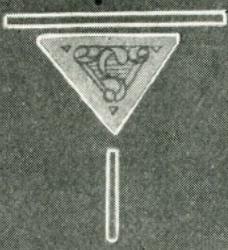




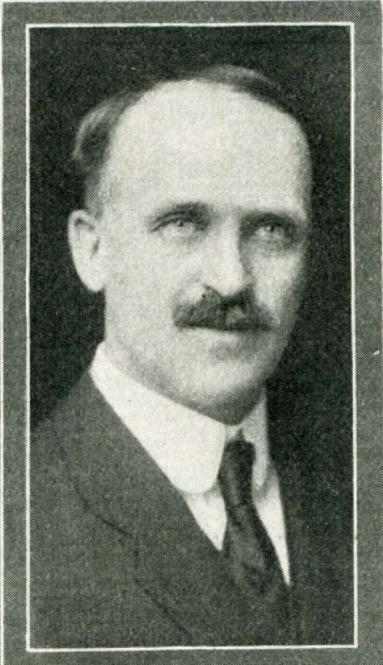
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ASSISTANT

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OF THE



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NEBRASKA  
BLUE BOOK



# THE NEBRASKA BLUE BOOK

AND HISTORICAL REGISTER

1915

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ADDISON E. SHELDON  
EDITOR

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#### SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS

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Lawrence Bruner - - - State Entomologist  
Myron H. Swenk - - - Department of Entomology  
D. D. Price - - - State Engineer  
Geo. E. Condra, State Conservation and Soil Survey  
Olin J. Ferguson - Dept. of Electrical Engineering

State Journal Company

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## LIBRARIES.

The earliest library in Nebraska was the military post library at Fort Atkinson (now Fort Calhoun, Washington county). Several hundred dollars were invested in books and magazines, as shown by the post records. This library was removed when the post was abandoned and the Sixth regiment transferred to Fort Leavenworth in 1827.

Among the early acts of the Nebraska territorial legislatures were several incorporating library and literary associations. The first of these was the Otoe county lyceum and literary association, approved January 26, 1856. Its object was declared to be "the promoting of the general interest of education and the establishment of a library and reading room." The Brownville lyceum, library and literary association was incorporated February 9, 1857, and the Falls City library association on December 21, 1861.

The oldest library in Nebraska is the state library, which dates from the Kansas-Nebraska act of May 30, 1854. The libraries at the University of Nebraska, Peru normal school and Doane college were presumably, historically coincident with the establishment of these schools in 1869, 1869 and 1872, respectively.

Public, though probably not free, tax-supported libraries, were established at Lincoln in 1875, at Omaha in 1877, and at Crete in 1878. About that time a temperance movement was being conducted, chiefly by women. Libraries were regarded as counter attractions to the saloons.

In 1878 the Nebraska state historical society was organized, and its library started.

The first public library act was approved on February 25, 1875. It applied only to the "city of Brownville." The act under which most of the public libraries of the state have been organized was approved February 17, 1877. It remained on the statute books without change until 1901, when the word "free" was inserted in one paragraph, and the maximum levy changed from one to two mills. Meantime certain municipal charter legislation, in fact, amended the general library law as applied to cities of the metropolitan class, and the upper two divisions of the first class cities. It thus occurs that the Lincoln city library retains the board of membership of nine which the original law provided for, but has had, until a recent change in the charter, a fixed appropriation of \$9,700 a year, while the Omaha public library is assigned to the control of one of the departments of the city government, which consents to the appointment of a library board of five members.

In 1911 the general library law was amended to provide for the establishment of township and county libraries. A maximum levy of three mills was established by this act. There are now nearly one hundred libraries in the state.

The Nebraska public library commission was established in 1901.

## TAX-SUPPORTED LIBRARIES.

These statistics are excerpted from the biennial report of the Nebraska public library commission, 1914.

