in the different departments of knowledge must vary greatly in different libraries. The following is a good general guide:---

General works	.04
Philosophy	.01
Religion	.02
Sociology	.10
Philology	.01
Science	.09
Useful Arts	.06
Fine Arts	.04
Literature	.12
Biography	.09
History	.13
Travels	.09
Fiction	.20
Total	<u>100%</u>

TABLE V

COMPARISON OF STANDARD BALANCE WITH COLUMBUS-

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY LIBRARY

Class	Standard	Library	Deviation
000 General Works	.04	.106	.066
100 Philosophy	.01	.011	.001
200 Religion	.02	.039	.019
300 Sociology	.10	.060	.040
400 Philology	.01	.028	.018
500 Science	.09	.030	.060
600 Useful Arts	.06	.039	.021
700 Fine Arts	.04	.023	.017
800 Literature	.12	.068	.052
900 History etc.	.31	.164	.146
Fiction	.20	.427	.227

According to these figures the library is not well balanced.

It seems to be heavy in General Works, Religion, Philology, and Fiction while it is weak in Sociology, Natural Science, Useful Arts, Fine Arts, Literature, and the History group.

It would seem that in the purchase of new books a rather critical analysis should be made and, if possible place the library more nearly in balance according to some standard for a general library. It is true that standards are changing in as much as some classes of books are more popular at sometimes than at others but when the library is once on a standardized basis, it will be more easily kept in balance with the changing of the times.

May I add that a beginning has been made to overcome this lopsidedness through the purchase of some four hundred non-fiction books suitable for the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades.

I. Analysis of the Book Stock: In order that one may appreciate the status of the book stock over a period of five years, the following table is given:

TABLE VI¹

STATUS OF BOOK STOCK 1925-1929

	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Books added by Purchase	4314	3936	2332	1028	1138
Books added by Co. Purchase					1015
Books added by Gift	96	32	124	49	217
Magazines bound					86
Books found in inventory			700	42	310
Lost Books returned or found			10	333	162
Total Books added	4410	3968	3166	1452	2928
Books withdrawn (amount)	151	785	188	274	326
Books lost by quarantine				26	8
Books lost by fire					79
Books not returned by patrons	131	6	356	316	301
Books missing in inventory	404	1252	993	1019	597
Total Books missing					1311
Total Books in library last Yr.	16087	19811	21736	23374	23191
Total Books in library this Yr.	20497	23779	24902	24826	26119
Total Books lost this year	686	2043	1528	1635	1311
Total Books in library now	19811	21736	23374	23191	24808

¹ Table made from the librarian's annual reports to the Library Board.

Table VI brings to ones mind at least one major question or problem, and that is, the problem of the lost book. When all the way from five to thirteen per cent of the books are lost each year, one would naturally wonder why the leak and where the leak.

And yet when one considers that the stacks are open, that there are thirty-one untrained librarians over the county with as many more untrained assistants and in many instances books are loaned to transients who somehow fail to recognize the value of a book or the ownership of a book, and again the feeling on the part of many that public property is my property, one is not surprised at the loss.

One favorable sign, as one studies the table is the fact, that the number of books lost each year is diminishing. This indicates that the librarian has recognized the problem and is using every effort to solve it. And yet in spite of these heavy losses the book stock has grown more than twenty-five per cent in the past five years.

Table VII the major part of which was taken from statistics in the Annual Yearbook of the State of Indiana gives a comparative idea of the major items in the growth of the library. By glancing at this table one can see the changes that have taken place each year from 1920-1929 in several important facts. All tends to show the rapid increase in many respects since 1923, the year the library became a county institution. While the population to serve was increased nearly 200% the expenditures and resources have increased approximately in the same ratio.

Table VIII is a summary for the month of December from 1910-1929. These were the major items which were included

TABLE VII¹
SHOWING FACTORS INVOLVED IN THE LIBRARY GROWTH FROM 1920-1929

Year	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Population ^b of City ^b	8990	8990	8990	8990	8990	8990	8990	8990	8990	8990
Population of Rural ^b				23827 ^a	14897	14897	14897	14897	14897	14897
Total Ex- penditure	\$5214	5866	6158	5082	8556	10492	10687	14056 ^e	9664	14517 ^f
Book Ex- pense	\$ 964	1241	1181	460	3174	3757	3652 ^d	2778	2004 ^d	2702 ^d
Periodical Expense	\$ 186	219	255	196	218	205		336		
Salary Li- brary Staff	\$1620	1760	2650	2542	3213	2987	4191	4889	4246	3906
Janitor	\$ 699	828	840	840		1018		1169		1384 ^c
Volumes in Library Added during year	15542 1022	16141 1196	16600 1104	14329 1931	16087 2986	19811 4410	21736 3968	23374 3166	23191 1452 ^c	24808 2928 ^c
Circulation Fiction Loaned	49115 36013	50242 39222	72398 49745	76835 60783	65425 51168	100798 79844	163771 126950	162776 125305	175062 137977 ^c	179682 136857 ^c
Non-Fiction Loaned	13102	11020	22653	16052	13757	21054	86821	37471	37085 ^c	42825 ^c
Juvenile Loaned	14003	13730	26196	21303	22493	25211	56407	50103	50918 ^c	56171 ^c
Total Num- ber Borrowers	1098	929	2122	2122		5022	4805	6178	6929	7315

¹Table made from reports to State Library Association as given in the Indiana Yearbooks.

^aThe correct figure is 14,897. ^bThe population shown is according to 1920 census.

^cTaken from annual reports of librarian. ^dThis amount includes book expense and periodical ex-

pense. ^eIncludes balance in bank of 2,175.97 which corrected would make a total expenditure of only \$11880.52. ^fThe true expenditure is \$12477.29. Error in bookkeeping.

in the summary report of the librarian to the Library Board. The month of December was chosen because it was considered to be an average month for the year. This month also was five months distant from the time the library became a county library in 1923.

Two things are outstanding in this table: one, the rapid increase in circulation after 1924 and also the number of books given to the library by friends of the institution. The library is indeed greatly indebted to many friends who have very graciously presented to the library many valuable volumes. Table VI page 34 shows that during the five year period 1925-1929 a total of 518 books were added by gift to the institution.

Another important increase is the increase in average daily circulation. The table shows an increase of from 91 in 1912 to 818.8 in 1929 and an increase from 167.5 in 1923 to 818.8 in 1929. These figures indicate that the library is functioning in the lives of the people. While the increase per cent in average daily circulation for the month of December from 1910-1923 was 84 per cent, the increase from 1923 to 1929 was 388.8%. This indicates a general increase in the use of the library.

TABLE VIII¹

SHOWING THE GROWTH IN THE NAMED ITEMS

FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Year	New Borrowers	Renewals	Total Circulation	Av. Daily	Books added by Purchase	Gift
1910	15	34	2096	91		
1911	18	31	2440	111	155	8
1912	31	39	2938	127.7	221	43
1913	26	22	3166	121.7	6	1
1914	54	58	3747	144.0	97	1

TABLE VIII¹(Continued)
 SHOWING THE GROWTH IN THE NAMED ITEMS
 FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Year	New Borrowers	Renewals	Total Circulation	Av. Daily	Books added by Purchase	Gift
1915	36	53	3578	137.6	1	4
1916	28	32	3087	123.5	78	41
1917	28	36	3365	134.6	79	15
1918	42	63	3999	166.6	10	12
1919	55	33	4324	166.8	68	3
1920	32	13	3663	153.0		
1921	51	84	4840	186.1	125	8
1922	83	17	5386	224.5	310	31
1923	76	5	4188	167.5	572	
1924	42	14	5372	202.0	57	13
1925	75	2	14,436	555.2	420	5
1926	160	0	13,591	522.7	168	1
1927	123		18,011	692.7	194	1
1928	80		18,292	731.6	63	76
1929	115		20,472	818.8	61	

J. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Another question of growth is influenced very largely by the item of financial support. Table VII gives some idea of the expenditures over a period of ten years. But it seems that the better way to get this item before us for consideration would be to furnish a financial statement:

FINANCIAL SUMMARY²

COLUMBUS-BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY LIBRARY, YEAR ENDING

AUGUST 1, 1929

Expenditures

Books \$2,443.46

¹ Taken from the librarian's monthly reports to the library board.

² Financial statement as presented to the Board of Trustees, August, 1929.

Financial Summary (Continued)

	Expenditures
Periodicals	\$258.75
Binding	878.36
Salaries Library	3,906.28
Wages, Janitors and Ex. Help	1,315.67
Water, light, heat	511.85
Repairs, Tel., Ins.,	1,360.09
Supplies	562.51
Improvements, Equipment	743.06
Printing, Publicity, Trans.	300.43
Petty Cash, postage etc.	196.83

Cash Statement

County Receipts	\$12,759.21 ^a
City Receipts	11,043.17 ^a
Total Receipts	23,802.38 ^a
County Expenditures	7,544.54 ^b
City Expenditures	6,972.75 ^b
Total Expenditures	14,517.29 ^b
County Balance	5,214.67
City Balance	4,070.42
Total Balance	9,285.09

^a These figures include the balances from the preceding year.

^b These figures include a shift of \$2040 from the Irwin-Union Trust Company to the First National Bank. The true expenditure was \$12,477.29

This Financial Summary reveals several important items. The difference in the county expenditure and city expenditure shows very distinctly the carrying out of the special contract quoted in Chapter I. A creditable balance is shown, indicating that the institution need not necessarily be cramped for funds to pursue its work. The excess of the county receipts over the city receipts indicates the ability of the county board to carry out a special program in the rural districts without a great shortage of funds. From the analysis of expenditures the per cent expended for each item or group of items is obtained and thrown into column two on page 42 in Table IX. Here one can compare the per cent of expenditures of 1929 and proposed expenditures 1930-31 with the standard as set up by authority. In this manner one can tell where one needs to spend the money in order to produce a standard system.

The proposed levies for the year 1930-31 is as follows:¹

Net Taxable Property---Columbus-----	\$11,826,735
Bartholomew County-----	23,229,940

Name of Fund	Levy on Property	Amount to be Raised
Library	Columbus 5¢ Barth.Co. 3¢	\$12,890

Comparative Statement of Taxes Collected and to be collected.

Fund	Collected 1926 Levy	Collected 1927 Levy	Collected 1928 Levy	To Be Collected 1929 Levy
Library	\$10,278.31	\$13,670.90	\$12,973.16	\$12,882.34

¹ Proposed levies 1929 as proposed to the Board of Trustees.

The items on the preceding page show that the possibilities for raising money have been increased many times by adding the county resources to available tax funds. The possible tax rate is 10¢ on the one hundred dollars.¹ This would bring in a total of \$35,056.681. Thus we are raising only one-third the amount possible by taxation. This is not a burden on the tax payers and with an increase of one or two cents still, sufficient money can be raised to meet the needs of the community. This cannot be done without educating the people to the needs and when once they have caught the vision and the possibilities of service, there should not be a lack of funds.

The proposed budget for 1930-31 may give some insight into what the officials have in mind. It follows:

Budget Classification² ---August 1, 1930-- August 1, 1931.

1. Services Personal

11. Salary Librarian	\$1,400.00
12. Salary Assistants	4,500.--
13. Wages of Janitors and others	1,400.00

2. Services Contracted

21. Communication and Transportation.	600.00
22. Heat, Light, Power and Water	550.00
23. Printing and Advertising	150.00
24. Repairs	800.00
25. Services	100.00

3. Supplies

31. Office	250.00
32. Other Supplies	650.00

7. Properties

71. Building	400.00
72. Equipment	700.00
73. Books	4500.00

Total \$15000.00

¹ Law under which library was organized Chapter I, page 6.

² The original budget as adopted 1929.

TABLE IX
 SHOWING A STANDARD BUDGET DISTRIBUTION, THE DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENDITURES 1928-29 AND THE PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION IN 1930-31

	Per Cent ¹ Standard	Per Cent Expenditures 1928-29	Proposed Per Cent Expenditures 1930-31
Salaries and Wages	55%	49.0	45.6
Library Supplies	2	4.5	5.6
Printing, Publications, Travel	3	2.4	4.7
Binding and Repair	5	7.0	5.0 ²
Books	25	19.5	28.1
Periodicals	5	2.1	— ³
Equipment	3	6.0	4.4
All Others	2	9.5	6.6
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

¹ Rosenlof, George Walter, Library Facilities of Teacher-training Institutions. Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York City 1929. Suggested distribution of budget--Page 153.

² Means repair of building rather than repair of books. Binding and repair of books is taken care of in the other items.

³ Included in books.

Tables IX and IX A are self explanatory. One is impressed with the fact that the per cents in column 2 and 3 compare very favorably with the standard set up in column 1 and this without any idea of standard. Two points need emphasis as criticism has

TABLE IX A

SHOWING A COMPARISON OF EXPENDITURES AND PROPOSED EXPENDITURES WITH A STANDARD FOR COUNTY LIBRARIES¹

	Per Cent Standard	Per Cent Expenditure 1928-29	Proposed Per Cent Expenditure 1930-31
Salaries	50	49.0	45.6
Books	25	21.6	28.1
Maintenance and Operation	25	29.4	26.3
Total	100	100.00	100.00

been made; first, not as much money is going into salaries as the standard demands; second, the amount to be spent for books and periodicals indicates a rapid increase in the book stock which will soon demand additional stack room space.

Figure 6A more vividly explains Table IX A.

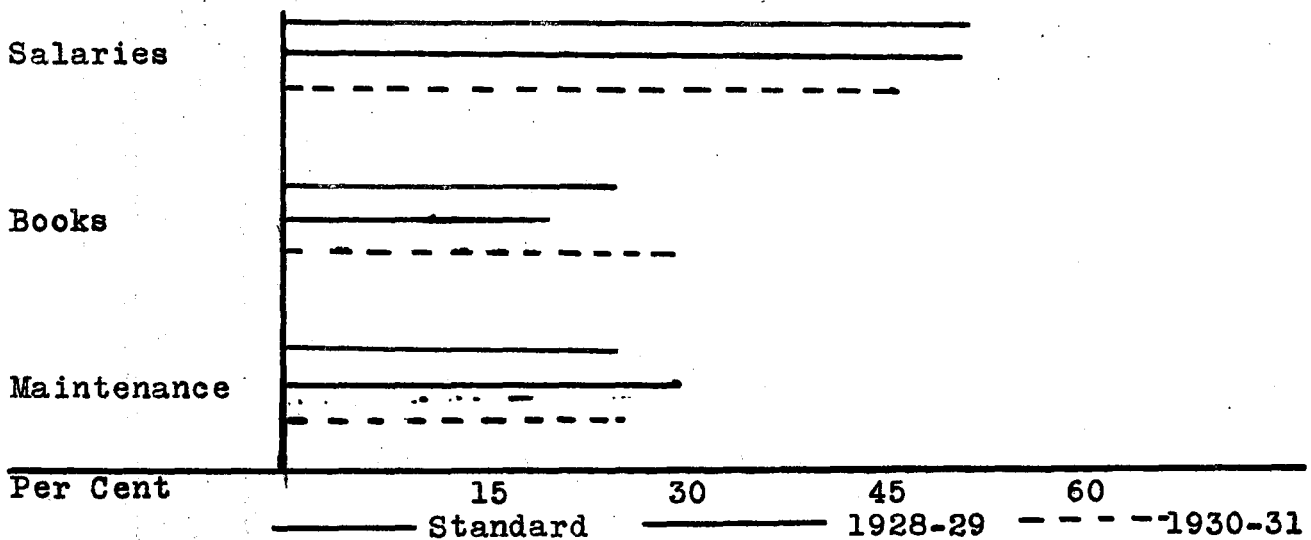


Figure 6A Illustrating Table IX A.

¹ Long, Harriet Catherine, County Library Service. American Library Association 1925. p. 65.

TABLE X¹

LIBRARY EXPENDITURES FROM AUG. 1, 1924 TO JULY 31, 1929

Name of Account	1923-1924	1924-1925	1925-1926	1926-1927	1927-1928	1928-29
Books	3,173.86	3,757.28	3,373.23	2,778.91	1,663.86	2,443.46
Periodicals	217.96	294.45	278.50	336.12	339.86	258.75
Binding	253.97	327.20	188.95	160.84	628.36	878.36
Librarians' Salaries	3,212.52	2,766.93	4,191.43	4,889.04	4,245.81	3,906.28
Janitors' & Extra Help's Wages	697.50	937.50	925.20	1,169.90	1,152.36	1,315.67
Water, Heat & Light	533.96	403.07	455.92	539.09	526.34	511.85
Repairs, Telephone & Insurance	102.33	241.97	136.80	233.28	133.51	1,360.09
Supplies	276.49	485.70	413.15	393.42	416.84	562.51
Improvements and Equip- ment	2.00	703.49	347.32	849.86	6.73	743.06
Printing & Publicity	66.00	115.35	177.93	260.57	270.93	300.43
Postage, Express and Cartage	12.90	99.28	198.70	269.49	279.28	196.83
Transportation	46.74					
Total	\$8,596.23	\$10,596.22	\$10,687.11	\$11,880.52	\$9,663.88	\$12,477.29

¹ Taken from the financial record of the library.

Table X is presented in order that one may see from a comparative standpoint the expenditures of the several items mentioned over a period of six years.

Table XI shows particularly the cost per volume circulated.

TABLE XI
COMPARISON OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE, TOTAL CIRCULATION, AND
COST PER VOLUME CIRCULATED 1923-1929

	1923-24	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27
Total Expenditure	8,596.23	10,132.22	10,687.11	11,880.52
Total Circulation	65,425.00	100,798.00	163,771.00	162,776.00
Cost per volume Circulated	.131	.10	.065	.073
		1927-28	1928-29	
Total Expenditure		9,663.88	12,477.29	
Total Circulation		175,062.00	179,682.00	
Cost per volume Circulated		.055	.07	

This Table is more vividly portrayed in figure 6B which shows a range in cost of \$.076 ranging from \$.055 in 1927-28 to \$.131 in 1923-24. This low rate shows a possibility of increased service, increased circulation and a general building up of book stock.

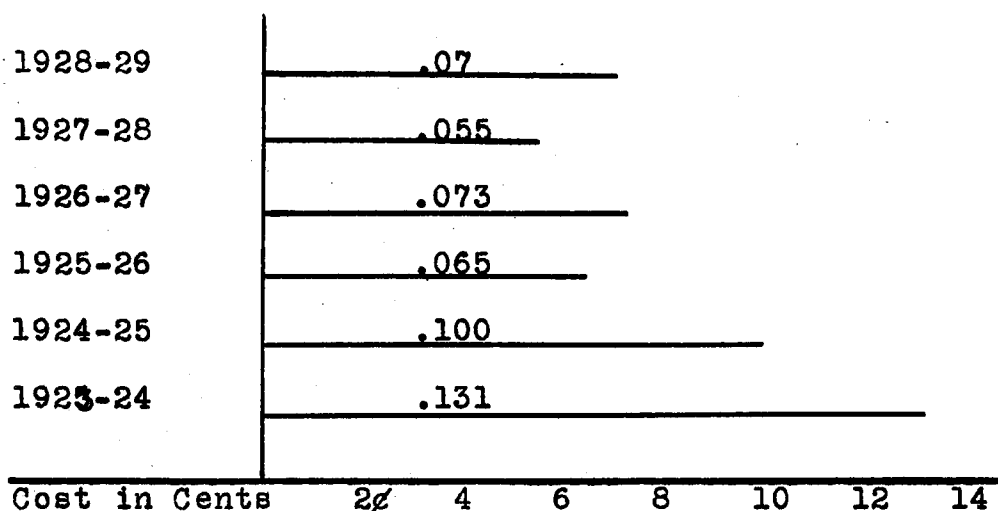


Figure 6B Showing the cost in cents per volume circulation from 1923-1929.

As one studies the expenditures during the past six years and the increase in circulation, one is impressed with the rather constant cost of circulation per volume as well as the small cost of circulation per volume. Service to an increased number of patrons cannot be rendered without added cost. At the same time an increased circulation will diminish the cost per volume circulated. This cost compares very favorably with the other county library service cost as will be shown in a later table.¹

¹ Table on page 91

CHAPTER III

FUNCTIONS

The function of any public institution should be to serve its constituency and one measure of its success would be a measure as to how well it is meeting the need. This chapter is an effort to survey the situation to see if the library is actually functioning in the rural districts and to what a degree that functioning is a success.

The library is meeting the needs of the rural life of the county through two sources; the school and the stations. We might say, probably, that the library is attempting to supply the educational needs of the school and the cultural and leisure needs of the rural community.

A. THE SCHOOL USE OF THE LIBRARY

A survey of the topography of the county shows the division of the county into two major portions; first, the western section which was not effected by the glacial drift; second, the central and eastern section which were affected by the glacial drift. The assessed valuation in each township varies in the same ratio, largely, as the glacier affected it. Consequently, one finds the supply of supplementary reading matter varying largely according to the ability to buy this material. While most schools had libraries, these were largely the books purchased from school festival money and were not supplementary books for class usage.

1. Supplementary Readers for School Use Proposed.

As a result of this condition, Samuel Sharp, who was County

Superintendent of Schools, at the time the library was changed into a county library, recommended that the library should function in this manner. A supply of supplementary readers were ordered and due to a misunderstanding of policy, they were not placed in the county library but were purchased by the School Board of the City of Columbus and placed in the city schools with the use of city funds.

