

Nebraska Public Library Commission

Lincoln 30 Sept. 1903.

To librarians of Nebraska libraries:-

I send you, herewith, the latest printed matter of this Commission.

I call your especial attention to Library day, October 23d. The Suggestions for Library day are designed for the schools, in the hope of giving an impetus to the growth of school libraries. Can you not use these suggestions as the basis for co-operation with the schools on that occasion? Why not communicate at once, with all the superintendents and teachers in your vicinity, placing at their disposal the resources of your library in connection with the Library day program? Make a Library day poster, and have all the material for the children well in hand. You could do no better than to have a supply of the book marks mentioned in the circular. Patrons will, doubtless, be glad to lend you such Stevenson material as you may lack. If you find that the school people are taking no interest in the matter, see if you can't work up a little enthusiasm. That is part of a librarian's function in a community. If your town is a county seat, why not send word to your county superintendent at once that you have made a collection of Library day material that his teachers can use at your library?? If you have duplicate material, lend it to them. If you have not a set of Stevenson's works, and his Letters &c, now is a good time to make known that fact to the friends of the library, and suggest to them that the most appropriate way by which they can observe Library day is to present the library with any of his works or, better yet, with the thistle edition, and the four volumes of his Letters. In behalf of your library, observe Library day by keeping open house at the library, gaining the co-operation of the trustees, and inviting patrons to come to the library. Why not print in your papers a list of the books your library has especial need of, and invite patrons to contribute towards their purchase, or to give the books themselves?

Above all, be helpful to the teachers and pupils that you can reach in any way. The library spirit is a generous one. One college library in this state has established relations with the entire county, inviting the teachers to come to the library, and sending out letters, from time to time, telling the teachers what the library contains that would be of especial interest to them. I hope that other college librarians will emulate the example of Bellevue college.

Since the publications and correspondence of this office are intended for trustees quite as much as for librarians, please pass this letter, and the accompanying circulars on to your trustees that they may keep in touch with the library activities of your state.

I hope to meet you and all your trustees at the meeting of the Nebraska library association at Fremont, Oct. 7-8.

Sincerely,

Edna D. Bullock, Sec'y.