Place	Population	Levy	Income	Volumes	Patrons	Circulation	Per Capita Circulation	Librarian
Ainsworth	1,045	2	\$300.00	1,657	342	5,859	5.6	Anna T. Toliver.
Albion	1,584	1½	600.00	2,500	780	8,510	5.3	Mrs. Jennie Gradon.
Alliance	3,105	2	1,300.00	2,464	2,449	12,911	4.1	Mrs. Nellie Wilson.
Alma	1,066	3	543.00	2,000	692	3,860	3.6	Mrs. Jennie Taylor.
Ashland	1,379	2	600.00	2,010	810	7,170	5.2	Emma Laughlin.
Auburn	2,729	1	600.00	1,100	915	4,884	1.8	Lillian Scofield.
Aurora	2,630	1½	1,400.00	5,003	1,800	21,600*	8.2	Lillian Moore.
Beatrice	9,356	2	3,000.00	13,866	2,650	38,997	4.1	Frances Morton.
Bloomfield	1,264	3	500.00	800	150	†	†	Mrs. L. G. Crosby.
Broken Bow	2,260	3	1,100.00	2,450	300	9,360*	4.1	Emily Robertson.
Burwell	915	3	500.00	750	569	6,240*	6.8	Ruth Holson.
Carroll	382	1	80.00	300	35	†	†	Mrs. J. H. Melick.
Cedar Rapids	576					†	†	Edith L. Melvin.
Central City	2,428	2	1,000.00	2,372	1,312	7,098	2.9	Margaret Anderson.
Chadron	2,687	3	1,230.00	2,124	518	2,236	4.5	Mrs. Eliz. O. L. Smith.
College View	1,508	3	750.00	1,412	948	2,012	1.3	Elsie Peterson.
Columbus	5,014	1 7-20	2,000.00	3,573	1,221	17,540	3.2	Clara Howard.
Crawford	1,323	2	430.00	925	240	2,895	2.1	Mrs. Nelle Shumway.
Crete	2,405	2	1,000.00	4,850	375	8,021	3.3	Christian Dick.
David City	2,177	1	425.00	3,619	650	7,000	3.2	Lillian Simpkins.
De Witt	675	2	350.00	1,200	470	5,000*	7	Mary Carmichael.
Fairbury	5,294	2	2,000.00	4,642	1,332	27,175	5.1	Mary McQuaid.
Fairfield	1,054	3	600.00	1,199	336	†	†	Emily Fowler.
Falls City	3,255	1½	1,800.00	7,000	925	30,791	9.4	Mary Hutchings.
Fremont	8,718	1¼	2,500.00	8,002	1,624	35,000*	4	Florence Wells.
Friend	1,261	3	700.00	694		†	†	Sadie Mosier.
Fullerton	1,538	2	600.00	1,807	452	13,943	8.5	Mrs. Maude Johnson.
Geneva	1,741	3	1,000.00	2,812	657	7,137	4.1	Nellie Williams.
Genoa	1,376	2	250.00	907	165	†	†	Mrs. C. H. Shields.
Gibbon	1,251	2	1,000.00	1,331	626	7,172	5.4	Mattie Pierce.
Grand Island	10,326	¾	2,200.00	6,729	2,051	22,477	2.1	Daisy Houck.
Hartington	1,413	3	1,000.00	1,250	232	†	†	Mrs. C. L. Culler.
Hastings	9,338	1	1,500.00	6,145	4,000	31,387	3.3	Mrs. Ida Capps.
Havelock	2,680	2	1,200.00	2,371	1,404	9,581	3.6	Mrs. Susie Smith.
Holdrege	3,030	2	1,288.00	3,275	1,026	12,490	4.1	Mrs. H. E. Bush.
Hooper	741	2	480.00	338	276	†	†	Joel Warner.
Humboldt	1,176	2	600.00	2,500	1,000	8,600*	6.5	Mrs. J. K. Liggett.
Kearney	6,202	2	2,350.00	10,000	3,840	48,000	7.7	Mrs. Pauline Frant.
Laurel	514	3	400.00	562	500	2,600*	5	R. L. Lathrop.
Lincoln	43,972		9,700.00	36,696	11,335	199,091	4.5	Lulu Horne.

Louisville.....	778	1	170.00	768	300	2,577	3.3	Edith Shyrock.
McCook.....	3,765	2	1,100.00	5,416	4,197	10,962	2.9	Grace Willett.
Madison.....	1,708	3	1,000.00	1,949	1,231	9,854	5.7	Anna Baas.
Minden.....	1,559	2	600.00	2,760	1,050	9,781	6.2	Mrs. Helen Slusser.
Nebraska City.....	5,488	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,600.00	6,809	1,088	15,000*	2.7	Anna Stevenson.
Neligh.....	1,566	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	500.00	2,400	646	10,177	6.4	Mrs. Carrie M. Jones.
Norfolk.....	6,125	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,800.00	2,554	1,650	14,851	2.4	Helen Lobdell.
North Bend.....	1,105	3	720.00	1,553	600	6,375	5.7	Laura Roump.
North Platte.....	4,793	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,300.00	3,040	1,850	14,400*	3	Mrs. Mary Jones.
Omaha.....	124,096	8-10	30,000.00	97,515	20,313	287,174	2.3	Edith Tobitt.
O'Neill §.....	2,853	1	500.00	500				Mayme Coffey.
Osceola.....	1,105	$\frac{1}{2}$	250.00	890	215			Martha Herrmann.
Pawnee City.....	1,610	3	1,068.00	2,249	1,000	11,022	7.6	Myrtle Parkinson.
Pierce.....	1,200	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	600.00	1,211	200	2,354	1.9	Mrs. Belle Cate.
Plainview.....	941	3	500.00	1,300	427	6,010	6.3	Bertha Weingartner.
Plattsmouth.....	4,287	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	950.00	5,141	1,700	17,146	4	C. Olive Jones.
Ponca.....	1,000	3	450.00	1,800	820	8,485	8.4	Mrs. M. Lipe.
Schuyler.....	2,152	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,100.00	2,775	1,781	20,368	9.4	Eleanor Wheeler.
Scribner.....								
Seward.....	2,106	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,092.00	3,572	1,397	8,104	3.8	M. Belle Schick.
Shelton §.....	1,462	2	1,200.00	2,654	356	5,885	4	
Sidney.....	1,185	3		1,063	150			Mrs. Constance Corbett.
South Omaha.....	26,259		5,000.00	9,234	2,767	37,801	1.4	Mrs. Grace Pinnell.
Spalding.....	637	1	100.00	400	275			Vera Lee.
Stanton.....	1,342		800.00	1,397	63			Elsie Strable.
Sterling.....	704	2	300.00	982	200	4,105	5.8	Mrs. Rhoda Rice.
Superior.....	2,106		700.00	4,570	1,652	23,528	11	Mrs. Lucy Conn.
Sutton.....	1,702	2	650.00	2,008	786	9,136	5.3	Ida Rolland.
Syracuse.....	842	1	200.00	1,620	506	1,500	1.9	Grace Barbee.
Talmage.....	461	2	200.00	883	559	2,077	4.5	Mrs. C. Titzell.
Tecumseh.....	1,748	2	600.00	2,747	695	5,942	3.2	Mrs. Mary Appelget.
Wakefield.....	861	1	150.00	1,702	574	4,547	5.2	Mrs. Sina Hype.
Wayne.....	2,140	3	1,100.00	2,600	1,171	11,357	5.3	Mrs. Eva Davies.
Winside.....	450	3		1,100	300	4,050	9.4	Mrs. Emma Dysart.
Wisner.....	1,081	1	235.00	1,590				Jessie Kay.
Wood River.....	796	1	650.00	2,174	401	4,962	6.2	Anna Horn.
York.....	6,235	2	2,278.68	6,719	3,459	24,156	3.8	Lorena Wilson.