This did not relieve the rural school situation, and there was a constant demand for this material, with no large amount of material at hand. In the spring of 1928 Mr. Harley Talley, who had succeeded Mr. Sharp as County Superintendent, came forward again with the request that something be done for the benefit of the schools. He urged the rural members of the Board to investigate and consider the matter seriously. He argued that one way to create a reading public was to develop a taste for good literature and a habit of reading among the school children, who would be the citizens of tomorrow.

Mr. Talley, further, deplored the attitude that many of our rural pupils were gaining toward rural life and pointed out that much of the material in the adopted text books was not familiar to rural children and not conducive to rural life. Therefore, he believed that one of the greatest services that the library could render to the rural group would be to place at the disposal of the rural schools, through the library, books suitable, at least, for the first four grades, who were much in need of such material.

The rural members of the board were in sympathy with the move and were willing to spend, at least, approximately, six

hundred dollars, if it were available, for this purpose. An investigation found that, according to the special agreement, the rural division had accumulated a surplus and thus the money was available.

2. The Books Are Chosen.

How should the books be chosen was a problem to solve. The rural members lived in four different townships and several miles apart. All were interested in securing the best books possible as all had children in school with the exception of one, Charles E. Talkington, who had been a former County Superintendent and had had considerable experience in supplementary reading material. While he took little active part in the actual selection, his advice and interest was very useful to the rest of the committee.

Mr. Talley wrote to many publishing companies concerning our project. These companies were very generous with their samples of books and the greater part of the summer was spent in attempting to select a group of books suitable for school supplementary work. There was an attempt to secure books with the following themes, as much as possible;

- (a) All of especial interest in rural life.
- (b) Some historical subject matter.
- (c) Some dealing with health problems.
- (d) Some dealing with citizenship.
- (e) Some with Art as the theme.
- (f) Some new type straight readers.
- (g) All well illustrated.
- (h) Some dealing with nature.

A selection of this kind would be not only interesting but instructional and informational in nature.

Another item in the selection was to secure books which could be used by the first and second, second and third, third and fourth, and fourth and fifth grades. In other words what was considered a first grade book, would make easy second grade reading, the idea being that many of the books should be read for speed as well as content.

After eliminating book after book (and many of them worthy books) the committee decided upon the following list each selection carrying fifty copies:

- (1) Happy Children Reader I.
- (2) Happy Children Reader II.
- (3) Great Pictures and their Stories, Book I.
- (4) Great Pictures and their Stories, Book II.
- (5) Dandie the Tale of a Yellow Cat.
- (6) The Voyage of Growing Up.
- (7) Dot and David.
- (8) Child-Story First Reader
- (9) Child-Story Second Reader
- (10) Child-Story Third Reader
- (11) Bobby and Betty at Home.
- (12) Bobby and Betty in the Country.
- (13) Bobby and Betty at Play.
- (14) The Pet Pony.
- (15) Tales from Far and Near.
- (16) Tales of Long Ago.

- (17) Baby Animals.
- (18) Work and Play.
- (19) Pammy and his Friends.
- (20) Nature Stories.

On the recommendation of the Rural Committee and Mr. Talley, the Librarian ordered these books. They were available for use late in the fall of 1928 and during the school year 1928-1929. In all a total of 1015 books were obtained, 1000 being supplementary books and 15 teacher's helps.

3. The Books Are Placed in Use.

These books were immediately placed in use by the librarian. No provision was made for getting them into the hands of the teacher. Securing and returning the books depended upon the initiative of the teacher. They were available for a period of four weeks and then must be returned or renewed for another period of four weeks.

The maps of Bartholomew County Figures 7 and 8 show the location of the schools over the county using the books the first and second years and the number of teachers using the books. In the reports from which Figure 7 was made there were no names on four of them, some of which no doubt belonged to Union township in which no record is shown.

Figure 8A gives some idea as to the number of possible sources that the library serves the rural communities. This compares very favorably with similar service as shown by maps of counties in California and New York. Time will no doubt improve this service.

1928-1929

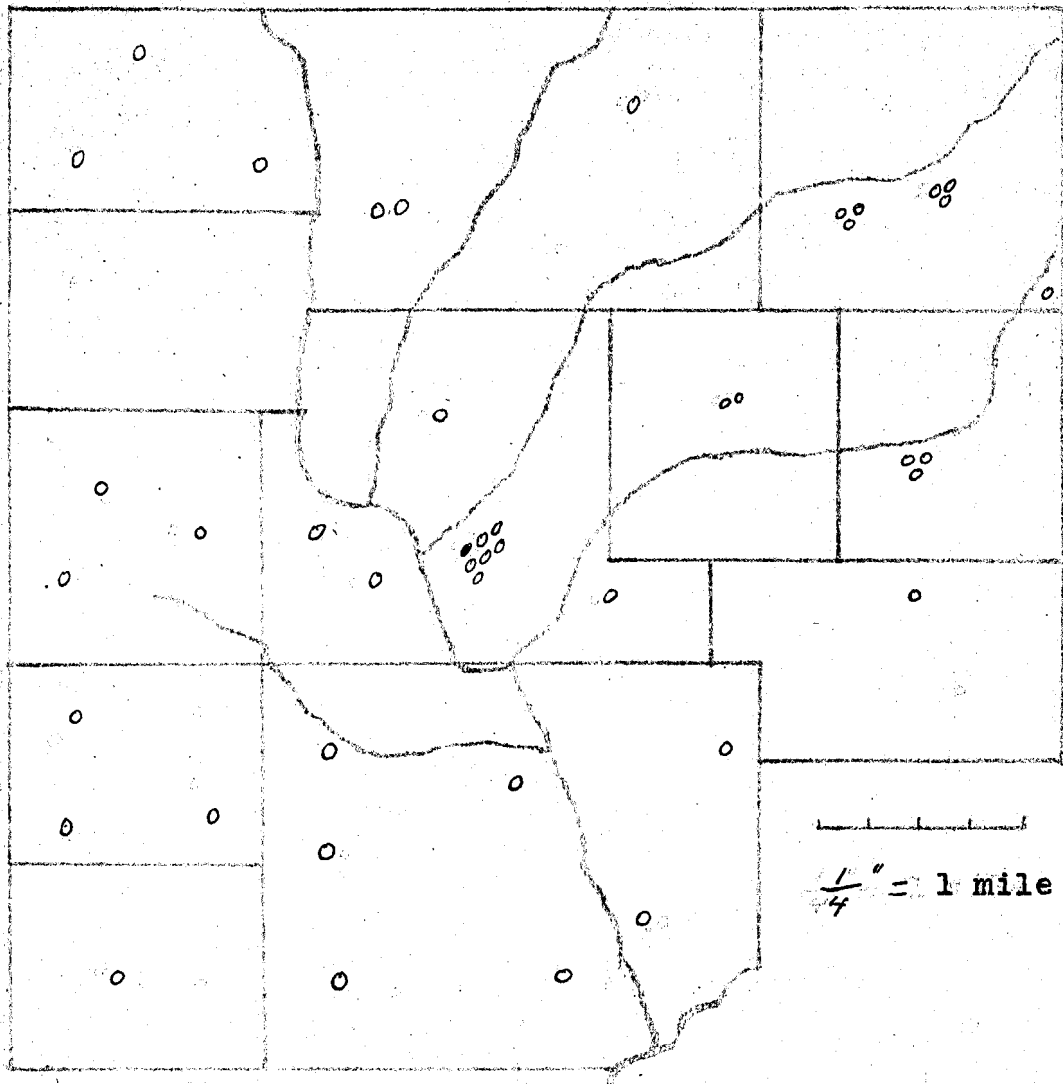
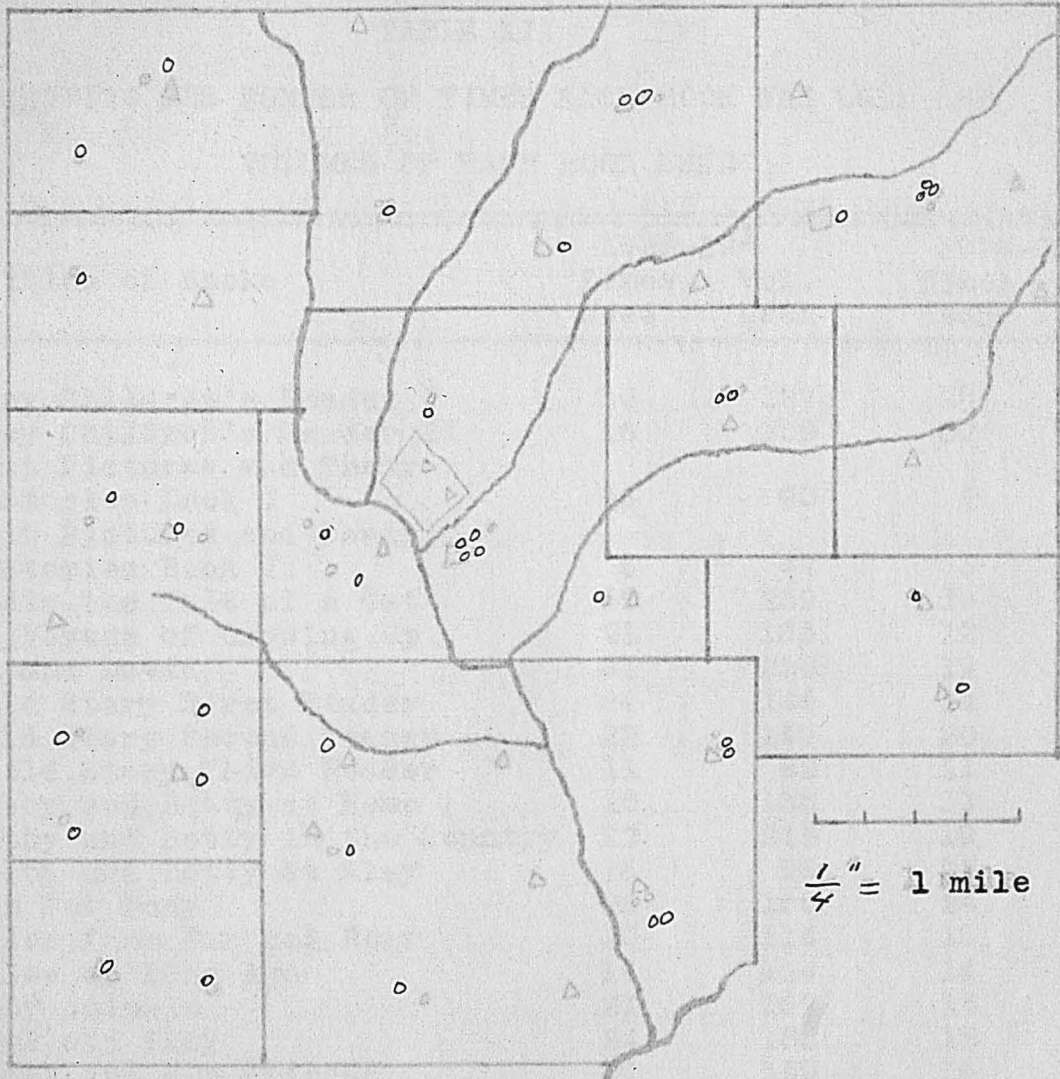


Figure 7. - Showing location of schools over the county using the Supplementary Reading material in 1928-29 and likewise the number of teachers in each school. Each \circ represents a teacher located in a school.

Some teachers obtain books through stations.

1929-30



Schools and Teachers Using Supplementary Material

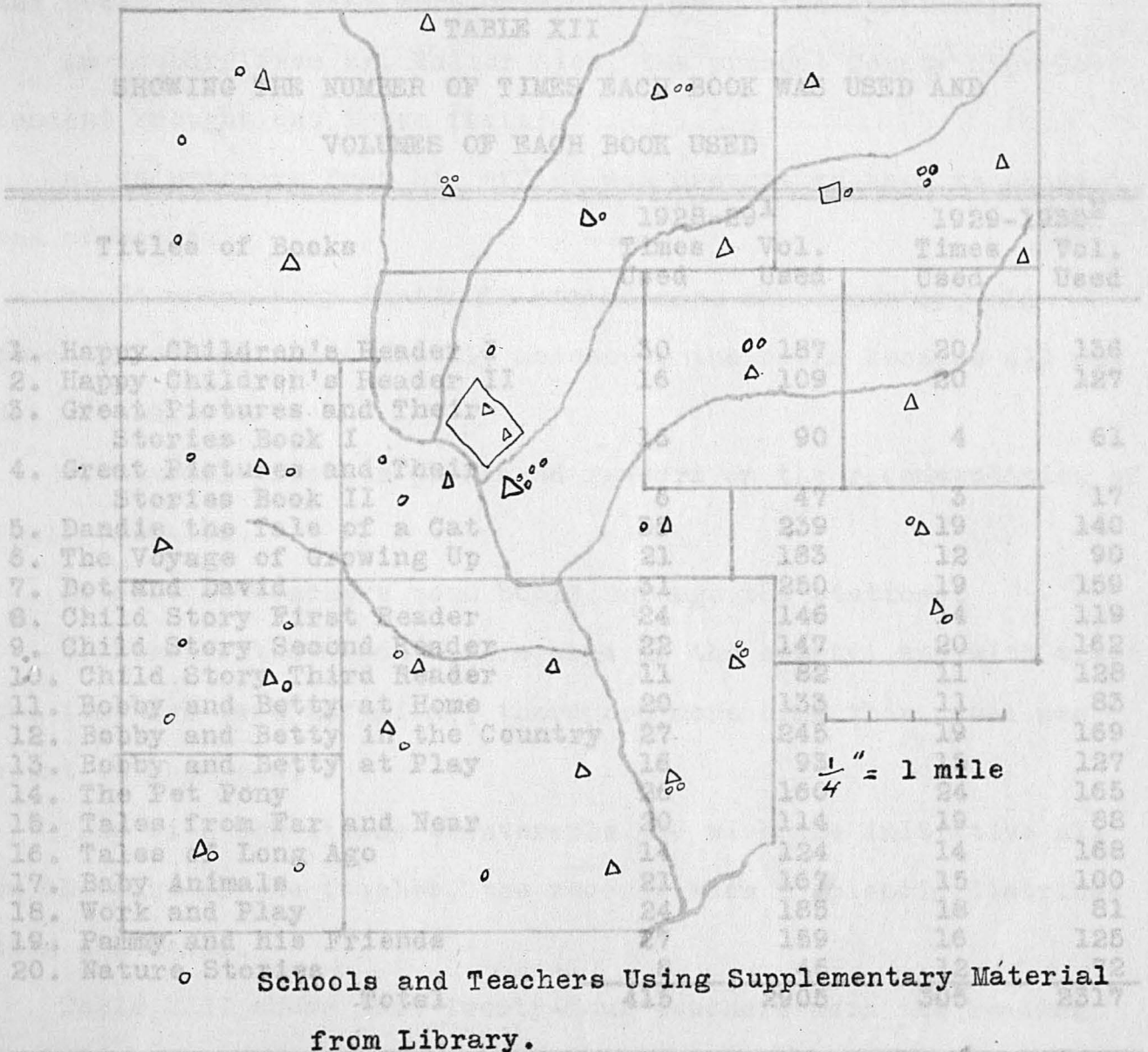
from Library.

Figure 8. - Showing the use of Supplementary Reading material 1929-30. Each \circ represents a teacher located in a school.

Figure 8. - Showing location of stations and schools using library 1929-30.

Table XII gives some idea as to the use made of the reading material for the two years available 1928-1930.

1929-30



- 1 Data Stations reports of teachers to county superintendent.
- 2 Data Branch the Librarian's report.

Figure 8A- Showing location of stations and schools using library 1929-30. This shows that the books were not used as much in 1929-30 as in 1928-29.

An inquiry from the librarian as to whether the books were

Table XII gives some idea as to the use made of the reading material for the two years available 1928-1930.

TABLE XII
SHOWING THE NUMBER OF TIMES EACH BOOK WAS USED AND
VOLUMES OF EACH BOOK USED

Titles of Books	1928-29 ¹		1929-1930 ²	
	Times Used	Vol. Used	Times Used	Vol. Used
1. Happy Children's Reader I	30	187	20	136
2. Happy Children's Reader II	16	109	20	127
3. Great Pictures and Their Stories Book I	16	90	4	61
4. Great Pictures and Their Stories Book II	6	47	3	17
5. Dandie the Tale of a Cat	35	239	19	140
6. The Voyage of Growing Up	21	183	12	90
7. Dot and David	31	250	19	159
8. Child Story First Reader	24	146	14	119
9. Child Story Second Reader	22	147	20	162
10. Child Story Third Reader	11	82	11	128
11. Bobby and Betty at Home	20	133	11	83
12. Bobby and Betty in the Country	27	245	19	169
13. Bobby and Betty at Play	16	93	15	127
14. The Pet Pony	26	160	24	165
15. Tales from Far and Near	20	114	19	88
16. Tales of Long Ago	14	124	14	168
17. Baby Animals	21	167	15	100
18. Work and Play	24	185	18	81
19. Pammy and his Friends	27	159	16	125
20. Nature Stories	8	45	12	72
Total	415	2905	305	2317

¹ Data taken from reports of teachers to county superintendent.

² Data taken from the Librarian's report.

Table XII showing the uses made of the books is somewhat misleading in as much as it shows that the books were not used as much in 1929-30 as in 1928-29.

An inquiry from the librarian as to whether the books were

used as much in 1929-30 as in 1928-29 brought an answer in the affirmative, but that the records did not show it because many of the books in that year were obtained through the stations.

An inquiry from Mr. Walter Rice, the present County Superintendent brought out these facts;

a. No pressure from his office was brought to bear to obtain use of books.

b. No compulsory institute attendance, consequently, all teachers did not have monthly access to the books because all did not attend.

c. Several trustees purchased readers on the recommendation of their teachers.

d. Several teachers used books through the stations.

e. New Adopted Readers were used in the county, and with these the teachers were unfamiliar, therefore more time than usual was spent on the test.

Thus with conditions unfavorable and with the initiative all on the part of the teacher, the records show a splendid distribution and usage.

Table XIII shows that twenty-four teachers used the reading material the two years recorded. Twenty teachers used the material in 1928-1929 who did not use it in 1929-30 while fifteen teachers used it in 1929-30 who did not use it in 1928-29.

Table XIII is also misleading in as much as, according to the County Superintendent, some principals secured books for the teachers. Thus there would be more double checks and also since some secured books from the stations, it would not show on this

TABLE XIII

SHOWING THE TEACHERS USING THE READERS DURING 1928-29

AND 1929-30. AN "x" REPRESENTS THE YEAR OR YEARS USED

	1928	1929		1928	1929
	1929	1930		1929	1930
Teacher No.1		x	Teacher No.31	x	x
Teacher No.2		x	Teacher No.32		x
Teacher No.3	x	x	Teacher No.33	x	
Teacher No.4	x		Teacher No.34	x	
Teacher No.5	x	x	Teacher No.35	x	x
Teacher No.6	x		Teacher No.36	x	
Teacher No.7		x	Teacher No.37		x
Teacher No.8	x		Teacher No.38	x	
Teacher No.9		x	Teacher No.39	x	
Teacher No.10	x	x	Teacher No.40	x	x
Teacher No.11	x		Teacher No.41	x	x
Teacher No.12	x	x	Teacher No.42		x
Teacher No.13	x	x	Teacher No.43	x	x
Teacher No.14	x		Teacher No.44	x	
Teacher No.15	x		Teacher No.45	x	x
Teacher No.16		x	Teacher No.46	x	
Teacher No.17		x	Teacher No.47	x	x
Teacher No.18	x		Teacher No.48	x	x
Teacher No.19	x	x	Teacher No.49	x	x
Teacher No.20	x	x	Teacher No.50	x	
Teacher No.21	x	x	Teacher No.51	x	
Teacher No.22	x	x	Teacher No.52		x
Teacher No.23		x	Teacher No.53		x
Teacher No.24	x		Teacher No.54	x	
Teacher No.25	x		Teacher No.55	x	x
Teacher No.26	x		Teacher No.56	x	x
Teacher No.27	x	x	Teacher No.57		x
Teacher No.28		x	Teacher No.58	x	x
Teacher No.29		x	Teacher No.59	x	x
Teacher No.30	x	x			

table. Another factor involved here is the fact that some taught in 1928-29 who did not teach in 1929-30.

4. The Questionnaire on the Teacher's Reaction.

The following questionnaire was sent out to eighty-five teachers in the county some being high school teachers, who would not necessarily reply. A total of fifty-six were returned. The pur-

pose of the questionnaire was to find out how much the supplementary readers were used; where they were obtained; information in regard to book report practices in grades 5, 6, 7 and 8; to see whether the library was functioning in the lives of the school and how it might function further; The questionnaire and the number responding "yes" and "no" was as follows:

	Yes	No
1. Were more supplementary readers used by grades 1, 2, 3 and 4 during 1928-29 and 1929-30 than preceding years?	37	2
2. Were these obtained at the County Library?	36	5
3. Did you have sufficient number in your own school library?	3	36
4. Do you have book reports in grades 5, 6, 7 and 8?	23	13
5. Do you use the County Library books for these?	15	15
6. Does your trustee furnish enough books for reports?	6	29
7. Do you find the County Library filling the needs of your school?	34	9
8. Do you find that it has been meeting your needs more since the placing of the several sets of supplementary readers at your disposal?	45	2
9. Have you noticed any visible improvement in reading since using the supplementary readers placed at your disposal?	41	3
10. Can the library be of greater service to you by placing more supplementary readers at your disposal?	41	7
11. Can the library be of greater service to you by furnishing more fiction and non-fiction suitable for grades 5-6-7 and 8?	32	3
12. In your opinion how can the Library be of greater service to the schools of the County?		
13. Check the position you hold.		
a. Teacher in one room rural school	16	
b. Teacher or Principal in Consolidated School	5	
c. Primary teacher	14	
d. Intermediate teacher	12	
e. Grammar grade teacher	4	
f. High School teacher	5	
14. Indicate in the square the number of years taught.		
15. Indicate in the square the number of years taught in your present position.		

