

NEBRASKA PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

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LINCOLN

To librarians of Nebraska libraries:-

1 Nov. 1905

We are sending you some circulars which, on behalf of the Ways and means committee of the American library association, we ask you to take under advisement and to present the subject of membership for your library and for themselves, to your library trustees at the earliest possible moment. Nebraska should be more generally represented in the membership of the A.L.A.

The arguments in favor of joining the A.L.A. are equally applicable to membership in the Nebraska library association. We need the interest and financial support of every Nebraskan who is in any way interested in the subject of libraries. To hold a successful annual meeting takes more money than the annual dues of the present membership; but we must hold this meeting, for Nebraska needs it. The dues are 50 cents a year-- double dues for 1904 and 1905 being payable now to the treasurer, Miss M.A. O'Brien, Omaha public library. Send in your dues, and induce as many people as you can to become members without delay. The next annual meeting of the Association is to be held at the Lincoln city library, Dec. 27-8, 1905-- You are earnestly requested to be present, and to endeavor to have all your trustees present. Matters of especial importance to trustees will be considered. Programs and other information will be sent to you, and to all trustees whose addresses we have. You can help along by joining and paying your dues - so can your trustees - but you can help more by attending the meetings.

We are sending you also the latest number of the A.L.A. book list. We find that some librarians do not attach due importance to these, and other publications sent from this office, and fail to call the attention of trustees to them. If these things were not considered to be of value, we would not be spending the people's time and money in securing them and placing them in your hands. We suggest a "trustees' desk basket" into which everything pertaining to libraries and books could be dropped when you have examined them, and kept where the trustees could also look over them.

The League of library commissions, co-operating with the A.L.A. publishing board, has planned a series of useful publications, all of which will be purchased by this Commission in quantities sufficient to be sent to Nebraska libraries.

During this coming year the Secretary of this Commission will endeavor to visit at least every public library in the state, in order to ascertain the condition of Nebraska libraries, and to meet the trustees in the hope of intensifying interest in the library movement. It is hoped, also, to visit, en route, such places as may be induced to start libraries. If you, or your trustees know of such places, you can help along in the work of library extension by giving us information concerning them.

You can help in the work of library extension by disseminating in the neighboring country, knowledge of the privileges of our traveling library and special loan departments. If your supply of books and funds is too limited to permit the free use of your books by non-residents, we should be glad to have you apply for traveling libraries for the use of your country patrons.

Let us be a little more strenuous in the matter of library extension.

Please see that this letter, and the accompanying printed matter reaches your trustees.

Very truly,

Edna D. Bullock, Sec'y.