Benson, Dundee and Ralston have all voted a library tax and will contract with the Omaha Public Library for its privileges.

Gothenburg and Harvard have passed library ordinances and have each made a three-mill levy but have not yet organized their libraries.

\* Estimated. † Failed to report. ‡ Organized less than a year. § Township.

## SCHOOLS AND COLLEGE LIBRARIES

School	Location	Volumes	Librarian
Bellevue .....	Bellevue.....	6,500	Lida Churchill.
Brownell Hall .....	Omaha.....	1,130	Ethel Deitrich.
Cottrill University.....	Bethany.....	3,340	Josie Sommers.
Creighton University.....	Omaha.....	46,000	W. T. Kinsella.
Doane College .....	Crete.....	13,014	Christian Dick.
Grand Island College.....	Grand Island.....	7,200	Harriet Craig.
Hastings College.....	Hastings.....	5,000	
Nebraska Wesleyan.....	University Place.....	7,749	May Ingles.
Union College.....	College View.....	5,000	Leo Thiel.
York College.....	York.....	2,000	Helen Sailing.
Chadron State Normal.....	Chadron.....	2,063	Mabel Harris.
Kearney State Normal.....	Kearney.....	10,435	Anna V. Jennings.
Peru State Normal.....	Peru.....	22,663	Elva Rulon.
Wayne State Normal.....	Wayne.....	3,995	Mrs. Anna Bright.
University of Nebraska.....	Lincoln.....	116,008	Malcolm G. Wyer.

## STATE LIBRARIES

Department	Location	Volumes	Head of Department
State Library.....	Lincoln.....	69,480	H. C. Lindsay.
Public Library Commission.....	Lincoln.....	13,479	Charlotte Templeton.
Legislative Reference Bureau.....	Lincoln.....	1,250*	A. E. Sheldon.
State Historical Society.....	Lincoln.....	51,700	C. S. Paine.

\* The library of the Legislative reference bureau is composed chiefly of pamphlets and clippings.

## LIBRARIES NOT SUPPORTED BY TAXATION.

Town	Population	Volumes	Patrons	Librarian
Beaver Crossing.....	542			
Blair.....	2,584	1,200	25	Edith Schmalig.
Bridgeport.....	541	632	60	Mrs. Rose Jeffords.
Clay Center.....	1,065	700	500	Kathryn Epperson.
Creighton.....	1,373	300	200	
Decatur*.....	782			
Edgar*.....	1,060			
Exeter.....	916	485	399	Mrs. J. B. Klotz.
Lexington.....	2,059	800	35	E. C. Newland.
Murray.....	183	297	265	Pauline Oldham.
Nelson.....	978	1,203	409	Dora Mauck.
Oak.....	237	500		
Ogalalla.....	643	170	118	Hester Welpton.
Orleans.....	942	850	60	Mrs. Geo. Wallace.
Palmyra.....	334	222		Mrs. Kate Burton.
Pender.....	804	1,000	50	Elenora Murray.
Randolph.....	1,137	1,027	105	Nella A. Thorndike.
Salem.....	391	357	60	Irene Spurlock.
Shubert.....	311	140		
Waterloo.....	402	575		Lillian Coats.
Wayside.....	39	139	19	Mrs. F. S. Baird.

\* Did not report.