TABLE XIV

SHOWING THE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS 14 AND 15 ON PAGE 58

Years	Question 14	Question 15
1	0	21
2	5	9
3	9	13
4	7	4
5	1	1
6	8	0
7	5	1
8	4	3
9	0	1
10	1	2
11	1	1
12	1	0
13	1	
14	1	
15	2	
16	0	
17	2	
18		
19		
20		
21		
22	1	
23		
24		
25		
28	1	
29	1	
33	1	
38	1	
44	1	

This table shows that of those answering five had taught school for two years, nine for three years, seven for four years, one for five years, eight for six years and on down to one who had taught forty-four years. It also shows that twenty-one had taught in the same place for one year, nine for two years, thirteen for three years, four for four years and on to one for eleven years.

The following conclusions are indicated by the answers to the preceding questionnaire:

1. The placing of supplementary readers in the library to be placed at the disposal of the rural teachers was a decided success in as much as 95 per cent of the teachers responding used more after they were obtainable than before.
2. 87.8 per cent of these were obtained at the county library.
3. 92.3 per cent answering question 3 said that there was not a sufficient number in their own school library.
4. 64 per cent answering question 4 have book reports in grades 5, 6, 7 and 8.
5. 50 per cent answering question 5 use the county library for the books used for book reports.
6. 83 per cent answering question 6 say that their trustees do not furnish enough books for book reports.
7. 79.1 per cent answering question 7 find the library filling the needs of their school.
8. 95.5 per cent answering question 8 find that the library has been meeting the needs more since the supplementary readers have been at their disposal.
9. 93.2 per cent answering question 9 have noticed a visible improvement in reading since the Readers were furnished.
10. 85.4 per cent answering question 10 believe more Readers should be placed in the library.
11. 91.4 per cent answering question number 11 feel that the library can serve the schools by placing at their disposal more fiction and non-fiction suitable for grades 5, 6, 7 and 8.

If one were to question the validity of the answers, it seems that since the teachers were well distributed in the teaching field as is shown by the response to question 13, no question should arise. Responses came from one room schools, consolidated schools, primary, intermediate, grammar grade and high schools as well as principals of both grade and high schools.

In response to questions 14 and 15 we find that none were beginners so that all who replied had taught from two years to forty-four years. This table would show that all had had an opportunity to use the library material unless perchance a few were teaching in their present position for the first time.

The responses to question 12 were various and numerous:

TABLE XV

SHOWING RESPONSE TO QUESTION 12 -- "In your Opinion, How Can the Library be of Greater Service to the Schools of the County?"

Request	No. making
a. Change the books more often	1
b. Select wider variety of books	2
c. By having more books for upper grades	3
d. Books for supplementary reading and book reports to be placed in schools.	2
e. Have the teacher furnish a list of books desired for the year	1
f. Locate traveling libraries in schools	4
g. More supplementary books	7
h. More sub library stations	2
i. More library books	3
j. Vacation reading program	1
k. Full time county librarian	1
l. More books on History, music, art, birds, animals, stars etc. suitable for children.	2
m. Wider variety of supplementary books	4
n. More sets for each grade so it will be easier to get sort needed	3
o. By furnishing more work type readers	1

TABLE XV (Continued)

Request	No. making
p. Adding new readers each year	2
q. Furnishing lists of new books available each term	1
r. Supplying sub stations with books more often and with more books readable by younger children	1
s. By placing more fiction and non fiction at our disposal	2

One teacher writes " I can use more supplementary readers in grades 1, 2, and 3 as I so often find the shelves almost empty. Most of the fiction and content reading for grades 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are supplied by the county library in a most courteous and efficient manner." Another writes, "More supplementary readers. I think several new sets should be added every year."

If one were to draw conclusions from the answers to questions 1-11 it seems that from an educational stand point the plan of using the library as a supplementary reader station is a sound one, and from the many and various answers to question 12 one finds that there is much yet to be done which will be of great benefit to the schools.

This comment alone taken from a report to the county superintendent by a grade teacher is proof of the soundness of the policy; "my third and fourth grades read all the books of Grades 1 and 2. I think that it helped them a lot too. I brought many other books out which they read but, I didn't keep the names of the books which they read. These books are wonderful in the developing of reading in the grades 1 and 2 especially."

A testimonial of that kind coming from a teacher working in a township where there are many fine families but whose material wealth is not sufficient to allow them to equip their schools as they should without state relief is again ample proof that the county is the better system for library service and that a real service can be performed in supplying those boys and girls with more books and better books and thus better fit them to assume the responsibilities of citizenship.

5. A Librarian's Request.

In the report of A. J. Dipboye, former librarian, to the Board of School Trustees, August 1, 1912, this remarkable paragraph was found;

Character of Circulation.

"The main objection we have to our showing is as to the character of the circulation. We think it runs too much to fiction, at least more than it ought. We have made continuous efforts to push out non-fiction books but we have not yet met with that success we desire. We feel that we need more assistance and co-operation of the teachers of the public schools to turn the attention of the great majority of the patrons of the Public Library to non-fiction books. Many of the public school teachers have been of great assistance in this respect but there are others who seem to give little or no attention to the character of the general reading of the pupils under their charge. Parents too, can greatly assist in this matter if they will do so, and many parents do this, even coming to the Library to help their children in the proper selection of books, the books they wish their children to read."

Here was a message coming from a man who had worked in the public schools, who had edited newspapers and who knew books and what the public should be cultivated to read. He was sounding a note through the public schools hoping that through this institution a generation might arise who would demand a better class of books.

In order to meet the request of the schools and a feeling on the part of the Rural Committee that the upper four grades in the county should receive some consideration, the librarian was instructed to purchase on the recommendation of the County Superintendent some 400 non-fiction books suitable for grades 5, 6, 7 and 8.

As a basis for selecting these books, State of Indiana Department of Public Instruction Bulletins No. 60-B;¹ 100-I;² and 107-I³ were used.

Using the state recommendations and the knowledge of the librarian, these books have been purchased and the books will be available at the opening of school 1930.

The rural committee feels that while this is only a meager beginning, as the county library wins its way into the hearts of the rural schools and rural people, newer and greater fields of service will open up and probably more intensified activities can be pursued. The possibilities of the county library are unlimited as will be shown in the succeeding chapter, but any worth while and permanent movement usually works slowly.

¹ Bulletin No. 60-B. Elective Texts for High School Subjects, Atlases, Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, Magazines, Library Books, Supplementary Reading, Reference Books, Maps, Globes, Charts, Projection Apparatus, and Illustrative Materials. July 1926

² Bulletin No. 100-I. Library Manual for Secondary Schools compiled by Helen M. Clark, School Library Adviser, Indiana State Library. 1929

³ Bulletin No. 107-I. Library Manual for Elementary Schools prepared under the direction of Inspection Division 1929

B. THE USE OF THE LIBRARY THROUGH THE STATIONS

The second function of the library as it exists is to serve the rural public through the stations. The question naturally arises---is the library functioning through its stations? It is a question well worth considering. Here is an institution, being extended into an unexplored section, as far as the free use of books is concerned, and the public is paying into the treasury, some seven thousand dollars a year to pay for its existence as such. The people have a right to know just what is being accomplished, and what may be accomplished. They are entitled to facts, statistics, and information which will prove that they are getting value received for money expended, or will get it in the immediate or near immediate future. And if shown beyond a reasonable doubt that the money is well expended, rural people invariably are willing to go to the limit to improve their lot. This statement is true of course only in a general way because just as in the urban centers, there are individuals who are opposed to progress in anyway, as long as it involves an expenditure of money.

1. City vs. Rural.--Thus it will be well to tabulate and analyze some data for the purpose of learning how much the rural section is being served, its comparison with the city service, the number of books read, the kinds of books read, the attitude of the people and other interesting data. Table XVI has been organized from the annual reports of the librarian to the Library Board.

Table XVI is self explanatory. It gives us some idea of the borrowers in rural and city communities, the circulation of

TABLE XVI

TO GIVE A YEARLY SUMMARY OF LIBRARY CIRCULATION AND
OTHER DATA OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS

	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Borrowers, City	3061		3290	4,212	
Borrowers, Country	1961		2888	3,186	
Total Borrowers	5022	4805	6178	6,929	7,263
Circulation, City	60,934	72,707	74,490	85,616	89,613
Adult Non Fiction	7119	8,548	8,473	9,436	9,985
Adult Fiction	36,176	43,242	49,937	55,214	55,097
Juvenile Non Fiction	5270	5,993	3,862	7,471	10,824
Juvenile Fiction	12,369	14,924	12,218	13,495	13,797
County	39,864	78,308	88,286	89,446	90,069
Adult Non Fiction	981	7,564	12,726	9,682	9,803
Adult Fiction	18,357	48,010	41,537	49,812	48,716
Juvenile Non Fiction	3025	7,660	8,471	7,448	7,697
Juvenile Fiction	6386	15,074	16,914	15,093	15,497
Teacher	10,115	12,756	8,638	7,411	8,356
Juvenile Non Fiction	3659		3,912	3,048	4,606
Juvenile Fiction	6456		4,652	4,363	3,750
Grand Total Circulation	100,798	163,771	162,776	175,062	179,682
Average daily circulation	331	537	540	575.8	593
Total Fiction	79,744	126,950	125,305	137,977	136,857
Total Non Fiction	21,054	36,821	37,471	37,085	42,825

adult and juvenile fiction and non-fiction in both rural and city communities as well as rural teacher circulation and total circulation in each unit and total circulation for the county and in addition, the average daily circulation and the total fiction and non fiction. This is over a five year period.

For comparative purposes Table XVI has been thrown into Table XVII in the form of percentages. From this, one can make the items more concrete by means of the graphs which follow.

Figure 9 shows a comparison of the borrowers of the library from 1925 to 1929; The city borrowers increased from 34 per cent in 1925 to 46.8 per cent in 1928. The rural from 13.2 per cent in 1925 to 22.4 per cent in 1928 while the total population increased from 21 per cent in 1925 to 30.4 per cent in 1929. Ac-

cordingly, the rural sections are gradually taking advantage of their opportunity to secure books but with little additional cost twice or three times the population could be served. This then furnishes one of the greatest problems that the library has to solve--how to increase the number of its rural readers.

TABLE XVII

CONVERTING THE DATA IN TABLE XVI INTO PER CENTS

	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
Per Cent City Population Borrowers	34		36.6	46.8	
Per Cent County Population Borrowers	13.2		19.4	22.4	
Per Cent of Total Population Borrowers	21.0	20.1	25.9	29.1	30.4
Per Cent of Circulation in City	60.4	44.4	45.7	48.9	49.8
Per Cent of Adult Non-fiction in City	11.7	11.7	11.3	11.0	11.0
Per Cent of Adult Fiction in the City	59.4	59.5	67.0	64.5	61.5
Per Cent of Juvenile Non-fiction in City	8.6	8.2	5.2	8.7	12.1
Per Cent of Juvenile Fiction in the City	20.3	20.5	16.4	15.8	15.4
Per Cent of Circulation in County	39.6	55.6	54.3	51.1	50.2
Per Cent Adult Non-Fiction	3.4	9.7	16.0	11.8	12.0
Per Cent Adult Fiction	63.9	61.3	52.1	60.7	59.6
Per Cent Juvenile Non-Fiction	10.5	9.8	10.6	9.0	9.4
Per Cent Juvenile Fiction	22.5	19.2	21.2	18.4	18.9
Per Cent Teacher Circulation in County	10.0	7.7	5.3	4.2	4.6
Per Cent Juvenile Non-Fiction in County	36.1		45.3	41.1	55.2
Per Cent Juvenile Fiction in County.	63.9		54.7	58.9	44.8
Per Cent Total Circulation Fiction	79.0	77.5	77.0	78.8	76.1
Per Cent Total Circulation Non-Fiction	21.0	22.5	23.0	21.2	23.9

When rural sections are gradually taking advantage of their opportunity to secure books but with little additional cost twice or three times the population could be served.

branches.

In the study of these figures and graphs, this fact must be kept in mind---the city report is misleading inasmuch as all are not distinctly city borrowers but the borrowers who use the central station and thus are called city. So in all cases where the name city and rural occur one must remember that the actual city count would be less and the actual rural count would be more.

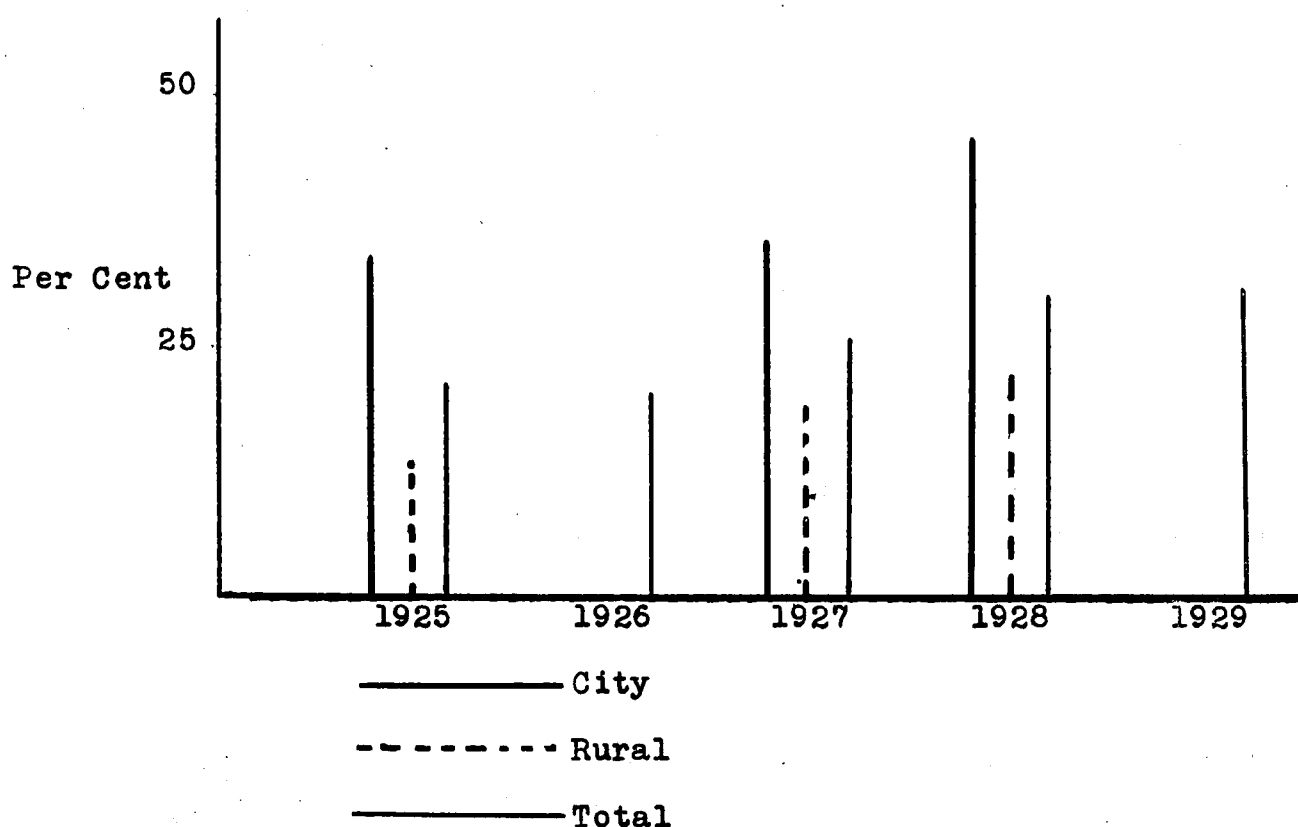


Figure 9. - Showing the per cent of the city population, rural population, and total population of the county who were borrowers over a five year period.

But inasmuch as there was no distinction made by the librarian, it was practically impossible to get an accurate check. Consequently, when city is mentioned it means central station, and when rural or country is mentioned, it means sub stations or branches.

Figure 10 shows the per cent of circulation in the city and the per cent of circulation in the rural sections. In 1925, the city circulation was approximately 20% ahead of the rural. In 1926 the rural circulation exceeded the city while by 1929 we find them almost even.

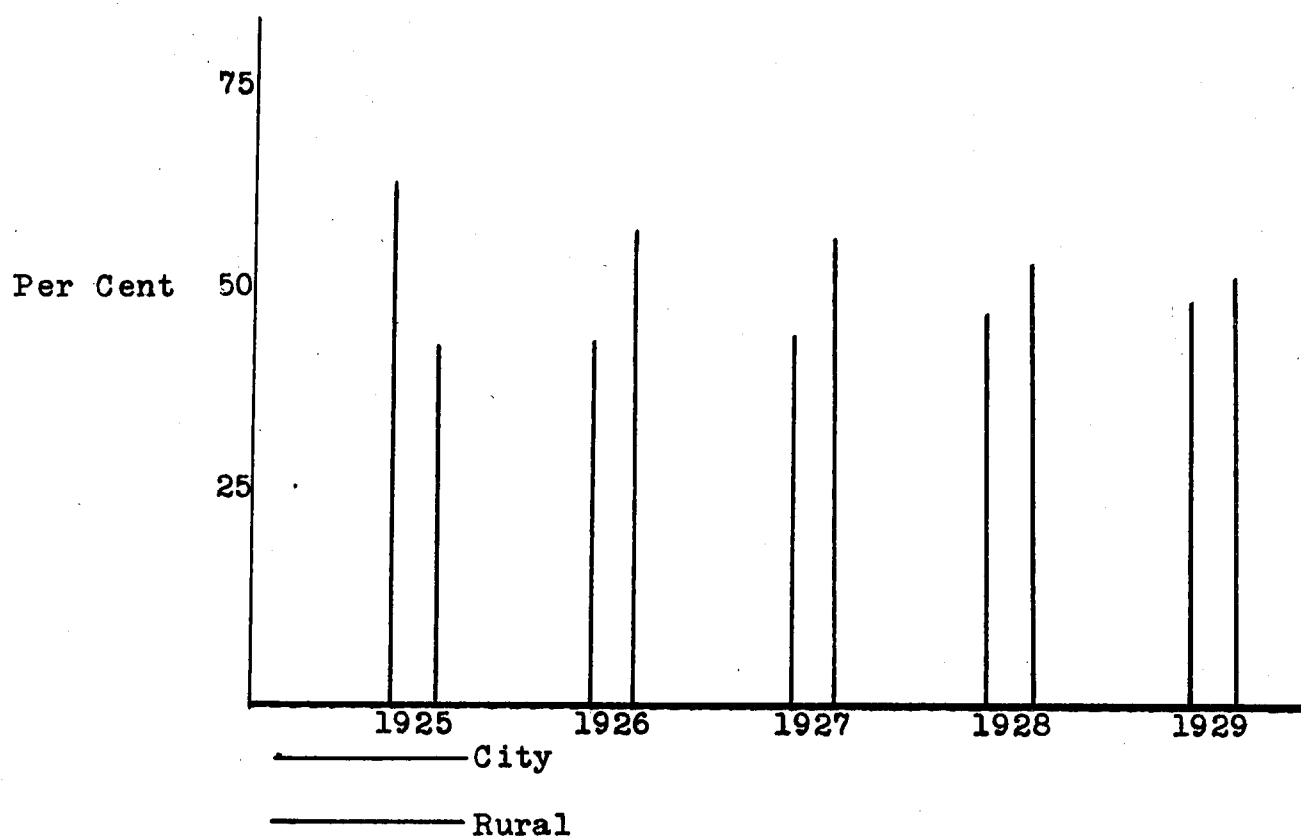


Figure 10. - Showing the per cent of circulation in the city and the per cent in the rural section over a five year period.

Figure 11 shows the per cent of non-fiction, adult and juvenile, city and rural, circulated in the county. This should impress one with the need for some means of stimulating the reading of the better grade of non-fiction books and the building up of the library somewhat in this phase of the work.

