FIFTEENTH BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

State Library Commission

TO THE

State Board of Administration



FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 1934-JUNE 30, 1936



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Buy "Dakota Maid" Flour

North Dakota State Library Bismarck, ND 58505

BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

June 30, 1936

Jennie Ulsrud Robert M. Rishworth Arthur E. Thompson Theo. Martell

STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION STAFF

June 30, 1936

Lillian E. Cook	Secretary and Director
Bessie R. Baldwin	Traveling Library Chief
Doris L. Hidde	Reference Librarian
Arlene Wagner	Stenographer
Helen Targart	Clerk
Marian Morton	Clerk

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

To the State Board of Administration

Bismarck, North Dakota

Herewith is submitted the Fifteenth Biennial Report of the North Dakota State Library Commission, covering the period from July 1, 1934 to June 30, 1936.

> LILLIAN E. COOK, Secretary and Director.

> > ,

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY AND DIRECTOR, 1934-36

State Library Commission

Happily after a period generally designated as "Depression" the State Library Commission has some positive gains to record. These include a biennial gain in circulation; new juvenile book service to the small libraries of the state; the organization of a state wide book repair project; cooperation with the State Department of Public Instruction in the new ruling in regard to trained librarians in high schools; and the rearrangement of the State Library Commission office and working space and book stacks. The period reflects the unusual economic and social conditions which have affected established activities and progress, stimulating some, retarding some, and inaugurating others. The State Library Commission has been glad to continue to cooperate with state departments and to associate also with the new federal departments which have had so large a part in North Dakota's history the past two years.

Throughout the state there has been a great interest in local libraries, with the American Legion Auxiliary especially active. The federal recreational directors in the various counties have also been interested, and many new collections have been assembled and opened to the public. The Commission regrets that the introduction to community borrowing of books has had to come through untrained service, but is counting on the new readers to support more adequate library service when it is possible.

The completion of the new capitol building released space in the Liberty Memorial building which had been assigned to the State Library Commission when the building was planned but which for various reasons had never been available. In the distribution of space by the Board of Administration, the State Library Commission was given the rooms south of the stairway on the ground and first floors, and the stacks on the first floor and its mezzanine. A doorway was cut between the two first floor west rooms, both were redecorated, and they provide a much needed office for the secretary, a commodious room to house the files for the clippings and pamphlets, the play collection, a reading table, and shelving for professional books. The former office has the desks for the stenographer and reference librarian; the main floor stacks accommodate the clerks' desks; the office of the Traveling Library Department has been moved to the ground floor in a room adjacent to the storage room for the Traveling Library collections when they are not in the field. The Traveling Library suite contains a supply closet, a combined work and office room, and a small typewriting room.

This arrangement eased the hampering congestion in office and shelving space, and has made working conditions much better.

Staff changes caused by low wage scale were numerous and are outlined below.

Reference Librarian

July, 1934-October 15, 1935	Elizabeth Gieseler
November 23, 1935-March 19, 1936	Leona Christensen
May 15, 1936-date	Doris Hidde

Stenographer

July, 1934-April, 1935	Frances Heath
April, 1935-November, 1935	Chrissie Budge
December, 1935-date	Arlene Wagner

Clerk

July, 1934-Ja	anuary, 1936	Marion	Jordan
February, 19	936-date	Marian	Morton

A comparison of the directories in this report and that of 1932-34 will show many changes in librarians, two association libraries no longer functioning, and service established in thirteen towns.

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

The Secretary-director has had to devote considerable time to other than Commission administrative duties. The organization of federal library projects required many hours while the program was getting started, and because of personnel changes much of the reference work of 1935-36 had to be done by the secretary and the head of the Traveling Library Department. Field work was reduced to a minimum partly because of press of office work and partly because of lack of travel funds. During 1934 three district library meetings were held, but none were scheduled in 1935. Attendance at two state library meetings, two North Dakota Educational Association meetings, one of the Federation of Women's Clubs, the organization of the Wahpeton Indian School Library, and conferences and board meetings at twelve towns completed the Secretary's field work.

We have always felt that the small public libraries of the state were entitled to more help that it has been possible to offer them. Unfortunately the things they need most, money for supplies and new popular books to supplement the local collection are just the things the Commission's small budget will not provide. This lack was partially supplied as far as juvenile books are concerned through the generous cooperation of book publishers who donated sample copies of their new publications. These books were sorted, graded, and sent to the public libraries first as book week or special exhibits and later for circulation purposes. A collection of juvenile books was borrowed in the spring of 1936 from a lending agency in Philadelphia, and these have been sent in groups of about twenty-five to small libraries to help meet the summer demand.