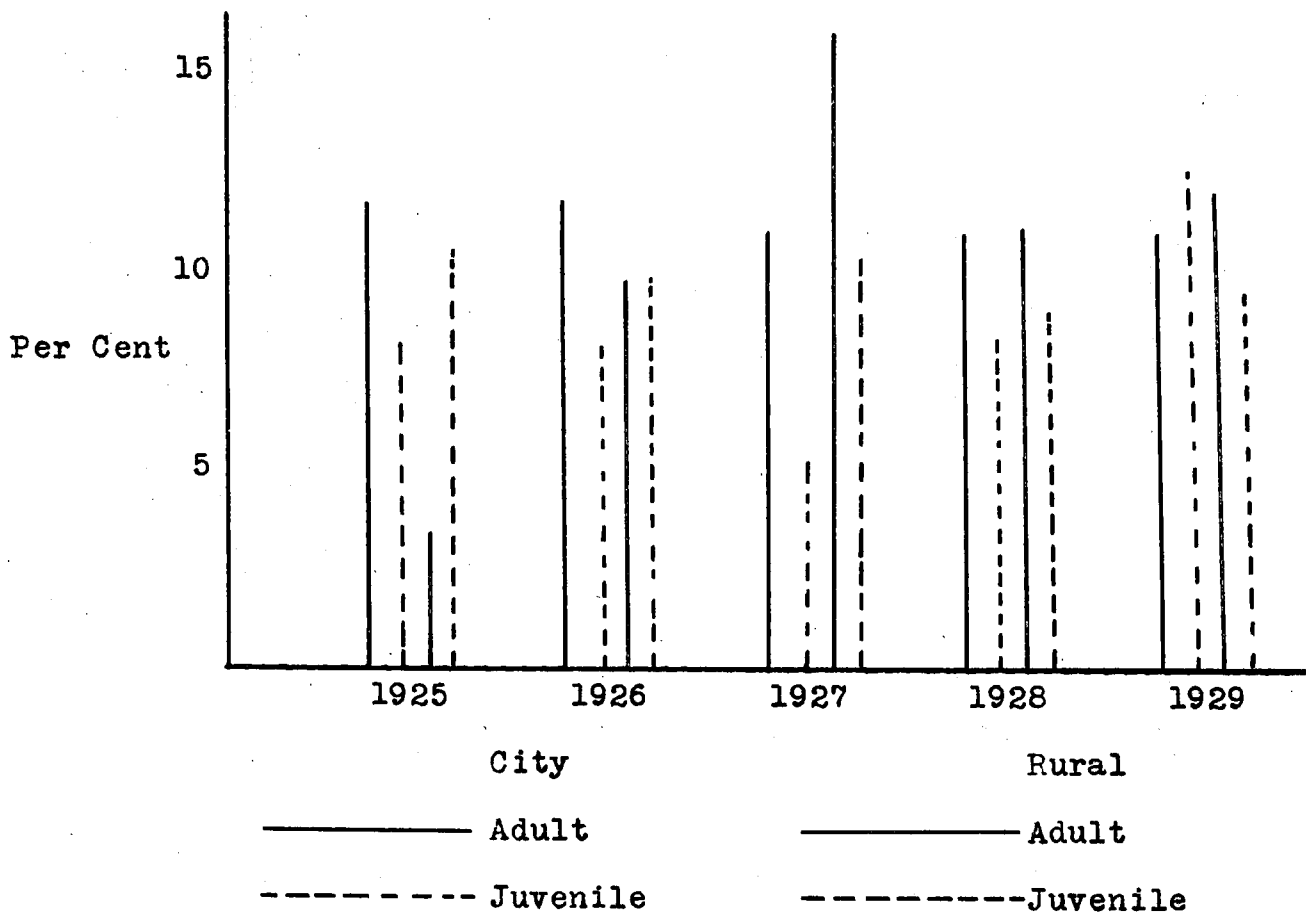


Figure 11 - Showing the per cent of city and rural adult and juvenile non-fiction circulation over a period of five years.

Figure 12 is similar to figure 11 except that it deals with fiction. It is interesting to note how well the two groups compare in this field. Here again is a great opportunity for constructive work---the discarding of many fiction books of a useless and immoral character and replacing the same with a better grade of fiction.

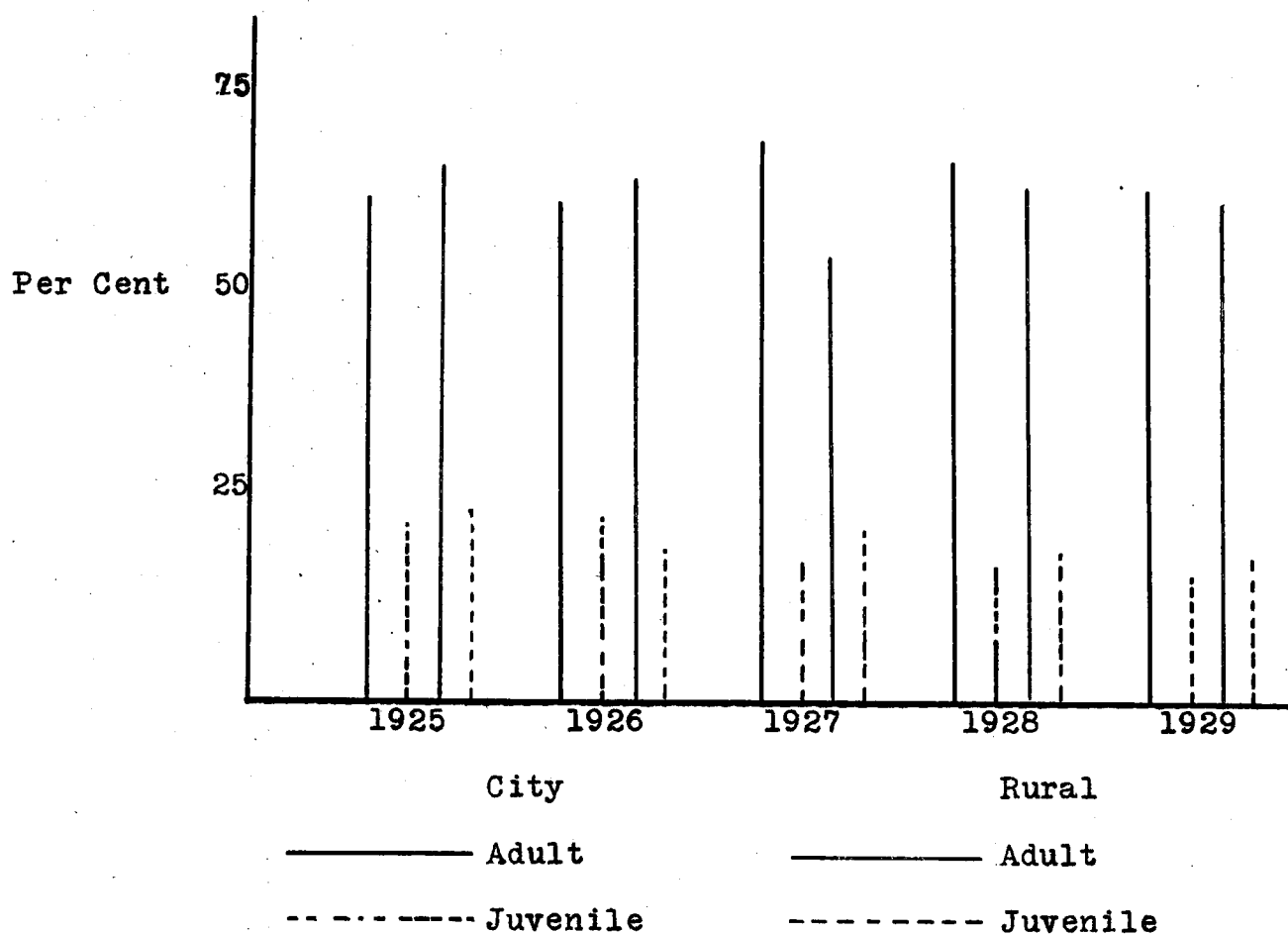


Figure 12. - Showing the per cent of city and rural adult and juvenile fiction books circulated over a period of five years.

2. Some Suggestions.---Here is one of the richest opportunities for the library to be of real service to the public. Its function is not only to create an appetite for reading but create a demand for the better class of reading matter. And as our social problems become more complex and our economic system changes creating more of leisure time and a demand for recreation, one of the solutions to this problem will be an organization of the system so that the demand for reading will be increased and the moral tone of books will be elevated.

This criticism of the fiction in circulation has been mentioned in my conversation with the librarians of several of the stations and also in communication with patrons as will be shown later. Here lies a fertile field for action.

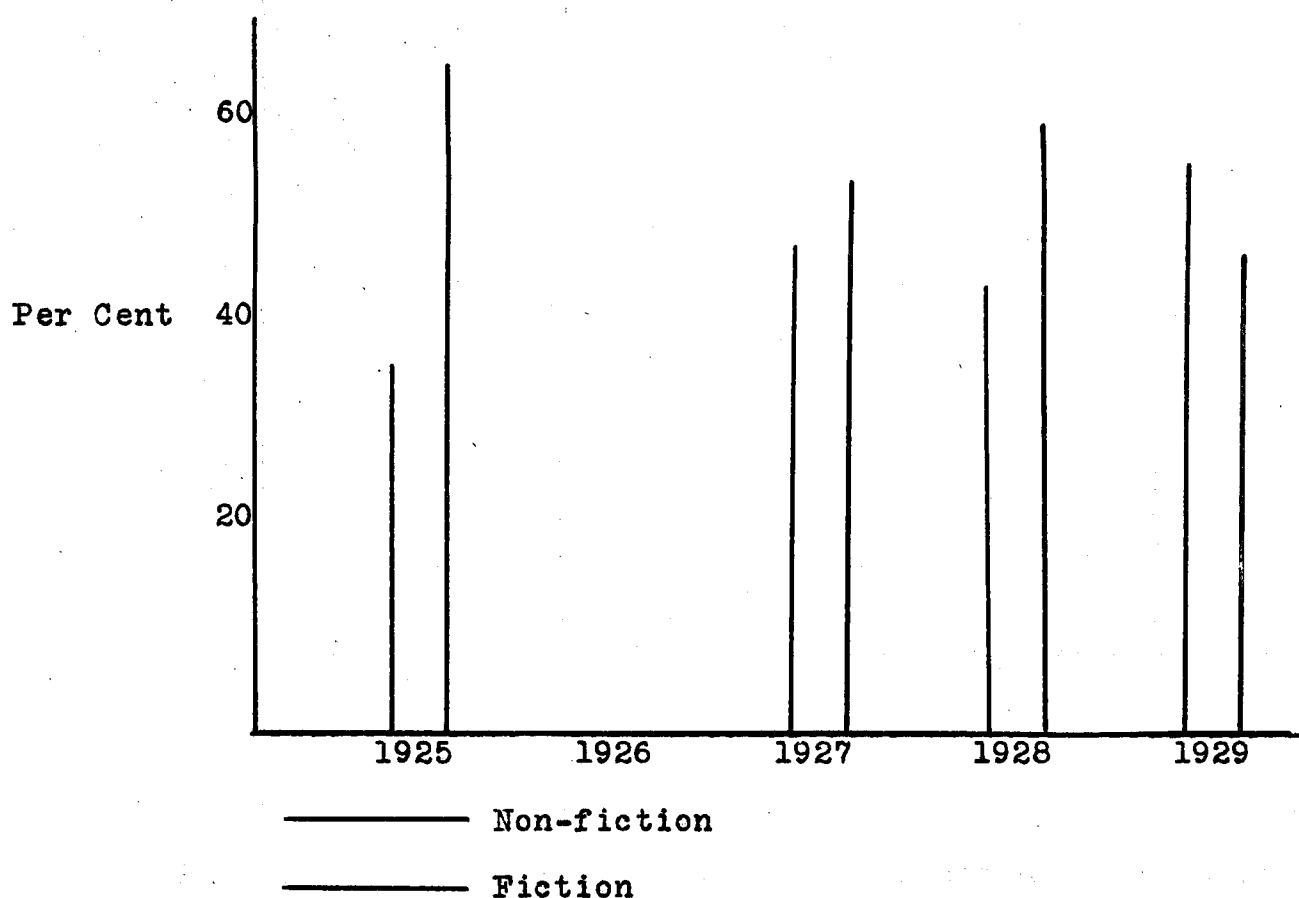


Figure 13 - Showing the per cent of juvenile fiction and non-fiction circulated through the rural teachers.

The above is not a criticism of the librarian but a criticism by the rural public of the moral tone of present day fiction. In discussing this problem with rural station librarians, and with the city librarian, it was ascertained that as soon as books of the above type are discovered, they are withdrawn from service.

And, again, many books which appear to some to be repulsive, are repulsive because the philosophy of life involved or portray-

TABLE XV (CONTINUED)

	1920	1921	1922	1923
JEFFERSON				
Possible Income	\$16.28	\$40.04	\$51.58	\$46.28
State Median	33.74	41.73	49.72	54.55
Departure From S.M.	-17.46	-1.69	+ 1.86	-8.27
% of Deficit or Surplus	-52%	-4%	+ 4%	-15%
MADISON				
Possible Income	\$26.64	\$54.93	\$56.44	\$51.94
State Median	33.74	41.73	49.72	54.55
Departure From S.M.	-7.10	+13.20	+ 6.72	-2.61
% of Deficit or Surplus	-21%	+ 31%	+14%	-5%
MONROE				
Possible Income	\$18.64	\$37.07	\$29.44	\$27.94
State Median	33.74	41.73	49.72	54.55
Departure From S.M.	-15.10	-4.66	-20.28	-26.61
% of Deficit or Surplus	-45%	-11%	-41%	-49%
POSEY				
Possible Income	\$19.70	\$35.34	\$35.49	\$45.55
State Median	33.74	41.73	49.72	54.55
Departure From S.M.	-14.04	-6.39	-14.23	-9.00
% of Deficit or Surplus	-42%	-15%	-29%	-16½%

3. The Teacher's Opportunity Again.---Figure 13 is a graph showing the circulation of books through the rural teachers. This may be one solution to the above problem. The teacher may be able to direct the reading policy of the pupil so that in the next generation the demand for good books will be on a higher level. Closer cooperation between school and library should do two things; increase the demand for books; and increase the desire for better books.

Figure 14 is a graph showing the per cent of fiction and non-fiction read in the county. The remarkable thing is the constancy of the two. And yet, when one notices that the demand for non-fiction has increased 2.9% in five years one would not expect much more rapid change. Soon no doubt one fourth of all the books used will be non-fiction.

4. Views of the Station Librarians.¹ -- What kind of books are in demand? was asked of a station librarian. "Fiction" she said, "Western stories of the Zane Grey type. I have families to the west of me here who come by and take a dozen books at one time. The whole family reads. In a couple of weeks, the books are returned and others are obtained."

"During the winter months, I have to watch my books very closely", said another. "In checking over my list one time I found one family had taken out over fifteen."

"When I took the station six years ago" said an aged storekeeper, "there were only about fifty books taken out a month, but now I have a circulation of over 250 a month, and many times

¹ These were obtained by personal visits to the stations.

the people come in and inquire if the new books have come in."

In practically every station visited (eighteen out of thirty were visited) similar reports were given by the librarian. One was hoping for a set of good reference books. "We could use them often here" she said. Are the books changed often enough (they are changed each four weeks) was a common question. Invariably the answer was, "yes". Not only that but they were usually able to get what was wanted.

5. When Do People Read? - Tables XVIII and XIX, showing the number of books read each month over a period of three years in the rural and city areas respectively as classified according to adult and juvenile, fiction and non-fiction, give some idea in regard to the season for book reading. With few exceptions the greater circulation of books occurs during the winter months. This may be explained because of school demands and because of the shorter day and longer nights as well as the slack of work in the rural section.

6. What Do City Patrons Read? An interesting study as to what people read is available from the data tabulated by Mr. Dipboye while he was librarian. He has tabulated the books read each year from 1910 to 1919 in their major groups according to the Dewey decimal system and also has included the record for juvenile non-fiction, juvenile fiction and adult fiction.

In order to bring this up to date, the librarian's records were inspected and the data for the year 1929 were tabulated. Thus a comparison can be made between the years 1910, 1919 and 1929. These data are tabulated in Table XX which is turned into a percentage table in Table XXI.

TABLE XVIII¹

TO SHOW THE ADULT, JUVENILE, AND TEACHER FICTION AND NON-FICTION READ
IN THE RURAL AREA BY MONTH OVER A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS

	1926-27				1927-28				1928-29			
	Fiction		Non-Fiction		Fiction		Non-Fiction		Fiction		Non-Fict.	
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juv.
Aug.	3510	1188	726	567	3675	741	82	266	3403	991	466	448
Sept.	2617	953	620	371	3353	740	614	339	3054	1003	706	369
Oct.	3493	997	1118	485	3449	T 87 1160	715	T 50 725	3258	T 407 1163	761	T 231 659
Nov.	3683	T 399 1434	1205	T 120 734	3676	T 1192 1322	865	T 828 682	4186	T 396 1627	1047	T 305 976
Dec.	3870	T 334 1181	891	T 192 648	5102	T 660 1886	1644	T 435 1078	5548	T 421 1893	1499	T 309 1081
Jan.	T 47 3491	T 581 1279	T 27 1169	T 404 517	4689	T 233 1306	819	T 184 542	3953	T 460 1215	1157	T 327 518
Feb.	4039	T 1051 1533	1135	T 672 876	4912	T 322 1244	1072	T 236 735	4519	T 447 1213	773	T 336 689
Mar.	3712	T 1345 2052	1549	T 1831 1210	4708	T 1176 1626	1028	T 698 710	4009	T 109 1345	380	T 26 711
April	3731	T 721 1843	1259	T 518 953	3810	T 434 1677	673	T 316 900	3660	T 385 1206	514	T 236 523
May	3216	T 131 1394	1166	T 110 730	3461	1159	605	480	3654	973	429	441
June	3508	1383	1116	701	5119	1343	897	602	3985	827	555	333
July	2667	1497	742	679	3858	889	668	389	3704	T 1125 1056	372	T 3826 515
Total	41584	21476	12753	12318	49812	19197	9682	10195	46883	18262	9159	11869

¹ Made from the librarian's reports.

² T stands for teacher.

TABLE XIX¹

TO SHOW THE ADULT AND JUVENILE, FICTION AND NON-FICTION READ IN THE
CITY EACH MONTH OVER A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS

	1926-27				1927-28				1928-29			
	Fiction		Non-Fiction		Fiction		Non-Fiction		Fiction		Non-Fiction	
	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile
Aug.	3413	983	341	254	4145	1072	466	244	3856	776	568	196
Sept.	3533	800	534	249	3784	745	458	195	4119	798	759	548
Oct.	3755	875	730	287	4590	1367	939	744	4882	1349	1109	1219
Nov.	4422	1458	904	502	4502	1353	902	505	4660	1440	897	1337
Dec.	4216	1005	841	433	4436	1224	739	807	4302	1221	833	1185
Jan.	5249	1149	851	403	5485	1186	991	884	5313	1217	1115	1279
Feb.	4965	1120	782	328	5664	1458	874	1100	5393	1463	1100	1468
March	5228	1347	937	404	5478	1438	1103	1128	5199	1561	1007	1434
April	4453	908	715	307	4373	737	962	406	4698	1192	851	960
May	3984	810	563	267	4511	1009	981	613	3881	992	725	513
June	3092	893	931	199	4440	984	538	470	5768	1812	1199	767
July	3627	870	344	229	4106	922	483	375	4809	961	376	352
Total	49937	12218	8473	3862	55214	13495	9436	7471	56880	14782	10539	11258

¹ Made from the librarian's monthly reports.

TABLE XX¹

A TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF BOOKS READ BY THE CITY
PATRONS FOR THE YEARS 1910, 1919, AND 1929

Titles	1910	1919	1929
General Works and Periodicals	411	4963	3134
Philosophy	32	54	281
Religion	126	75	381
Sociology	93	230	409
Philology	5	14	107
Science	298	173	363
Useful Arts	67	169	628
Fine Arts	75	321	711
Literature	447	760	1469
History, Travel, Biography	648	840	2412
Juvenile Non-Fiction	1590	5425	10824
Juvenile Fiction	5941	10301	13797
Adult Fiction	13789	21038	55097
Total	23522	44368	89613

¹ Data taken from the librarian's reports.

Figures 14A and 14B are graphical representations of the number of books read in each class during the years 1910, 1919 and 1929 as shown in Table XX.

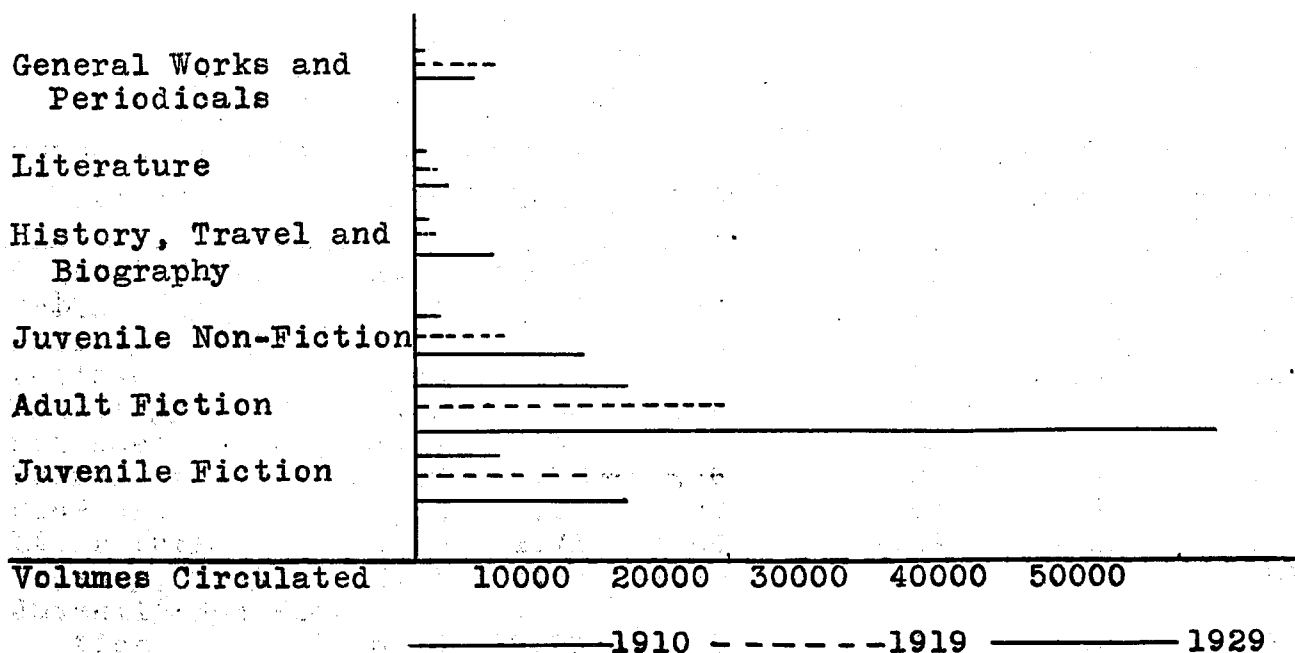


Figure 14A.—Showing the circulation of the classes listed for the years 1910, 1919 and 1929.

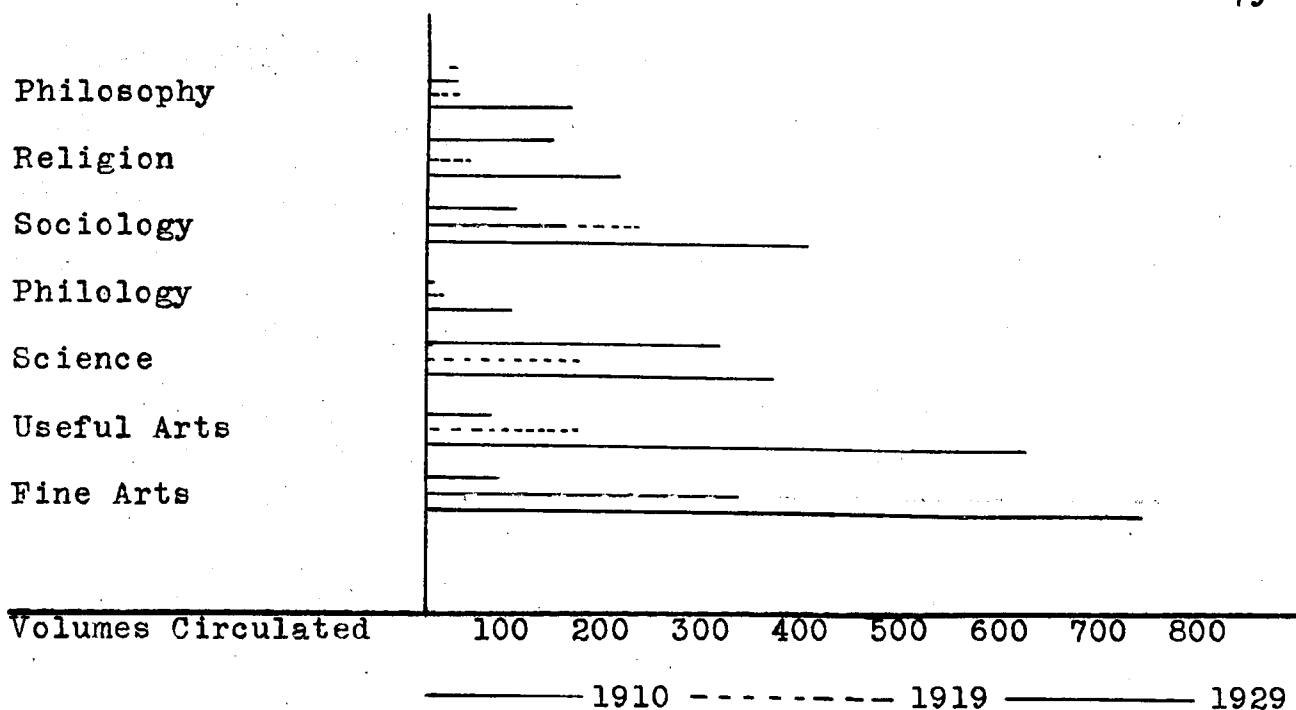


Figure 14B - Showing the circulation for the classes listed for the years 1910, 1919 and 1929.

In order that one will better understand the comparisons Table XXI is made from Table XX. This shows the per cent of books of each class that circulated in the city.

TABLE XXI

A TABLE SHOWING THE PER CENT OF BOOKS IN EACH CLASS CIRCULATED IN THE CITY FOR THE YEARS 1910, '19, '29

Titles	1910	1919	1929	Difference Between		
				'10-'19	'10-'29	'19-'29
General Works	1.75	11.20	3.50	9.45	1.75	-7.7
Philosophy	.14	.12	.31	-.02	.17	.19
Religion	.53	.17	.42	-.36	-.11	.25
Sociology	.40	.52	.46	.12	.06	-.06
Philology	.02	.03	.12	.01	.10	.09
Science	1.27	.39	.41	-.88	-.86	.02
Useful Arts	.29	.38	.70	.09	.41	.32
Fine Arts	.32	.72	.79	.40	.47	.05
Literature	1.90	1.71	1.64	-.19	-.26	-.07
History, Travel	2.75	1.89	2.70	-.86	-.05	.81
Juvenile Non Fiction	6.76	12.23	12.10	5.47	5.34	-.13
Juvenile Fiction	25.25	23.21	15.50	-5.02	-9.75	-7.71
Adult Fiction	58.62	47.41	61.70	-11.21	3.08	14.29

Table XXI shows that there was an increase in the use of General Works in 1919 over 1910, in 1929 over 1910 but a decrease in 1929 over 1919 of 7.7%. There was a decrease of .02% in 1919 over 1910 but increases in the next two periods. In 1929 increases are shown in Philosophy, Religion, Philology, Science, Useful Arts, Fine Arts, History and Adult Fiction. It would be interesting to know why the slump each period in Juvenile Fiction class.

Figure 14C is a graph showing the results found in Table XXI. The vertical line represents the zero point. The black lines to the right represent the gain and the red lines to the left represent the loss in per cent.

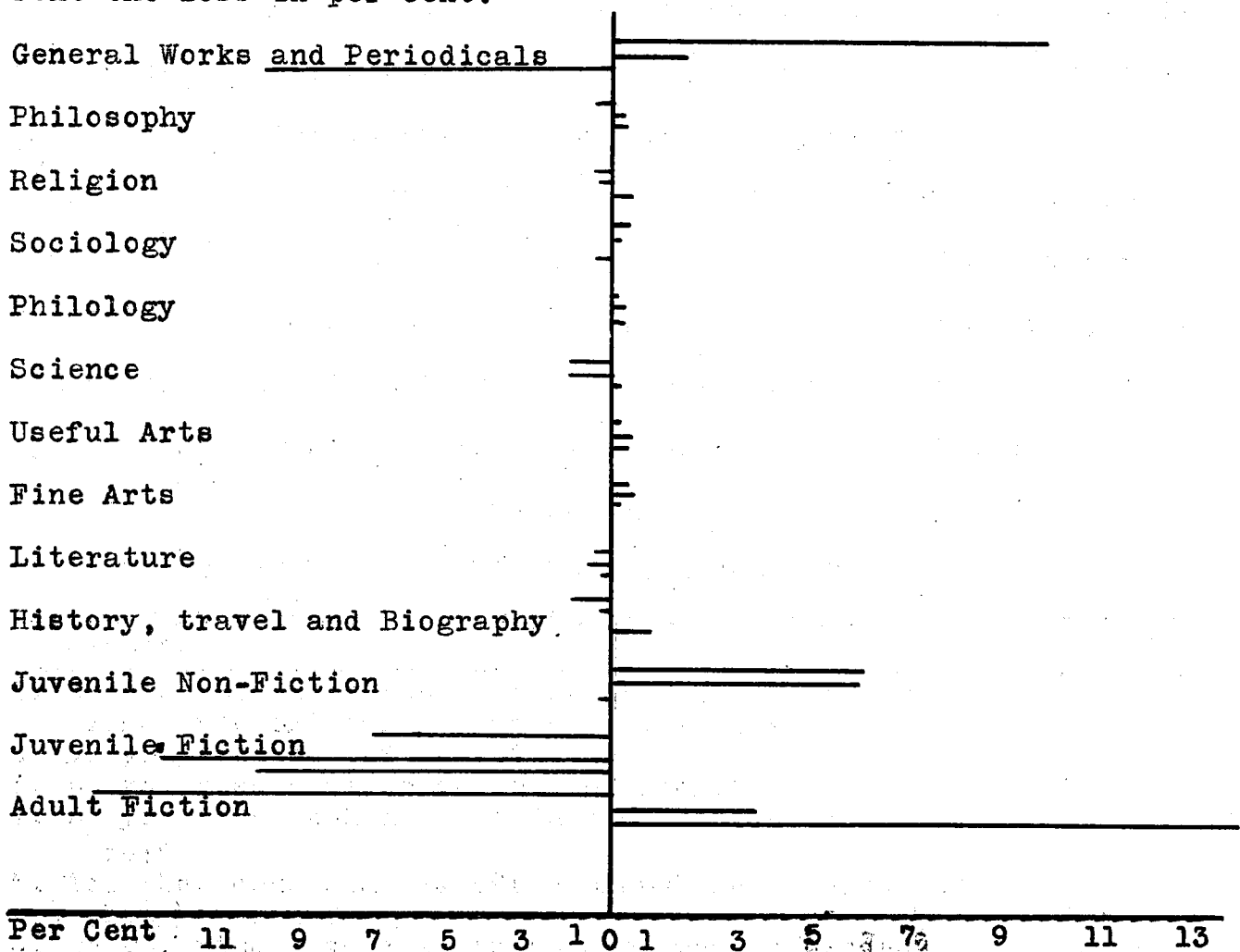


Figure 14C - Showing the gain and loss per cent in each class for the years 1910, 1919 and 1929 based on Table XXI.

7. The Reading Public's Attitude. - In order to find out the attitude of the reading public toward the library a questionnaire was sent out to some four hundred fifty different readers. One hundred fifty of these were placed in the hands of the librarian who delivered them to each of the stations with the instructions that the station librarian should deliver them to the reading public. Some twenty-four were returned from this attempt. Feeling that this was not representative, the same questionnaire was printed on three hundred detachable post cards. Some eighteen stations were visited and the names and addresses of over three hundred readers were obtained. These postal cards were mailed with instructions to fill out and return at once. From this effort only seventy-one were returned and only two others returned post marked "address not known." Thus a total of ninety-five responses to four hundred fifty requests or a 21% return of the questionnaire was obtained. This is insufficient to draw any definite conclusions but will be representative of the county sentiment to a certain extent. The questionnaire is found in Appendix "C". The results of the questionnaire follow:

TABLE XXII

SHOWING THE RESPONSE TO QUESTIONNAIRE SENT TO PATRONS

Question	Yes	No
1. Do you read more books since the county library has come into existence than you did before?	86	2
2. Do you read better books?	75	13
3. Do you read a wider variety of books?	81	5
4. Do you find enough books in the station to choose from?	43	45
5. Are the books changed often enough for you to get what you want?	43	42
6. Do you find a variety to choose from as needed?	42	43
7. Should there be more non-fiction books in the library?	36	40
8. Would you use reference books if they were available?	41	35
9. Do you feel that you are repaid for what it costs you?	85	4

In order that one may better compare the answers Table XXII was thrown into a percent table as follows:

TABLE XXIII

PER CENT OF THOSE ANSWERING EACH QUESTION AS TAKEN FROM

TABLE XXII

Question	Per Cent Yes	Per Cent No.
1	97.7	2.3
2	85.2	14.8
3	94.2	5.8
4	48.9	51.1
5	50.6	49.4
6	49.4	50.6
7	47.2	52.8
8	53.9	46.1
9	95.5	4.5

The conclusions drawn from this would be:

1. More books are being read now than before the library was organized.
2. Better books are being read than before.
3. A wider variety of books are read than was read before.
4. There are not enough books in the stations to choose from.
5. The books are changed often enough.
6. There is not as large a variety to choose from as needed.
7. There should not be more non-fiction books in the library.
8. Reference books would be used if available.
9. The library does pay for what it costs.

There is a wide range of per cent between answers to questions 1, 2, 3 and 9 while the answers to questions 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 are pretty evenly divided.

The responses to question number 10 on the problem of better

TABLE XXIV

RESPONSES TO ITEM 10 IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE SENT TO THE READING PUBLIC AS FOLLOWS: PLEASE STATE HOW THE LIBRARY SERVICE MAY BE MADE MORE EFFECTIVE AND BENEFICIAL.

The supply of books is inadequate	1
The books should be changed oftener	4
More of better class fiction needed	6
More character building books for children	1
Better cooperation on part of librarian in assisting to find materials in library and sending books when they are called or written for.	3
Better suited place for study and work at station	2
More attention to stations by county librarian	4
More History and Science books	3
Reference books needed	3
More modern novels	2
Pay more attention to books for young boys and girls	1
By having a special and well posted attendant	2

Comments not placed in the table are as follows:

"Personally I am well satisfied."

"Surely hope we may keep the branch libraries at small towns of county."

"Pleased with our little town branch library, thank you."

"I do not often call for books at the county as I have a supply of my own. I hear some complaint."

"By placing a greater variety of books here, also a few good magazines."

"Books on the Bible, I would like some scripture."

"By trying to provide the books called for."

"By changing oftener. I think I have read every book in charge and would like to read more like, "Enchanted Barn", "Best Man" and Western books."

"Supplementary readers for 5th. and 6th. grades might be added."

"Make available quality magazines such as Harpers, Century, Atlantic Monthly, etc. Install a set of Standard Classics such as the Harvard Classics, etc."

"Our branch could be in more room and time and place to study books."

"Too much fiction on murder, cowboy, western and detective stuff. We need books that will teach higher moral."

"I really do worry about the books on the shelves, not only the questionable ones, but the many that are so poorly written that they can not form the right taste for the worth while things."

"Mr. _____ claims to read every book at _____ library and he says nearly every book has for its hero or heroine one that drinks or smokes cigarettes. He also says many are not fit for our young people to read.

"If this be the case, do they have better books to send us? If they haven't good books in city library why not demand a better class of books.

"Our son, _____ taught English at _____ College one year and he had several pupils from Columbus and he had somewhat of a chance to know the kind of books in Columbus Library. He said the books were not of a high type. Perhaps they are bet-

ter now.

"I was one of the Committee to get signers on petition circulated in _____ township for the county library and I am anxious for good books for our young people."

These comments may not be worth much but it is a sample at least of what is in the mind of the rural group. We might draw these conclusions.

1. There is a demand for the rural service.
2. There is a demand for better rural service.
3. There is a demand for better grade of fiction.
4. There is a demand for a reading room in one center.
5. There is a demand for more extensive magazine service.
6. There is a demand for reference books in some centers.
7. The people are interested in a better class of books for our young people.

G. SUMMARY

This chapter has attempted to discuss somewhat the functions of the library. These have been taken from two angles; the school and the public. Both seem to be benefiting and profiting from rural service and seem to be asking for more and better service.

CHAPTER IV

POSSIBILITIES

It has been the purpose of the first three chapters to survey local conditions in order that one can find out the conditions as they exist in the county. It is the purpose of this chapter to survey conditions as they exist in Indiana and in the United States to see what is being done in County library work in order to see what additions and improvements might be made in our own county.

The basis for this has been a brief questionnaire sent to each of the eleven counties which had county library service as shown in the Indiana Yearbook 1929 and also a brief questionnaire sent to the State Department of Public Instruction or to the State Library or State Library Commission of each of the 48 states. Also some data taken from the report of the libraries to the State Library Commission as is shown in the Indiana Yearbook 1929. Also special material sent by some of the outstanding counties in Indiana, California and New York in County library work.

A. THE COUNTY LIBRARIES OF THE STATE COMPARED WITH ONE ANOTHER

The questionnaire as found in Appendix D was sent to the following counties in Indiana; Allen, Bartholomew, Brown, Cass, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Scott, Switzerland, Union and Vanderburgh. These were the counties with county library service as shown by the Indiana Yearbook 1929. The following report is the result:

TABLE XXIVA

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONNAIRE SENT TO COUNTIES

	COUNTIES										
	Allen	Bartholomew	Brown	Cass	Jefferson	Jennings	Ohio	Scott	Switz.	Union	Vanderburgh
1. How many rural station do you have?	23	30	31	7	20	25	17	7	11	12	47
2. Do you have stations in your schools?	no	no	not all	2	2	no	13	yes	41	yes	44
3. Do you furnish supplementary readers to the schools?	no	yes	no	note 1	yes	some	no	no	no	no	no
4. Do you have county truck service?	1 1/2 T Ford	no	no	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes
5. Do you have a full time county librarian?	yes	no	no	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	2 yes asst.
6. Do you have a part time county librarian?	no	no	na	---	no	---	no	no	---	---	---
7. Are the books delivered to the stations?	yes	yes	part time	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
8. Are the books delivered to the schools?	yes	no	---	yes	yes	part-ly	yes	yes	--	yes	yes
9. How often are the station books changed?	part mo.	mo.	mo.	mo.	mo.	6 wks.	12 wks.	6-8 wk.	8 wk.	--	16 wks.
10. What per cent of your circulation was rural in 1929?	13	49	--	--	--	60	-	45	40	50	?
11. When was your county service established?	'21	'23	'20	'19	--	'17	--	'21	'15	'18	'21
12. Do you do your own binding and repair work?	mend	yes	no	re-pair	no	no	part-ly	re-pair	no	part-ly	no
13. Give any outstanding features of your service.											
Notes	3&4					7	2&9	9		5	6

Notes for Questionnaire on Page 87 in response to item 13, which reads as follows: Give any outstanding feature of your service.

1. The county schools own a collection of readers which are housed and cared for and distributed by the county library and great saving of money for schools.

2. We do not keep our rural circulation separate but it is about equal to town circulation. Our county service is very highly appreciated.

3. No outstanding features---merely try to give county people library centers near enough for them to borrow books on same basis as in city. Have four branch buildings and two rented stores.

4. Many use the main library---these are not counted separately. The number indicates circulation in schools and stations outside Ft. Wayne.

5. Rural work is chiefly in consolidated schools.

6. We do not serve any cities. Have very interesting house work on routes.

7. We have doubled our city circulation in last two years and placed books in all schools. Only in eleven prior to that.

8. Collections instead of stations.

9. One librarian over all and she supervises county work.

The report of this questionnaire shows different stages in the development of county library work. Allen, Cass and Vanderburgh seem to be the leaders. Each of these have a greater income as will be shown by later data and each are older in organ-

ization than Bartholomew. Bartholomew is outstanding in that she does her own binding and repair work and with Jefferson in the furnishing of supplementary reading matter. Bartholomew county can improve her service by furnishing truck service, delivery of books to schools, furnishing a full time county librarian, having stations in schools, and increasing the rural circulation. This is shown in the study of the questionnaire.

A further study of these eleven counties is made in their development in county library service as is shown in Tables XXV and XXVI and Figures 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 24.

Table XXV shows the following items in regard to the eleven counties:

1. Population of City Area served, 1920 census.
2. Population of Rural Area served, 1920 census.
3. Population of county, 1920 census.
4. The town rate of taxation.
5. The County rate of taxation.
6. The number of townships served.
7. Number of borrowers in the county.
8. The number of volumes in the library.
9. The total circulation in 1929.
10. The total income.
11. The total expenditure.
12. Amount spent for books and magazines.
13. Salary of library staff.

For comparative purposes the data in Table XXV has been turned into a table of percentages in Table XXVI. Bartholomew, Brown, Jefferson, Jennings, Ohio, Scott, Union and Switzerland

TABLE XXV¹

STATISTICAL DATA ON ELEVEN COUNTY LIBRARIES IN INDIANA

City and County	Pop. of Town	Rural Pop.	Pop. served	Town Rate	County Rate	Twp. Serviced	No. Borrowers	Total no. Volumes	Circulation	Total Expenditure	Salary Lib. Staff
1. Ft. Wayne Allen	86549	27754	114303	.055	.04	20	58648	180975	1039507	162477	78541
2. Columbus Barth.	8990	14897	23887	.05	.03	14	7263	24808	179682	14517 ^a	3906
3. Nashville Brown	353	6696	7019		.07	5	1903	6497	15189	1382	659
4. Logansport Cass	21626	12936	34562	.06	.04	12	21109	56960	285663	21580	10724
5. Madison Jefferson	6711	13998	20709	.05	.04	10	12076	14669	116584	12062	2210
6. North Vernon Jennings	3084	10196	13280	.07	.07	11	3120	13256	88484	7508	3356
7. Rising Sun Ohio	1411	2613	4024	.10	.05	4	2068	7563	25615	2888	1620
8. Scottsburg Scott	1609	5815	7424	.07	.07	5	2214	10264	43022	3483	1561
9. Vevay Switzerland	1175	8136	9311	.09	.09	6	4860	13225	58733	6015	2269
10. Liberty Union	1292	4729	6021	.03	.03	6	2995	7797	46320	4806	2650
11. Evansville Vanderburgh	85264	7029	92293	.08	.04	8	43221	154931	754194	116792	61443

1. Table made from material taken from Tables I and II pages 411-423 Indiana Yearbook 1929.

^a This sum is an error as verified by the expenditures for 1928-29 according to the librarian's annual report. The proper figure is \$12,477.29. A transfer of \$2040 is included in the above figure.