Preliminary work has been done on a new edition of Bulletin No. 5 (the list of books for grade school libraries) but because the Department of Public Instruction could not finance its printing, its completion and distribution must wait a later date.

TRAVELING LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

The number of books purchased has been limited, and many have gone to replace worn-out copies in older libraries so that the actual number of new libraries is smaller than ever before—24 as against 27 during the previous biennium. And yet we have met an increase in circulation of 2,063 over the previous period. 1934-35 was the best year the Traveling Library Department has known. Always the circulation could have been larger if there had been more books to meet the peak of the winter demand.

It is gratifying to note that satisfied borrowers have returned to ask for more service, 321 of them in the second half of the period as against 286 in the first half. Some stations have been served continuously for nearly thirty years. The bank at Heaton began in 1908 under Mr. C. I. Turner, and since his death his son Howard Turner has continued this fine piece of community service.

The schools continue to be the heaviest borrowers. These lean years have seen many communities unable to supply books for the school libraries and they have been grateful for a central state agency to turn to. Superintendents of high schools increasingly ask for help in supplying the necessary outside reading for their English students. Both Traveling Library and Reference Departments have contributed to this.

Federal aid under FERA and WPA has made possible increased efficiency in Traveling Library service. Light wooden shipping cases were made by the carpenters for small collections of 20-25 books. These go by parcel post, and the durable cases, instead of pasteboard boxes, have been making the shipping more convenient and much safer. The average amount of postage has been thirtyfive cents each way, and these small libraries have been very popular. Circulating for three months only they have doubled the turnover, in comparison with the heavy freight cases which go for six months.

Aid in book-mending under WPA has been another outstanding help. One woman has been kept busy through the year, and three during the summer when all the traveling libraries are gathered in to be renovated.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

The Reference Department is the branch of the Library Commission that serves directly the persons of the state and its employees in Bismarck. Of necessity about 90% of the requests for specific books, information, or collections of books is received by mail. By this means library service is made available to persons in isolated communities. The Library Commission also supplements from its collection material found in the small library units. Assistance is given to clubs throughout the State by means of program^b suggestions, outlines, and collections of material. Forty-five clubs were registered for regular service last year, and a number of (others requested material for their programs from time to time. Schools are served by sending books for required reading, debate material and declamations at their request. Every effort is made to serve the inhabitants of this state with worthwhile up-to-date material for serious study and books in a lighter vein for recreational reading. For this purpose reading lists are compiled with a view to aid people in selecting their books, and bibliographies on special subjects are prepared upon request.

FEDERAL

The reports of many state departments for the past two years must include not only those activities financed by the regular state appropriation but also those carried out in cooperation with federal funds. The State Library Commission has worked with the federal agencies on various library projects which during this period have emphasized staff help rather than renovation of buildings.

FERA

The Federal Emergency Relief Administration succeeded the Civil Works Administration in the spring of 1935. Fortunately most of the librarians who had been employed under CWA were continued on FERA library projects, were transferred to other projects or secured private employment.

The largest project developed under FERA was a county wide plan for mending and cleaning the books in public and school libraries which was tried out in four counties. Workers were trained at the State Library Commission, supplies paid for by FERA funds were selected and bought by the Commission and sent to the various counties. Supervision and checking were not provided for, but the project was so successful that it was expanded and continued under WPA.

WPA

In the fall of 1935 projects were submitted providing for the cleaning and repairing of library and text books in rural and small town schools and the public libraries of the state, clerical help for all libraries and a supervisory staff. Owing to various federal complications the work was not really started until January, 1936 after which it was established rapidly.

Clerical and staff help was given in most of the public libraries, some in combination with county wide book mending projects, but fifteen with one or more full time workers. Eighty-four other groups of relief women were trained and organized to clean and mend text and library books in public schools, special emphasis being placed on small town and rural schools. On these various projects 415 persons were employed, and up to June 30, 58,623 books were mended at an average cost of .033 cents a volume, exclusive of wages. Hospital work was continued at Bismarck and established at Williston. Back work was cleaned up in many libraries and much necessary mending done. Some professional organizing was done in public and school libraries.