Note--The book and magazine expenditure for each county as listed above was as follows:

Allen \$32125; Bartholomew \$2702; Brown \$221; Cass \$4377; Jefferson \$1386; Jennings \$1675; Ohio \$592; Scott \$665; Switzerland \$1625; Union \$922; Vanderburgh \$26678;.

TABLE XXVI

PERCENTAGES AND CLASSIFICATIONS BASED ON TABLE XXV

	% of total popula- tion city	% of total popula- tion rural	% of total popula- tion Borrowers	Vol- umes per capi- ta	Circu- lation per capita Popula.	Curcu- lation Per capita Borrowers	Ex- pense per capita Pop.	Ex- pense per capita Borrowers	Exp. per vol- ume Circ.	% Exp. for Books and Period.	%Exp. Libra- rian Sal- ary
1. Ft. Wayne Allen	75.7	24.3	51.3	1.58	9.09	17.7	\$1.42	\$2.77	\$.1563	19.7	48.3
2. Columbus Bartholomew	37.6	62.4	30.4	1.04	7.5	24.7	.522	1.718	.0694	18.6	26.9
3. Nashville Brown	5.03	94.97	27.1	.92	2.16	8.0	.197	.73	.091	16.0	47.7
4. Logansport Cass	62.6	37.4	61.1	1.65	8.26	13.5	.625	1.02	.075	20.3	49.7
5. Madison Jefferson	32.4	67.6	58.3	.71	5.63	9.7	.583	1.00	.103	11.5	18.3
6. North Vernon Jennings	23.2	76.8	23.5	1.00	6.66	28.4	.565	2.41	.085	22.3	44.7
7. Rising Sun Ohio	35.1	64.9	51.4	1.88	6.36	12.3	.717	1.40	.113	20.5	56.1
8. Scottsburg Scott	21.7	78.3	29.8	1.38	5.79	19.4	.469	1.57	.081	19.1	44.8
9. Vevay Switzerland	12.6	87.4	52.2	1.42	6.31	12.1	.646	1.24	.102	27.0	37.7
10. Liberty Union	21.4	78.6	49.7	1.29	7.69	15.4	.798	1.60	.104	19.2	55.1
11. Evansville Vanderburgh	92.4	7.6	46.8	1.68	8.07	17.2	1.26	2.70	.1567	22.8	52.6

no doubt have the larger problems to solve in as much over 60% of the population in each of these counties live in the rural area. Figure 15 graphically represents the comparison of the two counties in this respect. The range is from 7.6% in Vanderburgh to 94.97% in Brown with the median at 67.6%

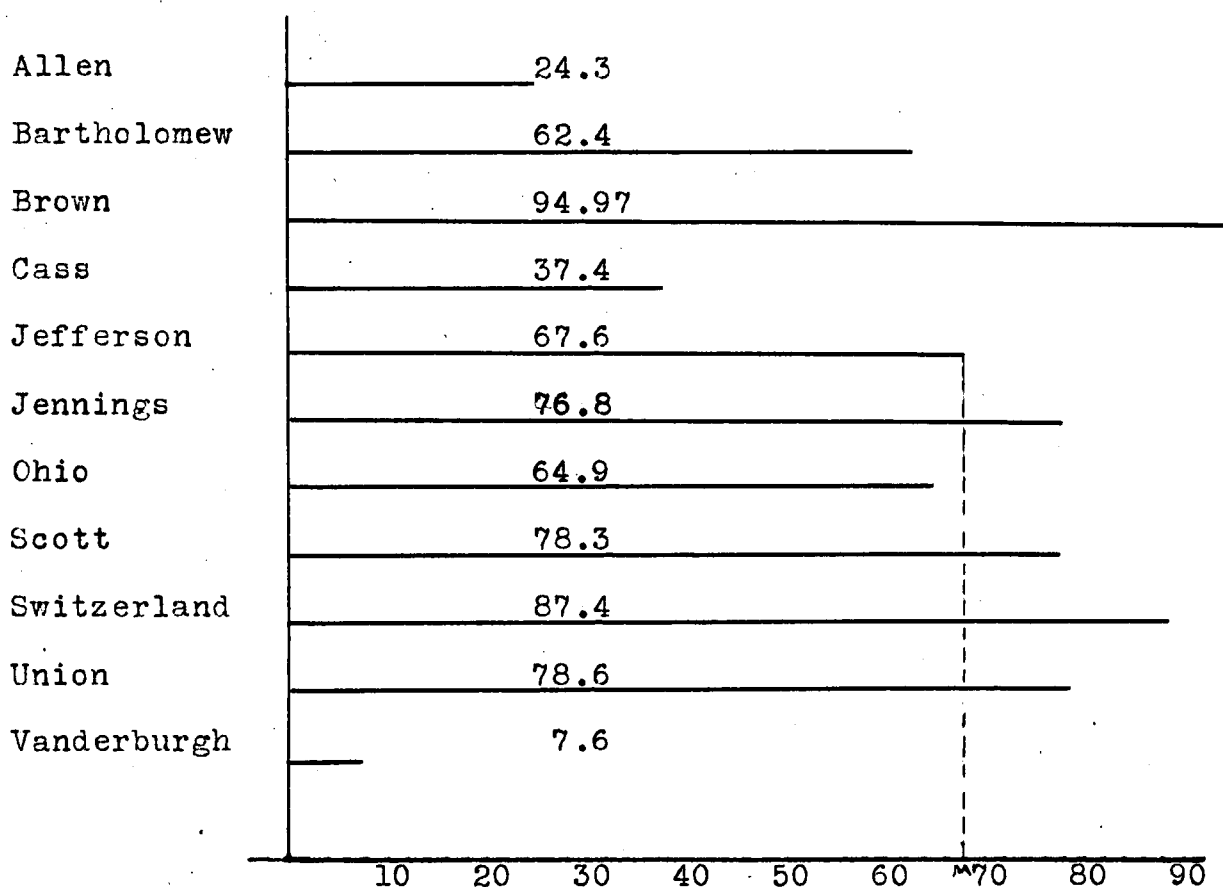


Figure 15. - Per cent of population of each county living outside of county seat according to 1920 census.

Figure 16 brings out the problem in regard to the percent of total population that are borrowers. The range here is 23.5% in Jennings to 61.1% in Cass with the median at 49.7. Here again is a problem of getting greater service in this respect. Bartholomew County is well under the median for the eleven counties and needs an increased reading public.

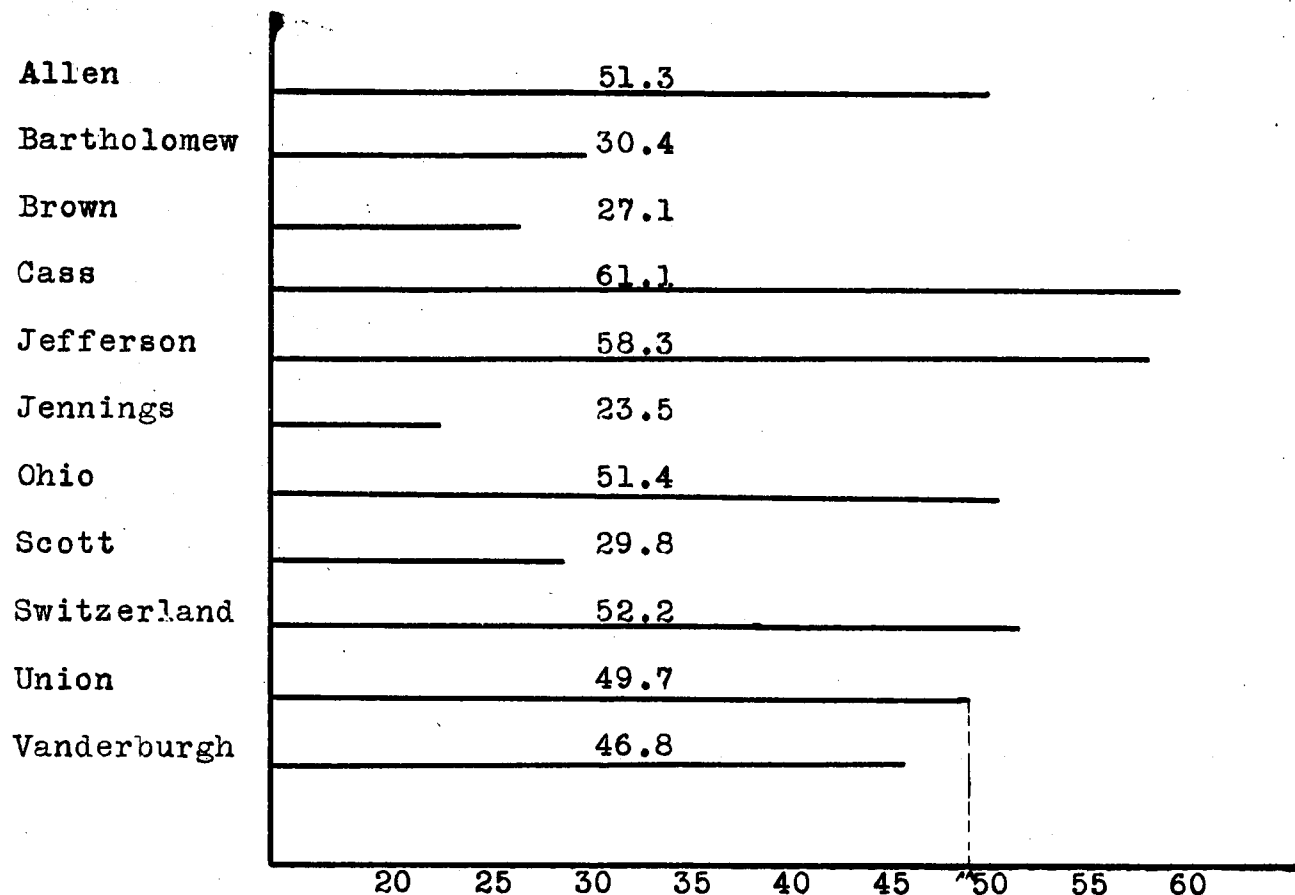


Figure 16. - Per cent of total population of each county that are borrowers according to 1920 census.

Figure 17 shows the number of volumes per capita in each of the eleven county libraries. The range is from .71 in Jefferson County to 1.88 in Ohio County with the median at 1.38 in Scott County. Bartholomew County is well below the median in this problem. This vividly illustrates what has already been mentioned the need for a rapid increase in book stock.

Figure 18 shows the circulation of books per capita in each of the eleven counties according to the 1920 census. The range is 2.16 in Brown County to 9.09 in Allen. Bartholomew is 7.5 which is well above the median 6.66 in Jennings.

Figure 19 shows the circulation in each of the eleven counties according to the number of borrowers. The range is from

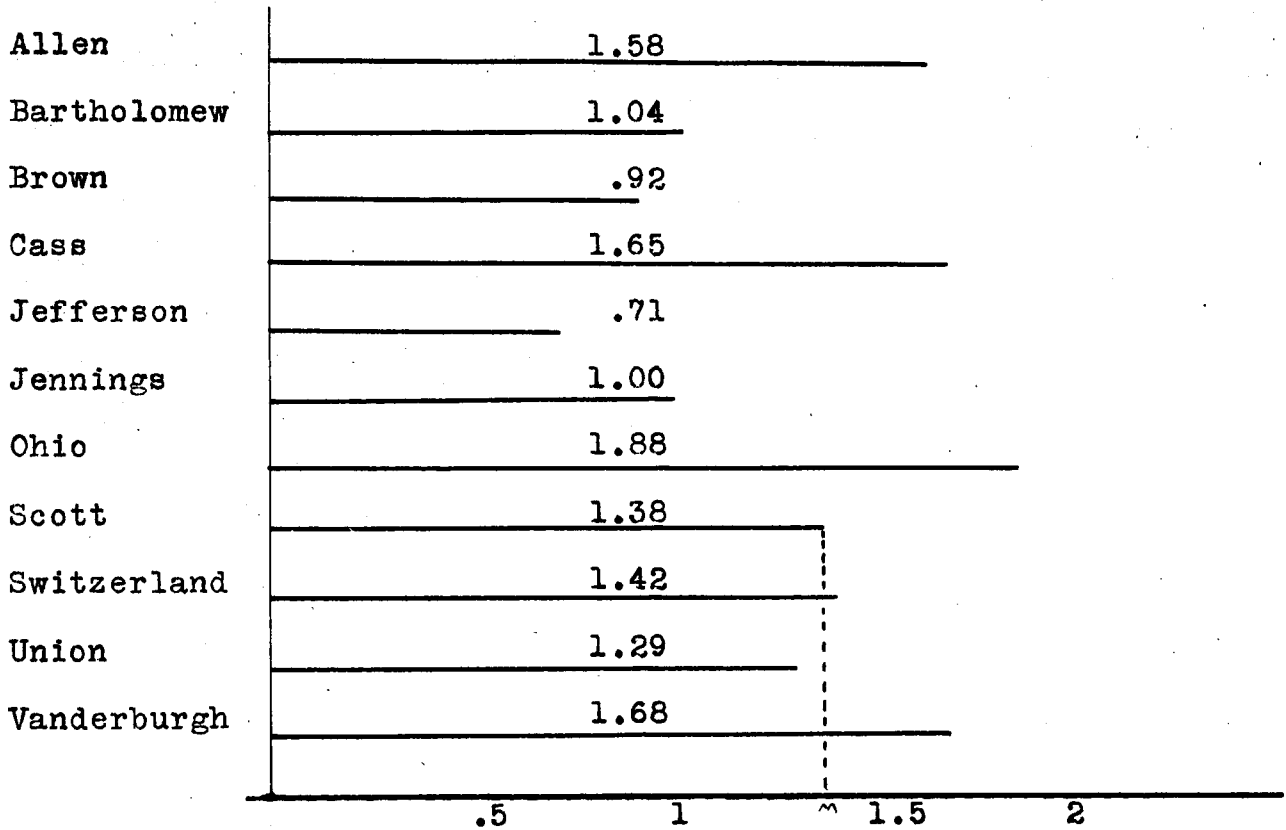


Figure 17. - Showing the number of volumes per capita in each of the eleven county libraries.

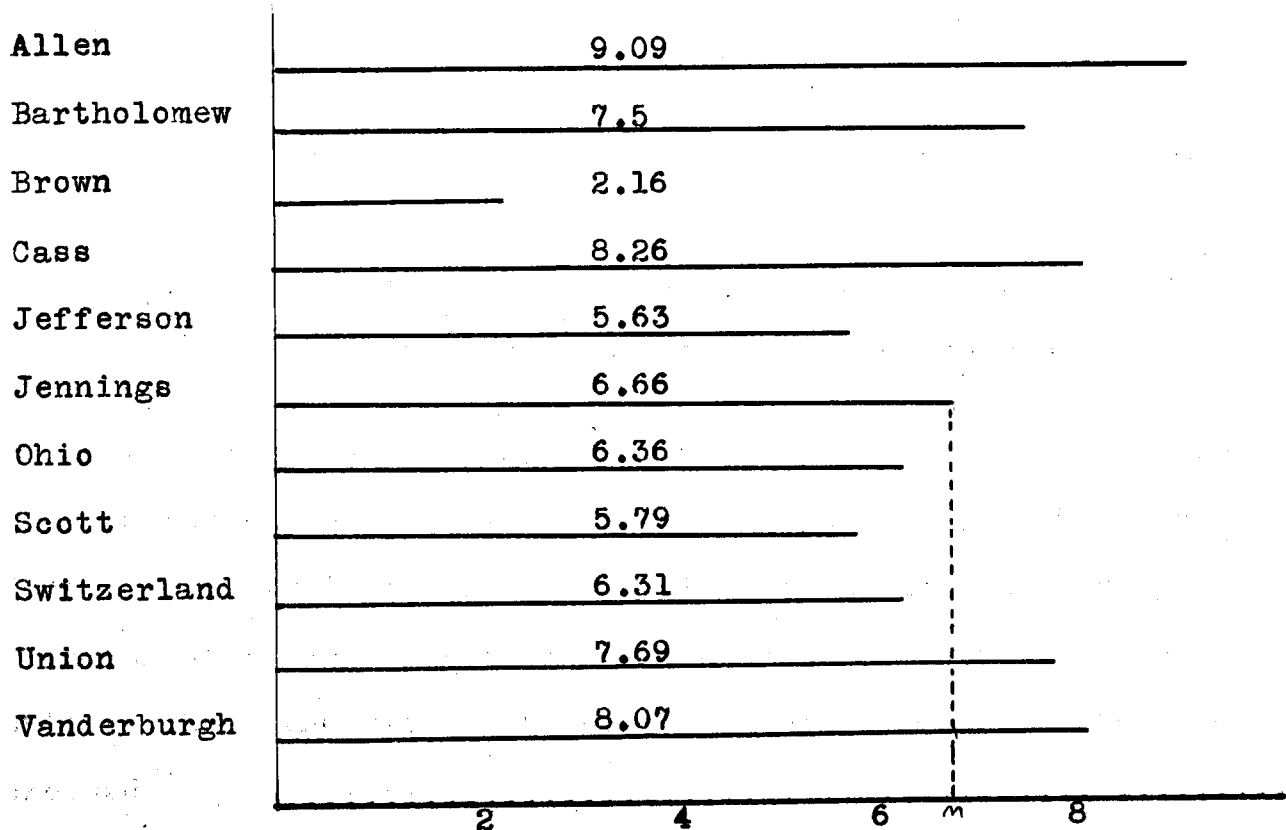


Figure 18. - Circulation of books per capita in each of the eleven counties according to the 1920 census.

8.0 volumes in Brown to 28.4 volumes in Jennings, with the median standing at 15.4 in Union. Bartholomew is well above the median. This shows that more books per reader are not needed so much as more readers are needed.

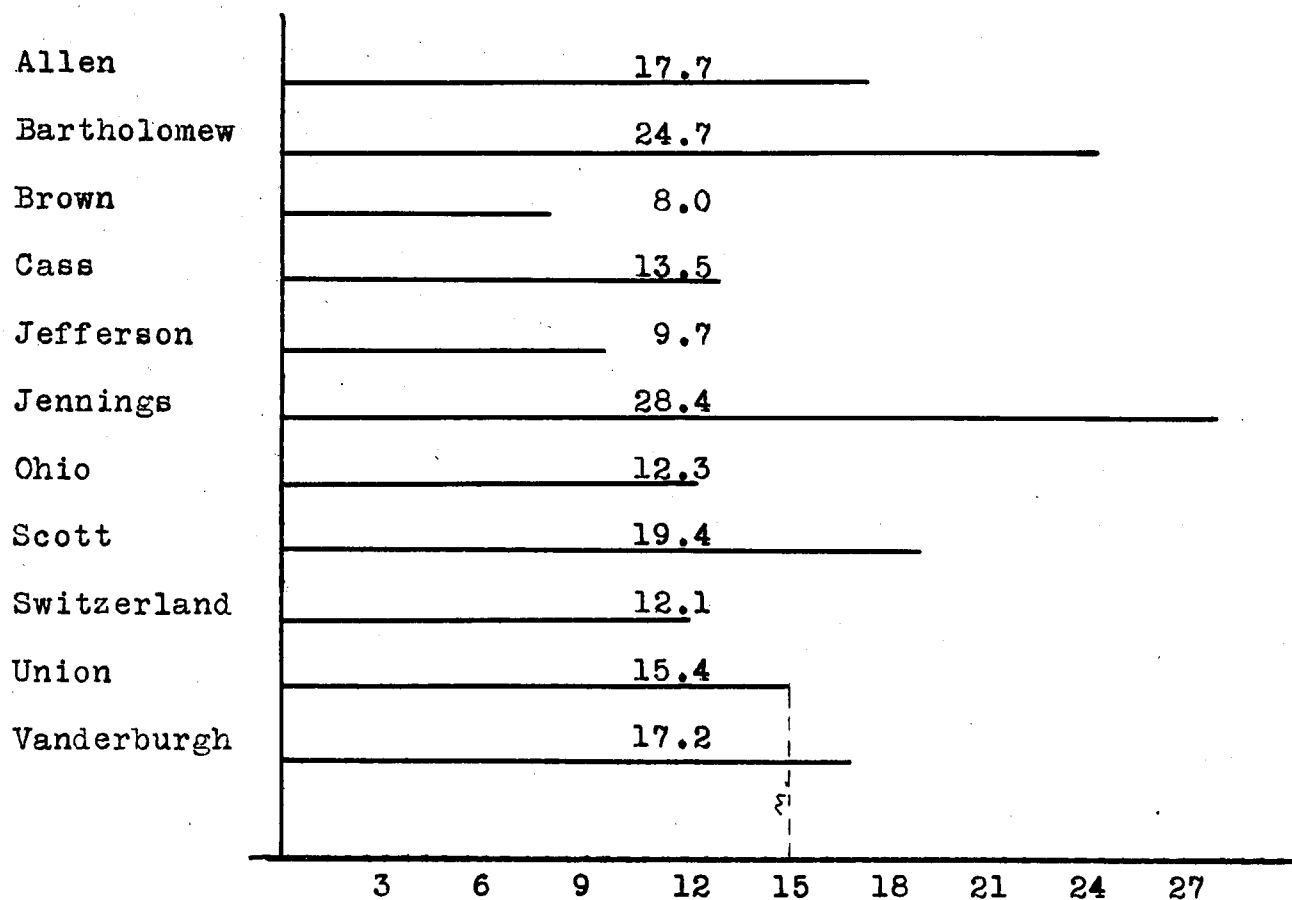


Figure 19. - Showing circulation in each of eleven counties according to the number of borrowers.

Figure 20 shows the expense of the library per capita population in the eleven counties. The range is from \$.197 in Brown County to \$1.42 in Allen County. The median in Cass County standing at \$.625. Bartholomew County \$.522 stands below the median. Here the matter of service enters which may effect the expense.

Figure 21 shows the expense per capita borrowers in the eleven counties of the state. The range is from \$.75 in Brown

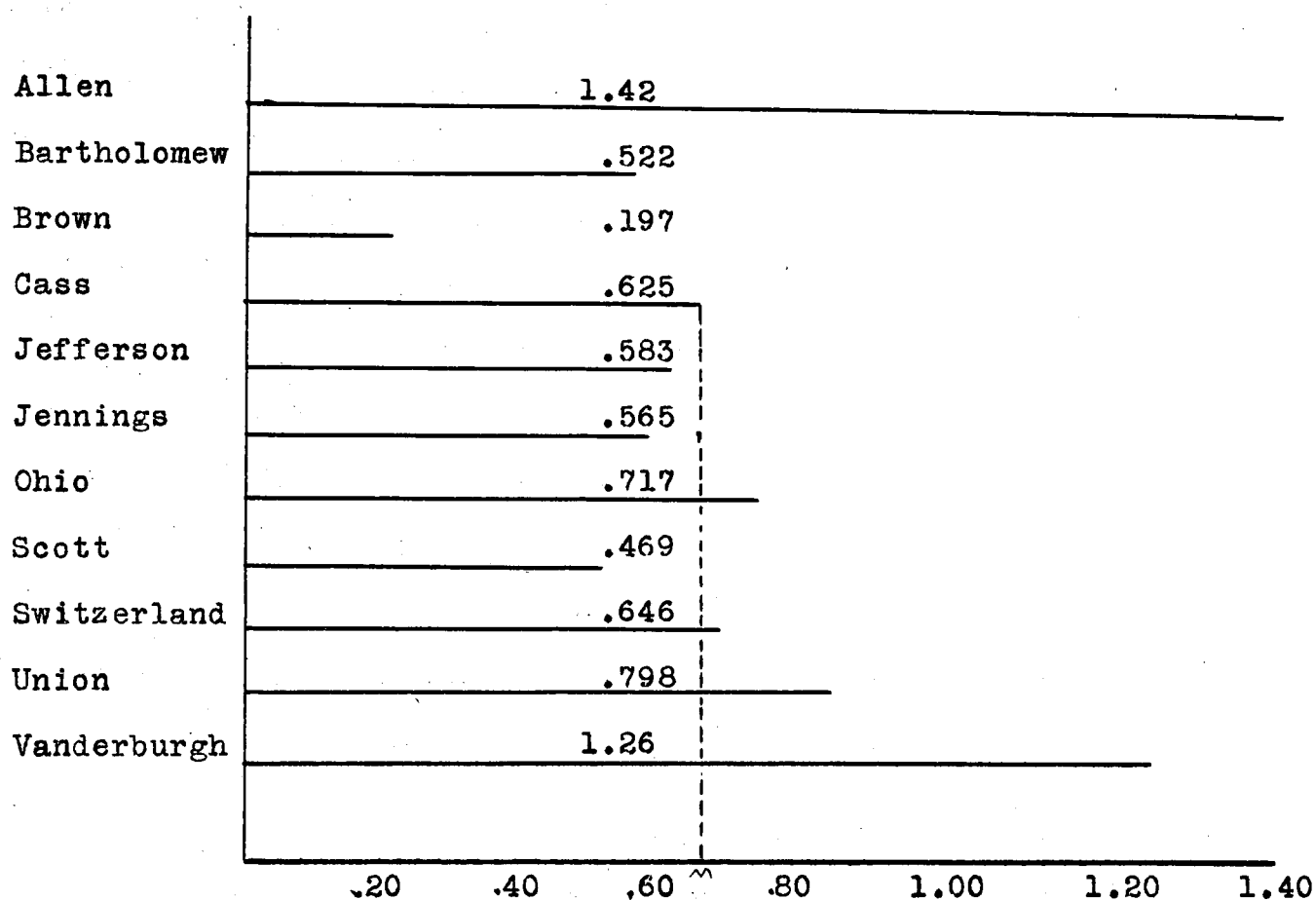


Figure 20. - Showing the expense of the library per capita population in the above counties.

County to \$2.77 in Allen County. The median in Scott County standing at \$1.57. Bartholomew costs \$1.718. When the number of borrowers has been increased more rapidly than the expense, this item will be reduced.

Figure 22 shows the expense per volume circulated in the eleven counties. The range is from \$.0694 in Bartholomew to \$.1567 in Vanderburgh with the median at \$.102 in Switzerland. Bartholomew stands below the median which would seem to indicate that what she is doing she is doing at a very low cost.

Figure 23 shows the per cent of the total expenditures ex-

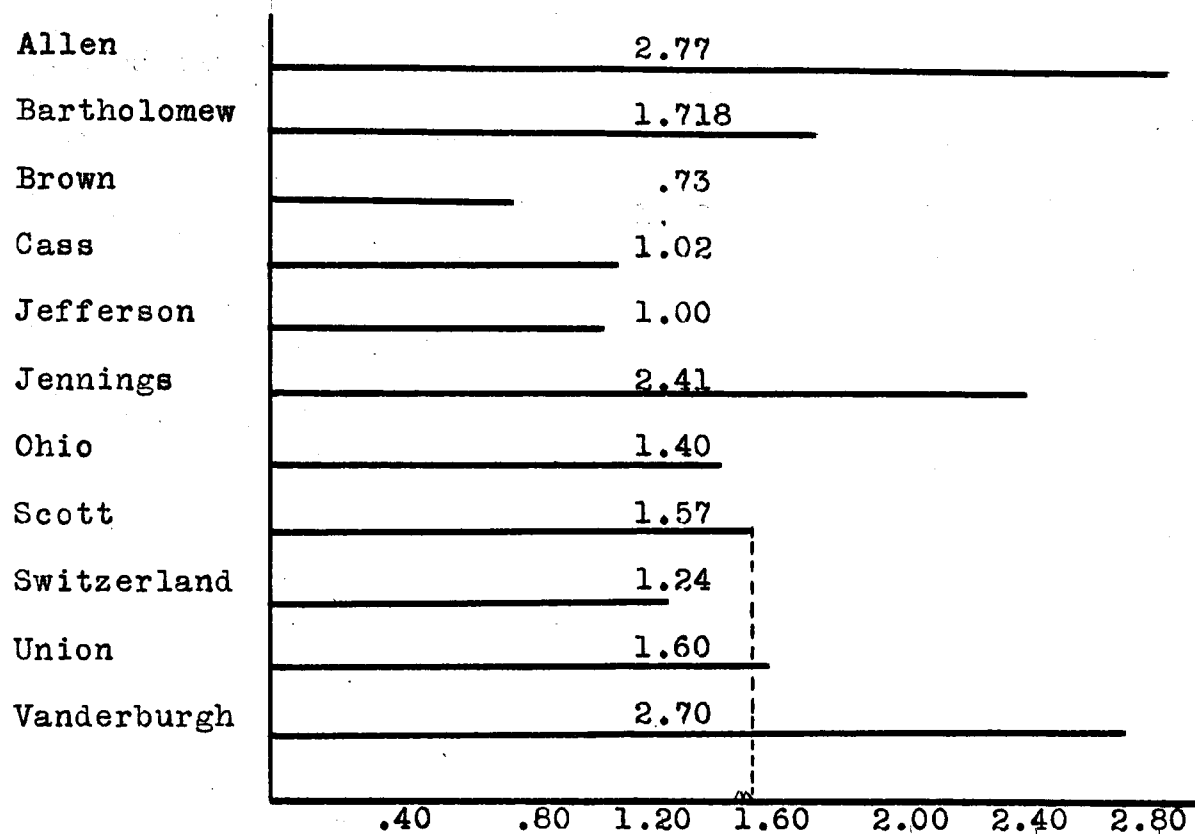


Figure 21. - Showing the expense per capita borrowers in the eleven counties above.

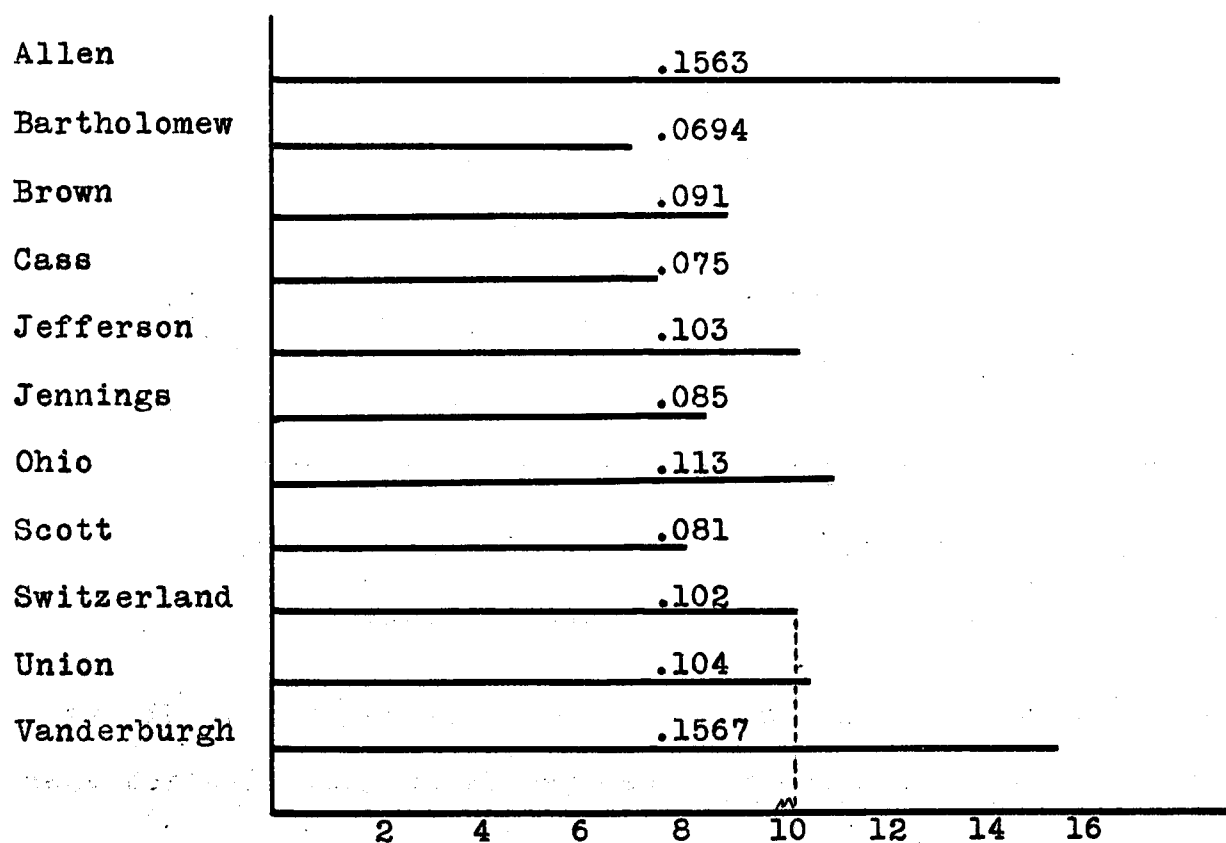


Figure 22. - Showing the expense per volume circulated in the counties listed above.

pended each year for books and periodicals. The range is from 11.5% in Jefferson County to 27.0% in Switzerland County. The median stands at 19.7% in Allen County. Bartholomew County stands at 18.6% which is not far from the median. The standard is 25% according to Long¹ who says, "In a study of 10 counties giving library service, it was found that the average expenditures were as follows: 36% for books, 41% for service, and 23% for operations and maintenance. The quite commonly accepted proportion of the

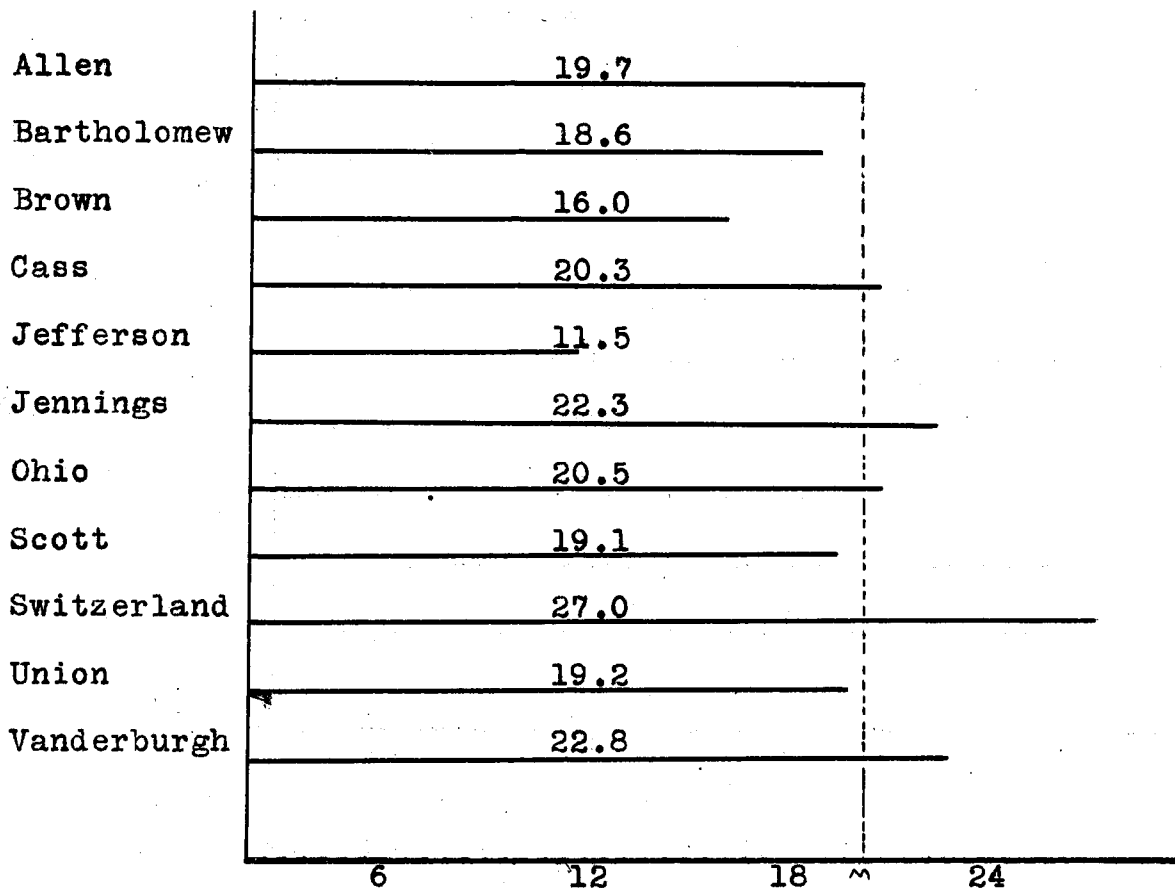


Figure 23. - Showing the per cent of the total expenditures expended each year for books and periodicals.

city library budget is as follows: 25 per cent for books, 50 per cent for salaries and 25 per cent for operation and maintenance.

¹ Long, Harriet Catherine, County Library Service published by American Library Association 1925, page 65.

It seems not unlikely that this proportion will apply with equal force to the county libraries when they have been longer established in spite of the fact that their service is extended over so wide an area, and through as many distributing centers."

Figure 24 shows the per cent of expenditures each year for librarians' salaries in the eleven counties. The range here is

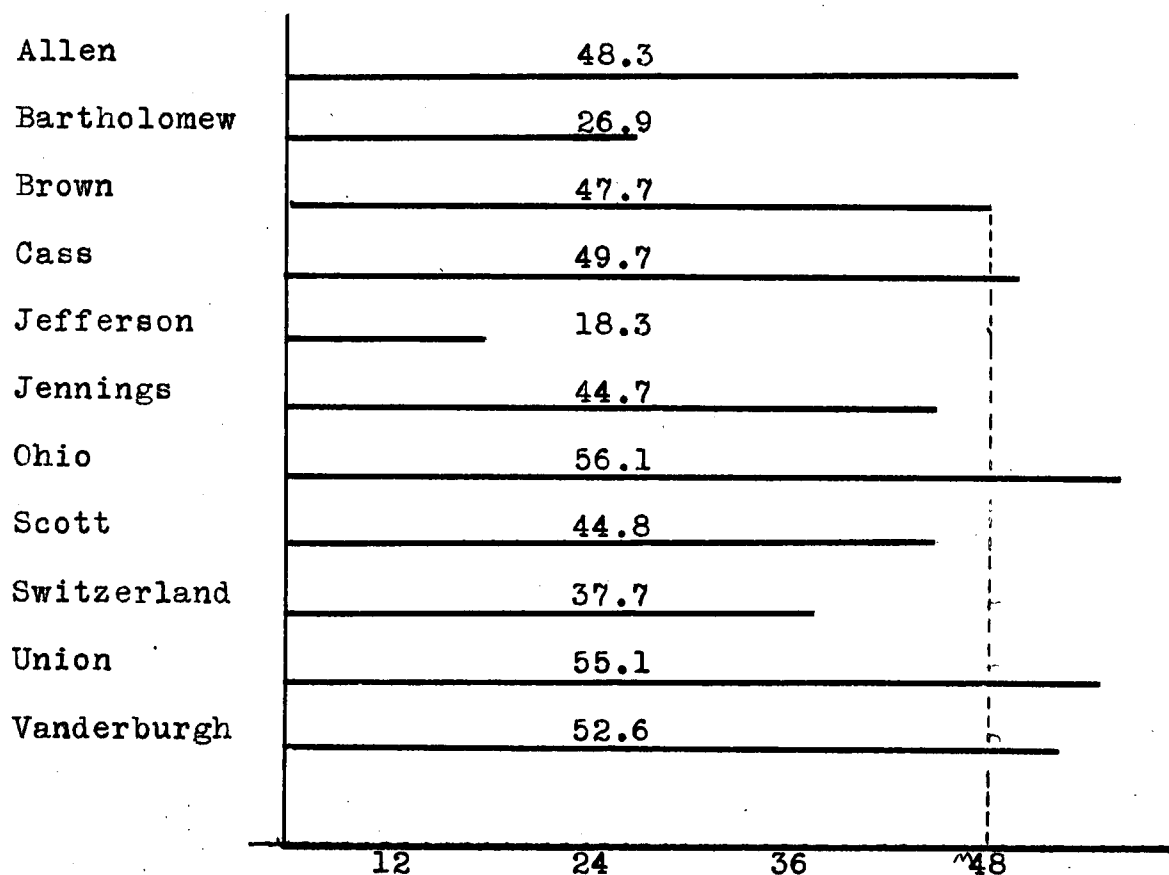


Figure 24. - Showing the per cent of expenditures each year for librarians' salaries in the above counties.

from 18.3% in Jefferson to 56.1% in Ohio County. The median stands at 47.7% for Brown County. Bartholomew expended 26.9% which is far below the median and the standard of 50%. The employment of additional help making more efficient service would show an improvement in this respect.

B. THE STATUS OF COUNTY LIBRARIES IN THE U. S.

The questionnaire found in Appendix E was sent to the 48 states as has been stated. Thirty-eight were returned and the results tabulated as found in Table XXVII. California, Alabama, Indiana, Montana, Ohio and Oregon seem to be the outstanding states in this unit of work. The county unit seems to be the unit in common demand as many of the laws are new and many are looking forward to county library laws in the near future. Indiana shows up well in this report, some 16.3 per cent of the counties having county library service. A series of notes answering question 9 follows:

1. Alabama says that the county library is in its infancy.
2. Arizona says that the county library law only passed in 1929.
3. Colorado says that the county library law is only one year old.
4. The Connecticut Public Library Committee serves the state (5004 square miles) as county libraries (?) serve their county.
5. The other two counties are taken care of by the State Library Commission on much the same basis as County Library system.
6. Replying to your letter of June 4th; we wish to explain that Georgia is one of the few states still lacking a county library law.
7. Idaho says that they have a state library system only.
8. Illinois says that the county contracted with the Monmouth City Library--The entire tax is from the county. The city library has some endowment.