STATISTICAL REPORT 1934-36

Books

Traveling Library:

Number of traveling libraries	388
Number of libraries added during period	24
Number of books added during period	787
Number of books in libraries	5,180 🖌
forence Department:	

Reference Department:

Number	of	books	5			·	 .17,888
Number	of	books	added	during	period.	·	 . 740
Number	of	pamp	hlets		••••••		18,200

Circulation

Traveling Library:	1934-35	1935-36	Total
Number of libraries circulated	623	567	1,190
School	469	449	918
Community	154	118	272
Number of books shipped	23,177	20,701	43,878
Number of new stations	129	117	246
Reference Department:			
Number of requests	11,348	9,104	20,452
Number of books circulated	53,068	42,901	95,969
Number of magazines and pamphlets	9,343	9,658	19,001
Total Reference circulation	62,411	52,559	114,970
Total Commission circulation	85,588	73,26 0	158,848

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			RECEIPTS						
	PLACE	1930 Population	TA	AX	TOTAL				
		ropulation	1934-1935	1935-1936	1934-1935	1935-1936			
	Over 2,500								
1.	Fargo Grand Forks	28,619	13,237	13,447	16,182	14,450			
2.	Grand Forks	17,112	4,600	6,000	5,701	7,166			
3.	Minot	16,099	4,834	6,396	5,490	7,132			
4.	Bismarck	11,090	7,400	8,200	8,403	9,170			
5.	Jamestown	8,187	2,500	4,200	4,200	5,834			
6.	Devils Lake	5,451	3,707	3,598	4,078	4,036			
7.	Valley City	5,268	3,577	2,089	3,824	2,285			
8,	Dickinson	5,025	4,000	4,000	4,272	4.262			
9.	Williston	5,106	1,698	4,147	1,995	8,147			
10.	Wahpeton	3,176	3,000	3,000	3,472	3,100			
11.	Grafton	3,136	1,100	1,084	1,662	1,640			
	Under 2,500								
12.	Ashley	1,033	25	25	153	237			
13.	Bowman	888	389	393	623	670			
14.	Carrington	1,717	1,287	690	1,287	705			
15.	Casselton	1,253	300	300	300				
16.	Ellendale	1,264	350	350	611	590			
17.	Garrison	1,024	190		210				
18.	Hankinson	1,400	377	40	12	45			
19.	Lakota	860	377	360	444	400			
20.	LaMoure	889	500	500	546	500			
21.	Langdon	1,221		,					
22.	Lidgerwood	1,029	515	650	565	837			
23.	Lisbon	1,650	967	1,182	1,631	1,324			
24.	Mayville	1,199	584		714				
25.	Mott	1,036	360	360	379	381			
26.	Oakes	1,709	828	883	999	1,169			
27.	Park River		400	400	408	415			
28.	Rugby	1,512	100	100	161	164			
29.	Velva	870	50	50	67	95			
30.	Wishek	1,146		75		80			

		EXPENDITURES								
	PLACE	SALA	RIES	HEAT, LIG	RENT, HT	BOC MAGA		TOTAL		
		1934-35	1935-36	1934-35	1935-36	1934-35	1935-36	1934-35	1935-36	
	Over 2,500									
1.	Fargo	7,279	7,199	709	779	2,591	2,766	13,513	14,392	
2.	Grand Forks	3,826	3,773	898	1,006	869	767	6,026	6,745	
3.	Minot	2,892	2,501	435	394	1,285	1,408	5,407	5,001	
4.	Bismarck	4,127	4,454	743	640	1,421	2,087	8,409	9,182	
5.	Jamestown	1,383	2,144	541	510	993	1,551	3,864	5,350	
6.	Devils Lake	1,492	1,440	390	344	501	710	2,758	4,134	
7.	Valley City	1,851	1,800	365	424	536	730	2,955	3,500	
8.	Dickinson	2,075	1,984	309	318	1,297	1,560	4,420	4,241	
9.	Williston	1,710	1,831	441	485	1,168	1,143	2,699	4,187	
10.	Wahpeton	1,530	1,585	484	- 548	417	634	2,099	3,323	
11.	Grafton Under 2,500	947	947		84	490	406	1,529	1,574	
12.	Ashley	120	120			62	104	182	224	
13.	Bowman	326	325	66	62	239	100	628	671	
14.	Carrington	600	600	22	18	442	223	973	1,062	
15.	Casselton	150	150			138	104	290	264	
16.	Ellendale	370	370	(.		183	155	610	591	
17.	Garrison	60		10		44		177		
18.	Hankinson	· · · ·	40	1		8	5	15	45	
19.	Lakota	216	216			44	36	398	401	
20.	LaMoure	305	300	1		182	159	528	550	
21.	Langdon	150	150	1		186	218	1	268	
22.	Lidgerwood	342	374	57	175	87	96	587	773	
23.	Lisbon	482	475	142	180	174	189	1,105	1,332	
24.	Mayville	345	240	192		98	144	711	794	
25.	Mott	180	300	15		21	39	430	349	
26.	Oakes	636	608			160	392	855	1,077	
27.	Park River	180	180		• • •	88	74	268	320	
28.	Rugby	78	51			58	120	143	214	
29.	Velva	•	•			23	78	26	101	
30.	Wishek	52	52	l		10	5	120	71	