TABLE XXVII

THE STATUS OF COUNTY LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES

STATES	Alabama	Arizona	Arkansas	California	Colorado	Connecticut	Delaware	Georgia	Idaho	Illinois	Indiana	Iowa	Kansas	Kentucky	Louisiana	Maine	Maryland	Massachusetts	Michigan	Minnesota	Montana	Nebraska	New Jersey	New York	North Dakota	Ohio	Oklahoma	Oregon	Pennsylvania	RHODE ISLAND	South Dakota	Tennessee	TEXAS	Utah	Vermont	Virginia	Washington	West Virginia	Wisconsin	Wyoming
1. How many counties in your state have county library service?	18	1	6	46	0	0	1	0	0	1	15	1	2	0	3	0	4	0	6	11	11	0	10	5	-	9	1	10	5	-	4	1	14	10	0	22	26	1	18	19
2. How many have sub stations?	3	1	2	46	-	-	1	0	0	1	15	-	-	0	3	0	2	0	6	-	10	0	10	-	-	9	0	5	4	-	0	-	10	3	0	3	-	-	4	4
3. How many have truck service?	4	-	-	0	-	-	1	0	0	0	4	-	-	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	-	0	10	-	-	9	0	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	0	1	0	1	2	0
4. How many have a full time 1/2-county librarian?	5	1	-	46	-	-	1	0	0	-	4	1	-	0	3	0	3	0	2	1	11	0	10	-	-	9	1	9	2	-	4	-	14	8	0	0	?	1	4	11
5. How many have a part time county librarian?	3	-	1	0	-	-	-	0	0	-	1	-	-	0	-	0	1	0	10	7	0	1	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	0	?	-	?	?	1
6. How many have stations in the schools?	18	1	1	46	-	-	1	0	0	1	15	-	-	0	3	0	2	0	6	11	1	0	10	-	-	9	2	8	5	-	4	-	12	6	-	7	?	-	4	1
7. How many furnish supplementary books for the schools?	18	0	-	46	-	-	1	0	0	-	15	-	-	0	3	0	3	0	0	11	-	0	10	-	-	9	?	-	-	-	4	-	12	10	-	10	-	-	4	19
8. How many counties in your state?	67	14	75	58	65	8	3	44	102	92	99	105	64	16	23	83	87	56	93	21	88	77	36	68	69	254	29	14	100	39	55	72	25	72	25					
9. Please list any other points of interest in regard to your county library system? ¹	1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8		9	10		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22								23	24		25	26			

¹ The numbers in request 9 of the table correspond to the notes in the body of the thesis. These notes give some idea of the status of the county library in the state responding.

Note: The following states did not respond to the questionnaire: Florida, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, South Carolina, and New Mexico.

9. One established by vote, we give contract service.
10. In Kentucky we do not have any county libraries established under our county library law. There are several in prospect but none which are at present giving active service. We have several under county contract library system of which Louisville is a good example.
11. Maryland says that two others are campaigning for county library system now. The movement is young in Maryland.
12. Massachusetts says that the county counts for nothing in New England.
13. Five contract libraries, 6th organized as independent library.
14. Montana says, "Several new county libraries in the past year."
15. New Jersey says, "We seem to get one new county library a year."
16. 1,570,495 people live on farms and in communities in New York State without library service. In 1922 the people of both Chemung and Monroe Counties learned of the county library plan. So much interest was aroused that appropriations were made by the two boards of supervisors and service was started in July 1923. The Monroe County Traveling Library is an independent unit, which serves the people from the book truck by loaning 10 books to a family for a period of seven weeks.

Chemung County has a contract with Steele Memorial Library at Elmira and has established deposit stations for children and adults.

Tomkins County organized its county library in 1928 and is serving the people throughout the county from 160 stations.

New York has lagged behind in county library development but

there is now every assurance that more county libraries will be established. (The Library of the Open Road--Ralph A Felton and Marjorie Beal. Cornell Extension Bullentin pp. 15 and 16.)

17. North Dakota says, "I regret to say we have no County Library law as yet."

18. Ohio says, "Need new law to promote county libraries in this state."

19. Oklahoma says, "A county library law was passed by Oklahoma Legislature in 1929. A number of counties now wish to take advantage of it. Several city libraries have been serving the county in an informal way, without any appropriations from the county."

20. Oregon says, "Branch libraries have some books of their own, local appropriations or board. Stations own no books but have collections on deposit from county library."

21. Pennsylvania says, "We are working steadily for county library and several other state associations are cooperating."

22. Rhode Island says, "County system not in operation in Rhode Island."

23. Virginia says, "The traveling library service of the state library serves the entire state. This service is entirely free."

24. Washington says, "Texts and supplementary readers are furnished by local districts."

25. West Virginia says, "We have no county library system. Lewis County is the only county with a county system. The library is the Louis Bennett Memorial at Weston."

26. Wisconsin says, "Several have traveling libraries."

C. SOME COUNTY LIBRARY FACTS

Mary Dexter Henshall¹ says "Less than twenty years ago the California State Library was attempting to give library service to rural people by means of traveling libraries. There were 478 Communities with 37,288 borrowers dependent upon these traveling libraries which were loaned for a period of three months. Lacking effectiveness, they were discontinued by the State Library in 1911 after a trial of eight years. As a precursor of the county library the greatest result they produced was to demonstrate that the county rather than the state was the logical unit for library service."

The California law of 1911 seems to be so flexible and comprehensive as to be able to give excellent service to the communities served. "Two big types of library service are given by California county libraries--community service and school service. A very complete organization is needed to carry on this extensive work. A certificated librarian with trained assistants at headquarters and with the best custodians available at the branch libraries over the county is one aim in county library work."²

In addition to the very fine service in all communities who have county libraries either by organization or contract, the schools have been given help. Out of 2875 active high and elementary schools in the 46 counties having county libraries, 2464 have joined the county libraries. The most of the remainder

¹ Henshall, Mary Dexter. "California County Free Libraries" The Library Journal Vol. 54, No. 14 (August, 1929) P. 643.

² Ibid. 644

have such large schools that it would really not be much benefit. The school library funds are pooled and administered by the county librarian.

Julia C. Babcock¹ in an address makes the following statement, "All of the schools of the county, except Taft, and all of those in the city are served by the county library. For all these schools we provide all the supplementary books required by the course of study, books for home reading, desk and professional books for the teachers, maps and globes, large dictionaries for school room use and small ones for desk use, stereographs and stereoscopes, music records for the teaching of music appreciation, pictorial films and a lantern if desired, as these are of special value in teaching geography and natural history. Anything which the school needs which can be furnished by the library is given."

Miss Nina Moran² says, "The most vital thing in serving our rural communities is our personal contact with our people. Of course, it all depends on the librarian, she must be the right type, nearly perfect, not quite, but very human, with broad understanding of people. We must know our book stock but we must also have first hand knowledge of the problems, general character, occupations and interests of the people we are serving. Personal contact is possible in sparsely settled sections but the more densely populated regions, the more clubs, through which to es-

¹ Babcock, Mrs. Julia C., Librarian, Keon County Free Library, Bakersfield California. An Abstract of an address on "How We Serve Our Community."

² Moran, Nina, Librarian, Wasco County Library, The Dalles, Oregon. An Abstract of an address on "How We Serve our Community."

tablish this contact. So we work with Granges, Farm Bureaus, P. T. A's, Chambers of Commerce and any other groups."

Julia Wright Merrill¹ says, "For a county library system means books for every man, woman and child in the county who wants to read. It is indeed 'of the county, by the county, for the county,' though it may be built on a good county seat library already in operation. The laws of most states permit the establishment of such service, but the individual county must always decide for itself, through its county board or by popular vote, whether it is ready for a county library. The progressive counties, therefore, need not wait for the poorer, less developed sections of the state. A county library board is appointed, engages a librarian, and together they work out a general plan of operation to fit the particular county.-----'After the church and the school,' said Theodore Roosevelt, 'the free public library is the most effective influence for good in America. The moral, mental, and material benefits to be derived from a carefully selected collection of good books, free for the use of all the people, cannot be over estimated. No community can afford to be without a library.'"

A circular for the Kern County Free Library, Bakersfield, California gives the following data: In July 1928, the County Library consisted of 223,732 books, 20693 pamphlets, 843 maps, 2156 pictures, 2096 slides, 16 films, 84 globes, 167 charts, 19212

¹ Merrill, Julia Wright, Executive Assistant in Library Extension, American Library Association. Discussion from Books that Travel, the County Library Brings them to the Farm for You.

stereographs, 228 reading aids, 835 music records, 75 music rools. There were 57,166 registered borrowers. The County Library subscribed for 1356 magazines which are distributed to the main library and the larger branches.

California believes in advertising her system. Much desirable and important information is sent to the people by means of postal cards.

Margaret E. Wright says:¹ "County libraries mean equalization of cultural opportunity for city and rural communities, but the organization of the library and the type of service given depend entirely upon the physical conditions of the county itself. Few types of library work offer greater variety or are harder to compare."

This brings the need for county library service forcibly to our minds. With the rapid development of farm homes due to the automobile, the use of electricity, and modern conveniences, this need for an equalization of cultural opportunities stands out.

This story is told better by Bessie Wells Palm² in the Library Journal when she says: "Today there are thousand of farm women who are insisting that their children shall have a better chance in life than they themselves had. The modern farm family, formerly isolated and segregated, is now making new contacts. The

¹ Wright, Margaret E., Head of County Department. "Cuyahoga County Library, A Department of Cleveland Public Library". The Library Journal Vol. 54. No. 14 (August, 1929) P. 646.

² Palm, Bessie Wells, "County Libraries". The Library Journal Vol. 54. No. 14 (August 1929) P. 652.

telephone, rural free delivery, and the radio bring it the world's news, good music and entertainment, thus broadening its outlook and stimulating its wishes. The world is recognizing the farmer's new status, especially in a business way. His occupation is acquiring new dignity and power. Here is where the opportunities and obligations of library service enter. Twenty-seven million farm people with added interests and desires and a quickened curiosity are inquiring and eager for new knowledge. The public library, that great democratic institution, so universal and necessary for city people, should be available to the farmer as he assumes these new relationships. The modern idea of a library is a service of books rather than a storehouse of books.

"When facilities for library service for rural people are examined, some striking facts are found. According to figures given by the American Library Association there are 5954 public libraries in the 3065 counties in the U. S. It is estimated that 45,069,897 people are without public library service. Of these 42,152,291 or 93% are rural (living in open county or in places having less than 2500 population.) Eighty-two per cent of the rural population of the United States do not have public library service as compared with six per cent of the urban population who do not have such service. The deficiency in library service to negroes is even more impressive. The cost of this public library service in the United States in a recent year, was \$35,347,156 or 33 cents per capita for all people of the United States or 59 cents per capita for people in public library service areas. In rural sections 59 cents will buy one-

third of a good book. The national bill for soft drinks is eleven times as large as the public library bill; the radio bill twelve and one-half times as large, the moving picture bill twenty-two times as large, and the candy bill twenty-eight times as large as the public library bill."

These items alone would seem to justify the development of a library system that would place books, magazines and papers in the hands of each man, woman and child in the rural area.

The county library is no longer in the experimental stage but is a reality. This is indicated by the great number of states adopting county library laws and the great number of counties organizing under these laws.

There is no end to the possibilities of the development of the system. All evidence points that there is a two fold duty; the community and the school. The evidence points to unlimited possibilities in each field.

D. DO ORGANIZATIONS FAVOR COUNTY LIBRARIES?

Here is a sampling of what organizations say---In April 1923 a meeting of the American Library Association held in Hot Springs, Arkansas, the Council voted:¹ "That the American Library Association has viewed with interest the growth of the county library system, and wishes to express its belief that the county is the logical unit of library service for most parts of the United States, and that the County Library system is the solution of the library problem for country districts."

¹Long, Harriet Catherine. "County Library Service." American Library Association . Page 7 -1925.

In November of 1923 the following resolution was introduced at a meeting of the National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, held in Pittsburgh:¹ "Whereas, Public Libraries have become such an important factor in the social life of the towns and cities; and whereas, those living in the villages and on the farms are deprived of library service because of the much greater proportional cost under such conditions; therefore, Be it Resolved That the National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, approves of the County Library plan, which has proven very successful in Maryland, Ohio, Indiana and many other states, and hopes to see it universally adopted."

Dr. Kenyon L. Butterfield² President of the Massachusetts Agricultural College in his address to the American Library Association at Swampscott in 1921 said: "A library in one sense does not want to take itself too seriously. It ought to get itself into the lives and affections of the people." This statement should lead one not to become impatient because of slow growth but to make sure and permanent strides.

Probably one of the oldest organizations in sympathy with the county library movement was the State of Indiana Constitutional Convention of 1815. Long says³ "Indiana has been outstanding in this field as county libraries were first established by law in Indiana in 1816 at the time of the adoption of a constitution. 'The General Assembly, at the time they lay off a new county,

¹ Long, Harriet Catherine, op. cit., p. 7.

² Long, Harriet Catherine, op. cit., p. 10.

³ Long, Harriet Catherine, op. cit., p. 15.

shall cause at least 10 per cent to be preserved out of the proceeds of the sale of town lots in the seat of justice of each county, for the use of a public library for such county, and at the same session they shall incorporate a Library Company under such rules and regulations as will best secure its performance and extend its benefits.'"

It is needless to say that in the pioneer days this was not a success but it was an admirable spirit shown in the leaders enthusiasm for each to have equal opportunity in library privileges.

It seems to me that sufficient data have been given to show: that there is a reading public; that in all probability, the most logical way to serve the schools with reference work, maps, globes, charts, supplementary work, fiction and non-fiction etc., is through this system; that men who have the rural interests at heart and organizations which desire to see a library growth advocate the movement. But there may be those who believe the cost of getting this material to the public is prohibitive and would not justify the service.

The following data was taken from Long and deals with cost of transportation service and the schedules of county libraries.

In making a study of ten county library services and costs, it was found that "included in the operation and maintenance costs is the amount spent for transportation which varied from 2 to 10 per cent of the total expenditure. Six of the counties owned or purchased during the year a county library automobile, and it was in these six counties that from 4 to 10 per cent of the entire fund was spent on transportation. Three of the four

county libraries without automobiles spent only 2 per cent and the fourth 3 per cent for transportation. Unquestionably, however, closer contact with the people of the county through the book automobile and through the more frequent visits to branches and stations justified the larger, transportation cost."¹

One would judge from the above survey that the transportation cost would not be prohibitive and in the rural circulation, as given in previous pages, the per volume circulation costs no doubt would be cheaper than the city costs. There are many factors entering into this, and it would necessitate a separate study to justify, definitely, the statement just made.

Let us now notice a county librarian's schedule of service as given by Long;² A schedule for the promotion of library interests calls for intensive field work on the part of the county librarian as outlined in Allen County, Indiana, for September, 1925. It showed only five days in the entire month that the county librarian and one of her trained assistants were in the headquarters office all day. During the first of the month a library exhibit at the county fair occupied their time and attention. For eleven days in the month visits were made to branches and stations; on five days the county schools were visited; on one day, a parent-teacher's meeting and on another day the county teachers' institute. Thus the staff came in contact with actual needs of the county and gave the people of the county opportunity to know the possibilities of their library service.

¹ Long, Harriet Catherine "County Library Service" American Library Association, p. 65. 1925.

² Long, Harriet Catherine, Ibid., p.89.

"The book auto used by the Logansport, Cass County, Indiana library was built," says Long¹ "on a Chevrolet chassis, in September, 1922, at a cost of \$830. During the first year of service the book auto was driven 5488 miles and the cost for operation was less than five cents per mile itemized as follows:

Gasoline	\$70.66
Oil	11.84
Garage	90.00
Tires and Chains	11.51
Insurance	4.15
Repairs	77.44

"One book auto (a Ford) which has traveled more than 8,000 miles reports an average of about four cents per mile for gas, oil, tires, and other repairs. If the cost of insurance be added, cost per mile increased to six and a half cents."

This information is given in answer to what will a book truck cost. This of course will vary and is given only for informational and comparative purposes. There are many counties in the west where the book truck would not be practicable at all. Large desert areas, scant population, poor roads and mountain or timbered regions would prohibit, yet in our average central west, central and eastern sections, they undoubtedly would be usable in many areas.

One day's schedule as given by the above mentioned county once in four weeks is as follows:²

¹ Long, Harriet Catherine, op. cit., p. 118-119.

² Long, Harriet Catherine, op. cit., p. 123-124.

21 home stops. Average 10 minutes each; circulation average 6. 2 village stops. Average 30 and 45 minutes. Circulation average 30 and 70.

1 deposit station. Average 30 minutes. Circulation average 90 to 150. This deposit serves just the neighborhood. Books are chosen and circulation counted in the time.

This route in the winter has, in addition, stops (20 minutes each) at three district schools where books are selected and left as a deposit. The noon hour is then spent in the larger of the two villages where a two room school is also served.

Miles traveled 25.

Routes of purely house-to-house work have from thirty to forty stops.

The above information is given to give some idea of the services of a book truck. They may not seem worth while yet reports from the counties using the trucks are very favorable. Here lies a field of opportunity for development in Bartholomew County.

E. SUMMARY

The survey of the United States and Indiana shows that the county library system is a growing institution. In Indiana four were added last year. The services are rendered to the community and the school. The library has taken over the function of furnishing the most of the material for school use in many counties. The community and school is served through stations, collections and the book truck. This is not prohibitive and the schedule shows much of work to be accomplished.

Bartholomew county has much to do yet before she is up to the

standard and will be able to accomplish much more when she spends the dollar per capita which is the standard as established by the American Library Association.¹

¹ Long, Harriett Catherine "County Library Service" American Library Association. p. 61 1925.

APPENDIX

A. FINDINGS

1. The library was originally the expression of the wishes of the people.
2. The building is very largely the gift of Andrew Carnegie.
3. The need for free library service in the rural districts led to the use of the law in changing the library from a pure city library to a city-county library.
4. Since the interest of the city and rural group are somewhat different, it was found that a special agreement between the rural board members and the city board members would help to correct difficulties.
5. The building is so constructed, that it will be possible to place another deck for books in the stack room.
6. The building is well located being near the business interests and the school interests.
7. The increase in the number of borrowers, book stock and financial resources have been very gratifying since the change from a city to a county library.
8. The library is functioning in the activities of the school but the possibilities in this field have only begun. There is much need for greater effort and more results in this phase of the library service.
9. The teachers demand more books and a more extensive and intensive program.
10. The patrons are reading more books and better books.
11. The patrons feel repaid for the services rendered by the library, but they are asking for better service.

12. The rural group realize that many books on the shelves are not fit for young people to read and are asking for a higher quality of books.

13. The type of book that will build character is in demand.

14. The county library is only in its prime. It is generally conceded by authority that the county is a better unit than the state and many states are reorganizing their systems by the passing of county library laws.

15. "At the beginning of 1929, 265 counties in the United States had made appropriations for county library service."

Felton. p. 15.

16. Indiana is one of the leaders in county library work and service.

17. The possibilities of county library service to the schools and to the public are almost unlimited.

B. QUESTIONNAIRE TO TEACHERS

Dear Co-Worker: This questionnaire is to find out how well the County library is serving the rural districts. Please place a check in the proper square in answer to the questions.

yes no

1. Were more supplementary readers used by grades 1, 2, 3 and 4 during 1928-29 and 1929-30 than the preceding years?
2. Were these obtained at the County Library?
3. Did you have sufficient number in your own school library?
4. Do you have book reports in grades 5, 6, 7 and 8?
5. Do you use the County library books for these?
6. Does your trustee furnish enough books for reports?
7. Do you find the County library filling the needs of your school?
8. Do you find that it has been meeting your needs more since the placing of the several sets of supplementary readers at your disposal?
9. Have you noticed any visible improvement in reading since using the supplementary readers placed at your disposal?
10. Can the library be of greater service to

yes no.

you by placing more supplementary readers at your disposal?

11. Can the library be of greater service to you by furnishing more fiction and non-fiction suitable for grades 5, 6, 7 and 8?

12. In your opinion how can the library be of greater service to the schools of the County:

13. Check the position held by you,

- a. Teacher in one room rural school.
- b. Teacher or principal in consolidated school.
- c. Primary teacher.
- d. Intermediate teacher.
- e. Grammar grade teacher.
- f. High School teacher.

14. Indicate in the square the number of years taught.

15. Indicate in the square the number of years taught in your present position.

C. QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE PATRONS

yes no

1. Do you read more books since the county library has come into existence than you did before?
2. Do you read better books?
3. Do you read a wider variety of books?
4. Do you find enough books in the station to choose from?
5. Are the books changed often enough for you to get what you want?
6. Do you find as large a variety to choose from as needed?
7. Should there be more non-fiction books in the library?
8. Would you use reference books if they were available?
9. Do you feel that you are repaid for what it costs you?
10. Please state how the library service may be made more effective and beneficial.

The individuals were asked to check "yes" or "no" in answer to these questions.

The letter which accompanied the questionnaire is as follows:

Hope, Indiana

June 12, 1930

Dear Sir:

This is a questionnaire to find out how much the county library is being used by you and how well it is meeting your needs.

Please place check marks in the proper columns or squares. Be as accurate as possible. The only purpose of this is to learn how much this library is being used and whether it is serving as best it might. Please return the card to me at once.

Very truly yours,

J. Ray Ross

D. QUESTIONNAIRE TO COUNTIES

The following is the questionnaire sent to the eleven county libraries as of record in the Indiana Year Book 1929:

1. How many rural stations do you have?
2. Do you have stations in the schools?
3. Do you furnish Supplementary Readers to the schools?
4. Do you have county truck service?
5. Do you have a full time County Librarian?
6. Do you have a part time County Librarian?
7. Are the books delivered to the stations?
8. Are the books delivered to the schools?
9. How often are the station books changed?
10. What per cent of your circulation was rural in 1929?
11. When was your county library service established?
12. Do you do your own binding and repair?
13. Give any outstanding features of your service-----

-----.

County _____

Name _____

E. QUESTIONNAIRE TO STATES

The following questionnaire was sent to the State Department of Education in each of the forty eight states with instructions, if they did not have the information, to place it into the hands of the Library Commission. Later twenty-four were sent to the State Libraries.

Date _____

Address _____

1. How many counties in your state have County Library service?
 2. How many have sub-stations?
 3. How many have truck service?
 4. How many have full time County Librarian?
 5. How many have part time County Librarian?
 6. How many have stations in the schools?
 7. How many furnish supplementary books for the schools?
 8. How many counties in your state?
 9. Please list any other points in regard to your county library system _____
-

Signature _____

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