REPORT OF STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION

	PLACE	1934-			LATIC 35-36	ON Total	-	Volu	mes	Bo	r rowers	Hours Open Per Week	Rural Borrow-
	Over 2,500	1994-	00	190	00-00	Totai	1					week	ers
1.	Fargo.	205,9	49	202	2,053	408,022		34,1	25	1	9,288	72	421
2.	Grand Forks	76,8		78	,423	152,285 333,197 313,272 143,574 60,264		14,3	50		5,948	42	- 93
3.	Minot	185,0	46	148	3,151	333,197		17.6	380		5,948 7,178	72	
4.	Bismarck	151,0	31	162	2,241	313,272	: [13,7 13,0	52		1,000	54	
5.	Jamestown	69,3	15	74	1,259 3,217	143,574		13,0	017		6,004	36	807
6. 7.	Devils Lake Valley City	32,0 37,9	47	28	8,217	60,264			41		2,724	40	34
8.	Dickinson	57,9 52,5			3,179 0,351	109 022		10,2	90 85		2,806 3,857	$\frac{36}{51}$	$203 \\ 239$
9.	Williston	28,4		30	,222	76,174 102,922 58,714 53,049		12,1 10,7 10,2	72		3,801	42	26
10.	Wahpeton	26,1	91	26	5,858	53.049		10.2	97		2,414	33	20
11.	Grafton	27,0)50	2ξ	5,868	52,918		5,3	316		1,458	24	6
	Under 2,500												
$12. \\ 13.$	Ashley Bowman	5,4	60		1,836	10,296 12,354 41,868		$8,9 \\ 6,7$	915		340	6	
14.	Carrington	$6,3 \\ 23,1$	00	10	5,021 8,768	12,304		6,9	00		$\begin{array}{c} 704 \\ 2,475 \end{array}$	14	956
15.	Casselton	23,1		10	,420	9,620					150	$^{25}_{4}$	900
1ĕ.	Ellendale	15,5	38	1	5.300	30,838		4,0			1,076	15	350
17.	Garrison	1.8	320		1			1,1	156			8	
18.	Hankinson	5,7	20	- 6	3,264	8,984		4,3	300		500	4	50
19.	Lakota	5,7	86	12	2,020	19,406		1,1 4,3 4,7 3,2	33			9	114
$\frac{20}{21}$	LaMoure	¦ ⊥1,8	\$70		3,530	21,400 22,814	!	3,2	15		1,092	9 8	459
$\frac{21}{22}$.	Langdon Lidgerwood	10,8 11,5			2,000	22,814		$5,1 \\ 4,1$	130		$\begin{array}{c} 275 \\ 827 \end{array}$	$\frac{8}{24}$	• • •
23.	Lisbon	12,5	77	10	7,915 0,622	23,199		3,7	783		1,079	24 27	225
24.	Mayville	3,5	515	4	1,732	8,247	.	4,0			567	8	8
25.	Mott	2,9	14		1,732 3,715	6,629		2,8	381		1,090	9	
26.	Oakes	29,2		2	5,844	55,099		6,1			1,144	20	318
$\frac{27.}{28.}$	Park River	5,8	\$30		7,540 3,000	13,370 20,280 18,900	2	2,6	536		780	8	125
28. 29.	Rugby	7,2	80	16	5,000	20,280	2	2,2	207		1,114	8 6	300
30.	Velva	5,1			3,880 $5,200$	10,400		5,7 1,2	10 171		425 90	6	· · •
		0,2	.00				, , 	1,2					
					EXPEN	DITURES						TT	
	TOWN		Po	pu-	Books						Total	Hour	
	10.010			ion	& Mag		v	ol-	Borro	w-	Circu-	Open Per	to
					azines			nes	ers		lation	Week	
1.	*Barney					1		120		. 1		1	Free
$\hat{2}$.	Bathgate		1	292	42	64	1.	õõõ	25	οl	3,060	2	Free
3.	Beulah			913	24	41	1,:	237	2	2	4,263	2	Free
4.	Bowbells			395		10		773	34		2,700	4	Free
5.	Cando	· · · · · •		164	50	126		485		$\frac{0}{2}$	5,460	24	Fee
6. 7.	Carson	····		356 350	43	50		$519 \\ 534$	16 34		8,112	4 31	Free Fee
8.	Cavalier *Cogswell			426	15	20		857	12		0,112	3	Free
9.	Courtenay Crosby			350	2	7		826	10		1,352	1 11	
10.	Crosby			271		[]		535	71		$10,140 \\ 5,924$	11	Free
11.	Dawson	.		306	6	8		700		7	5,924	23	Fee
$12. \\ 13.$	Drake Enderlin	• • • • •		644 839	64 124	88 135	1,	195 944	$68 \\ 1,12$		5,230 21,424	13	Free Free
14.	Fessenden	•••••		738	54	60	3,	256	1,12	1	9,708	4	Free
15.	*Finley			587			0,	194		÷		12	Free
16.	*Flaxton		4	423	12	12		481		2		5	Free
17.	*Gackle			493	17	34		156	8	6	583	1 4	Free
18.	Hamilton			151	18	18		862	1 .	i l	2,808	2	Free
19. 20.	Hansboro Heaton		·	176	69	10		$355 \\ 520$	12	0	$6,136 \\ 3,920$	44	Fee Free
$\frac{20}{21}$.	Hettinger		1.	292	17	60		762	28		12,427	3	Free
22.	*Hillsboro		1,1	317				151	·	. [1	Free
23.	Hone			535	45	45		423	10	0	4,836	15	Free
24.	Leeds		1	704	50		1 : •	à é é		•	13,676	6	Free
25. 26.	Leonard		1 .	100	175	220		950	1	÷	5,752	6	Free
26. 27.	*Linton	•••••	1,	$\frac{192}{219}$	1	320		$341 \\ 120$	10	50 10	3,848	4	Free Free
28.	Mandan		5	037	• • •			214	1	~	13,354	3 7 3 7	Fee
29.	Mandan New England		1	911	19			156	37	5	5,040	3	Free
30.	New Rockford.		2,	195	35		3.	000	40	10			Fee
31.	Pembina	• • • • • •		551	35	35	1,	800	10			4	Free
$\frac{32}{32}$	*Portal	• • • • • •		512		60		132			2,116	6	Free
33. 34.	*Regent			$\frac{308}{852}$	20	60	1	$\frac{625}{270}$	1,32	90 24	$2,860 \\ 2,860$	3	Free Fee
35.	St. John			372	10	15	1,	521)0.	2,600		Free
36.	St. Thomas			595	142	185		185			11,180	3	Fee
37.	Sanish :		•	463	20	23]	445	57		1.976	1	Free
38.	Tioga			435	1	1 1 2 2		763		18	2,247	42	Free
39.	Towner			622 570	32	72		654	21		5,556	15	Free
40. 41.	Turtle Lake			579 870	16	101		228		10	2,236	2	Free Free
41. 42.	Velva *Verona		1	870 222	77	101	[,]	715 77		25 17	11,980 1,560	2	Free
43.	Wimbledon			421	10		1	800		30	1,500	1	Free
	The following Li		<u> </u>					-					

The following Libraries are functioning but have not sent in reports for either year of the Biennial period: Beach, Edgeley, Goodrich, Lansford, Milton, Mohall, Neche, New Salem, Tolna. *Libraries open less than two years.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

Place	Name of Library	Librarian
	Public Library	
Barney	Public Library	Mrs James Little
	Public Library	
	State Library Commission	
	State Law Library	
	Forestry School	
	Study Club Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	00
	Public Library	
•	Public Library	
	Carnegie Library	
	State Deaf School	
	Public Library	
	State Teachers College	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Normal & Industrial School.	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Masonic Library	
	Public Library	
Goodrich	Public Library	Mrs. J. R. Doering
	Public Library	
Grand Forks	Public Library	Buth O. Brown
	University Library	
	Public Library	
Hankinson	Public Library	Mrs. Corrine Stack
Hansboro	Public Library	Mrs. O. R. Anderson
Heaton	Public Library	Howard I. Turner
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	· J ·····	

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Place	Name of Library	Librarian
	Alfred Dickey Library	
	Jamestown College Library.	
	Insane Hospital	
	Public Library	
	. Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Watts Free Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	State Teachers College	
	Community Library	
	Public Library	
	State Teachers College	
	Public Library	
	Inez Hendrickson Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
New Rockford	Public Library	
	Study Club Library	
	Public Library	
	Masonic Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	State Teachers College	
	Public Library	
	Public Library	
	Beach Library	
	State Science School	
	Public Library	
	James Memorial Library	
	Public Library	
Wishek	Public Library	Mrs. E. D. Lowers

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